**CTC Minutes – March 14, 2017**

Dear Members of the Community Transition Council,

We meet four to five times a year. A consortium of school personal and agency reps. Introduced new attendees: Krista Gray, Laura Schepperley, Beth O’Donnell, Coleen Davis and Lee Chassee. We had approximately 35 members present for this meeting.

**Agency Updates:**

Network 180 – They are accepting new referrals from Intake Access Point. There is talk at the state level to change the model of how mental health is handled...more to come on that.

Patt Clement – Arc of Kent – Provided paperwork on a workshop on the 23rd of March to set up MiAble accounts. It is a savings account for a person with a disability to save money for certain things without affecting their benefits. She also provided a list of topics that they will come out and do training on. Network 180 is coming in on May 17th and 25th to talk about self-directed services – maximum of 10 each session. Their Golf Fundraiser is on May 1st.

Jonathan Caulkin – Disability Advocates – The Youth Transition Services is in 10 schools now with three specialists. They have an event at Laugh Fest this Friday. He also shared some info on camps.


Goodwill – They have open hours on Fridays at 10 am. No other updates.

Cindy Alferink - Hope Network – Project Search timelines have been posted and she shared those dates. It’s not too late to refer a student. Acceptance letters will be sent out May 5th.

MRS – Kathy – Classes are going well with DAKC.

Lee Chassee – Peckham – They are a Vocational Rehabilitation Organization. Been around in Lansing for 40 years – 2 years in GR area. They evaluate, train, employ individuals with disabilities. To qualify you must: be a person with a disability, a US citizen, 18 years or older, high school diploma or GED, pass a federal background check. They have IT Help Desk Jobs. They have Vocational Support Specialists to assist the employees and have advancement possibilities.

Coleen Davis – Alternatives in Motion – Their model is to take donated equipment and fix it up if necessary and help those in our community. Many times people with illnesses need more advanced equipment before insurance companies will authorize replacement. Last year they served 235 clients – a big increase from the year before. They have bathroom aids, canes, walkers, wheelchairs. They can deliver equipment directly to your clients. They have a fundraising event in November but also receive grant funds. They accept equipment and cash donations. They have over $500,000 in inventory.

**Transition Expo Debriefing**

Members were grouped by Region to discuss the compiled results of the transition expo.
Region One: General conclusion is they’d like more people there. It’s a success for those that were there. Bring it down to the student level. Teachers are too overwhelmed to work with students on who they should talk to at expos. Time scheduled might not be best for parents. Get the dates out earlier. How do we reach out to 504 students. A brochure ahead of time with agencies that might be there. Use questions to drawn parent’s attention.

Region Two: If it is brought up at an IEP as a transition goal, parents will be more likely to go.

Region Three: Piggyback with KCTC Open House or other initiatives.

Michael suggested that we might have too many vendors. Signs outside would be nice.

The group reviewed the exhibitor survey results

Next steps: Use ICG as steering group or comprise an expo committee from ICG and CTC. Talk to KCTC/KTC about piggybacking – In October and March.

Transition Assessment Project – There were seven transition assessments reviewed. Take time to review the reviews. The Google doc will stay open for additional reviews. We will change the heading about students transition is used for.

Michael will send a link to a youtube video link to watch before next meeting.

Michael shared info about the DCDT Conference on October 11-14 in Milwaukee. He will look at possibility of sponsoring people to go.