STATE OF RHODE ISLAND



Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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Greetings,

Welcome to an introduction to transition planning and adult services for school-age youth!

In Rhode Island, transition planning occurs between the ages of 14-22 for students diagnosed with an Intellectual or Developmental Disability that indicates support services in adulthood may be needed.

We understand adult service is new to families, and there are many questions about steps to be taken and services available. The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) and RIPIN have created this packet to help you and your child plan for their future.

You may have received a similar packet during your child's previous Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings. At this age, it is important to consider completing the enclosed application for adult service. Determining eligibility for adult service by age 17 gives you and your child time to plan for their future while still in school.

RIPIN supports families and has webinars and resources to assist during the transition years. Please review their website at https://ripin.org/ or call 270-0101.

Staff within DDD are also available to answer questions. Please call 462-1723 to speak with the Transition Coordinator or email <u>Carolee.Leach@bhddh.ri.gov</u> for assistance. To reach the Transition Administrator, call 462-2519 or email <u>susan.hayward@bhddh.ri.gov</u>

Thank you for taking the time to review this folder. You are taking an important step in helping your child build a strong and successful future.

Sincerely,

Susan Hayward, MSW, LCSW Administrator, Transition Services