



TRANSITION CONFERENCE



We can help put the pieces together as you begin planning for your child's future.

A transition conference for families of teens and young adults with special needs.

Saturday, October 28: 9:00am – 12:00pm

Best Western – Adams Inn

29 Hancock Street, Quincy, MA 02171



Brennan Srisirikul

Actor | Singer | Speaker

Born in Bangkok, Thailand, Brennan is a singer, actor and motivational speaker. He also happens to be in a wheelchair. Theatre: Pillowman, Breaking the Code and Titanic, the Musical. Recordings: "No Time at All/Ensemble (The New Broadway Cast Recording of Pippin. Film: Yuna's Lunch. Music Videos: Stick and Stone from Polkadots: the Cool Kids Musical (Atlantic Theatre Co./Sony MasterWorks). Brennan is a graduate of Rhode Island College with a B.A. in Theatre, concentrating in Musical Theatre. Brennan brought his one-man show/cabaret In My Own Little Corner to audiences at the Ocean State Theatre Co, the Courthouse Center for the Arts, the University of Rhode Island, and the Metropolitan Room in New York City. As a motivational speaker, he has spoken at numerous conferences, spanning as far as Honolulu, Hawaii. He was the keynote speaker at the Massachusetts Federation for Children with Special Needs: Visions of Community conference. He has also spoken at the Northampton and Rhode Island PRIDE festivals. He is proud to be an advocate for diversity, equality and inclusion. For more information and booking, visit www.brennansrisirikul.com.

Session One
10:00am – 10:50am

1. Transition
Julie Higgins & Maura Geary, Evelise L. Pereira, Service Coordinators:
Department of Developmental Services

Discuss the transition process from school to adult services including the 688 referral process, DDS Adult Eligibility and the range of adult services offered by DDS when an individual's education serviced end.

2. Adult Family Care

Kathy Ford, RN, Program Director: South Shore Support Services

Adult Family Care is a Mass Health funded residential option, which offers an opportunity for individuals with developmental disabilities to live with a host family in their own community. It is a family-centered living option that provides assistance with personal care and activities of daily living. As individuals, people's needs may vary, but living in a supportive home, as an active and contributing member of a family is the common goal.

3. Guardianship

Rachel M. Wassel, Attorney at Law: Rachel M Wassel Law Office

Mainly, I was going to discuss estate planning for families affected by special needs,

Overview of basic estate plan documents and supplemental needs trusts.

Selecting successor trustees, Educating other family members, such as grandparents

Equal distributions verses needs-based distributions to children

Creation and preservation of assets to fund an estate plan

- . Transitioning- whether full guardianship or limited guardianship is appropriate (verses health care proxies and powers of attorney).

4. G.E.D Program

Laurel Hickey, Program Director:

Launch community based vocational and life skill training.

She is currently working with educational institutions such as Quincy College and Well Spring to assist individuals in obtaining their High School equivalency or work towards a degree. Obtaining higher education will help to increase the chances of your lifetime job or desired vocation.

5. Transition and Self-Advocacy

Brennan Srisirikul, Keynote Speaker

He will discuss transition, inclusion, and self advocacy. We will further explore the human condition and how we, as both disabled people and our support system, can support one another as we get up every day and try to live our best lives.

6. Key Component -Writing the Transition Plan in the IEP

Marjorie Walsh, Special Education Advocate: Center for Children Special Needs of MA

The starting point for transition planning is a youth's Measurable Post- Secondary Goals; specific statements of what a youth wants to achieve after high school. These goals are based on their interests, preferences and strengths.

**Session Two
11:00am - 11:50am**

**7. Benefits of Applied Behavior Analysis Services
Adam Clark: Coastal ABA**

He works with young adults with Autism transitioning out of public school and into adulthood. Topics will include a discussion of important skills young adults with Autism may need as they transition into adulthood, how ABA is crucial in training skills necessary for independence, discussion of the Act Relative to Insurance Coverage for individuals with Autism (ARICA) and how this law impacts ABA services for young adults with Autism.

