Dear Members of the Community Transition Council,

We started the meeting off sharing accomplishments and future plans. We had approximately 32 people in attendance.

Agency & Transition Updates:

Network 180 (Joann Crumm) – Autism benefits through age 21 - now accepting referrals up to age 20 for Medicaid eligible. ABA providers are needed.

BSBP (Michelle Visscher) – Federal changes with jobs for disabilities have made things difficult for accessing services and job placements. They must be competitive and integrative. Vocational are no longer able to help those doing small business (such as Etsy) unless they can prove they will make a profit.

ARC – Debbie Rock is out on Medical Leave. The golf outing is coming soon.

Disability Advocates (Bonnie Miller) – Working on replacing staff support services for SSI – looking to fill voids from staff that have left

Goodwill – Beth Farwell is a new supervisor.

Project SEARCH – School visits going well. February 3 is deadline for referrals. February 22 is mandatory meeting for candidates.

MRS – Brittany is filling a new position working at KTC with juniors getting them ready for work-based learning. Kathleen shared about the referral process. Michael will share about this new position with directors.

Liz Ensing introduced Zoe. She has started a bakery business to employ persons with special needs. It started in her home in March and have recently partnered with a church to use their kitchen. They sell products at events. Looking for a brick and mortar location.

Liz Ensing – Transition Expo is next week Thursday. We have approx. 40 exhibitors coming. We need to have districts reach out to parents. Michael will reach out to counselors to help get the word out that this is for all students with supports.

Cannonsburg Challenged Ski Association – They deal with all disabilities and all ages. During the week they have evening sessions and also three sessions on Sundays. They can use non-ski volunteers for registration and other helps.

Peckham Industries – Michael recently met with Lee Chassee. They are hiring individuals with qualifying disabilities. Must have high school diploma and interest in IT jobs. Potential for paid A+ certification through MRS/Goodwill connection.
CTC Workgroup Conversation:

Michael reviewed the minutes from our last meeting. Would like to focus on one or two projects as a team they we could implement in the fall.

Brenda Ott asked if we are reinventing the wheel with all the transition assessments out there.

Heidi Prior is concerned that a portfolio is asking staff to do more and that won’t go over well. She feels that a new assessment supported by the ISD would be good.

Kim Norman asked if the group could all come back next month with one or two assessments they like and then the group could choose one to recommend to all.

Heidi asked if most assessments out there reach all four domains.

Michelle Green shared that she likes the TPI – Transition Profile Inventory

Michael asked what we could agree today to do to move forward.

Assessments to consider: ESTR (III,J,S), TAGG, TPI, ILP (Individual Learning Plan), STAT-R

How do we assess opportunities to develop/identify times to meet with MRS?

Students need to know their disability.

Next steps:

Research one assessment before next meeting and be prepared to share with the group. Come up with a list of non-negotiable transition activities – 10 to 20.

Create a Google doc with a table for signing up to research one assessment. Reach out to high school staff to see what assessment they would recommend.

Work in groups at next meeting to establish transition activities