**8. Medical Complex
Susan Sullivan, Program Coordinator: BAMSI Program**

She is the mother of a daughter with Costello Syndrome. Her daughter has been medically fragile, continues to be medically complex, has physical, emotional, and psychological challenges, and is developmentally delayed. Her experiences raising her daughter prepared her for the job she currently holds at BAMSI as a Program Coordinator. She provides in-home family support to families with children and young adults who are experiencing significant cognitive, physical, and intensive health care needs. The BAMSI Family Partnerships of the Southeast Medically Complex Program provides services to enhance the lives of the affected individual by providing resources, assisting with applications, and sharing information. She will be sharing a bit about the program and the services BAMSI provides. She will provide information about timelines, finding resources, and navigating agencies that are a significant part of the medically complex lifestyle.

**9. The College Journey from Vision to Graduation
Alice Gillan, Parent**

"I have always said that I would take Mike's dreams as seriously as my other children's dreams. . . but I never thought that our son would dream to go to a four year college just like his older sister. Our neuro diverse children's paths are never straight or conventional but I wanted to support his dreams as much as possible." She will outline her family's journey to support their son's vision to go to a four year college and graduate. She will provide how they built a foundation for independence, Information on what supports were successful, what tools he needed once he was at college, organizations that were helpful, and some of the trials along the way. Raising children with differences takes constant problem solving. No one takes the same road but we can all learn from each other's journey.

**10. Relationship in Work Place
Ken Renaud, Sexuality Educator IN2U**

We will share our learning of how students with disabilities and their families have realized that work can be an achievable expectation of adult life. Join us for a conversation about how to identify meaningful work, build healthy relationships in the workplace and become contributing members of society.

**11. Guardianship Assessments
Nancy Salerno Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker**

When seeking guardianship of a developmentally challenged individual, a Clinical Team Report (CTR) must be filed with the petition for guardianship. The clinical team report must be completed by a physician, a licensed psychologist, and a social worker, each of whom is experienced in the evaluation of developmentally challenged persons. She has extensive experience in the evaluation of developmentally challenged persons as well as the preparation of the Clinical Team Report. Nancy has been referred to families through the Department of Developmental Services (Weymouth and Plymouth area offices) as well as local guardianship attorneys to complete the Clinical Team Report

**12. Section 8 Housing
John Labella, President: Housingworks.net**

The when's, where's, and how's of applying for Section 8 Housing benefits. These questions and others will be answered. An important step in the transitional process.

Registration Form

Registration is \$20.00 per person. The last day to register is October 25, 2017. Your registration includes a continental breakfast and a USB Flash Drive with the contact information and presentations of all the roundtable presenters. Limited scholarships are available upon request. Please contact 781-331-7878 ext. 11 for more information.

Name

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Telephone #

E-Mail Address:

Roundtable Discussions

Please circle one from each session

Session One: 01 02 03 04 05 06

Session Two: 07 08 09 10 11 12

Mail registration form and payment to:

South Shore Support Services

Attn. Transition Conference

435 Columbian Street

Weymouth, MA 02190

Conference Schedule:

Registration:

8:15am -9:00am

Keynote Speakers:

9:05am -9:45am

Break/Exhibits/Networking

9:45am -9:55am

Workshop Session 1

10:00am -10:50am

Break

10:50am -11:00am

Workshop Session 2

11:00am -11:50am

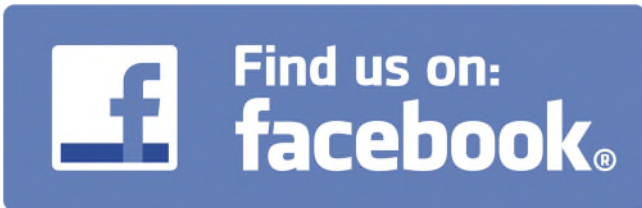
Wrap-up Session

11:50am -12:00pm



*Supporting Individuals to
Live Meaningful Lives... One
Person at a Time*

**Family Support Center
435 Columbian Street
Weymouth, MA 02190**



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- Roundtable Discussion 2
11:00am - 11:50am
- Wrap-up Session
11:50am - 12:00pm