

MINUTE MAN Arc

Transition Conference



The Journey to 22 and Beyond: A Transition Conference

Saturday April 2nd, 2016
9:00am-1:00pm

Incident Weather Date: 04/09/16

35 Forest Ridge Road
Concord, MA 01742

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ATTENDEES: Please complete this form and return to address below or email mklein@minutemanarc.org to **RSVP by Friday, March 25th**. Choose one topic from each time slot. Descriptions are located inside flyer.

9:15-10:15 (circle one)

Transitioning to Adult Services
Developing Community Based Skills

10:30-11:30 (circle one)

ABLE Act and Military Survivor Benefit Plan

Guardianship

11:45-12:45 (circle one)

Department of Developmental Services
Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

Minute Man Arc

The Journey to Adulthood Transition Conference Registration

*** Attendance is free but RSVP is required**

Name/Organization: _____

Person(s) Attending: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Questions ? Contact Gail Palm, Family Training Coordinator at pcgfp2@gmail.com or

Michele Klein, Administrative Assistant at 978-287-7900 or mklein@minutemanarc.org

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The Journey to 22 and Beyond

Minute Man Arc is sponsoring this event for parents/guardians who are helping their loved ones with disabilities to achieve a smooth transition from school into the adult world. We will be offering three time slots with your choice between two workshops for each slot on topics that will address issues facing your families. Please register on the form provided on the back of this flyer.

8:30 Registration

9:00 Welcome

9:15-10:15 - Session 1

Climb Every Mountain – Transitioning to Adult Services

Transition is fraught with anxiety for every parent. Knowing what to expect, where to go for assistance and having a timeline will help you as you and your son or daughter move from school based services to being an adult and creating an “enviable life.” Information will be provided for those who have loved ones on the autism spectrum as well as other disabilities.

Presenter: Sue Loring, RN, Director of HMEA Autism Resource Center of Central MA

Beyond the Classroom and 22: Developing Community-Based Skills

As you set up goals on your child's IEP/ISP, more life objectives need to be encompassed than what you may typically consider. School can address some of those pieces, but when your child moves out, there are skills that will help their lives to become more independent, more enriched, and more satisfying. What are those skills and how do we, as parents and caregivers, teach them? Who can help us? How do we get our children on board? Addressing those everyday facets of learning is essential in order for your loved one to live safely, confidently and lead a fulfilling life.

Presenter: Marilyn Weber, Transition Specialist

10:30-11:30 - Session 2

ABLE Act (Achieving a Better Life Experience) and the Military Survivor Benefit Plan

Special needs planning was given a big boost when two new bills became law: The ABLE Act and the Military Survivor Benefit Plan. The ABLE account allows an SSI recipient the opportunity to hold funds in an account (up to \$100,000) without interfering with SSI or Medicaid eligibility. The Military Survivor Benefit Plan for the first time allows a child with special needs to receive a parent's military survivor benefit left in a special needs trust. The latest information on these two planning opportunities and how they can work for you will be presented by special needs attorneys from Fletcher Tilton.

Presenters: Fred Misilo and Theresa Varnet, Special Needs Attorneys, Fletcher Tilton

Guardianship

Current information on the process of obtaining guardianship, the various levels, and complications that may arise regarding anti-psychotic medications or extraordinary medical interventions will be presented. Given the recent changes to Massachusetts guardianship law, the alternatives to guardianship will also be addressed.

Presenter: Ken W. Shulman, Special Needs Attorney

11:45-12:45 - Session 3

Department of Developmental Services (DDS)

Services provided, eligibility requirements, Chapter 688 Transition/how to access services and differences between DDS and the Mass Rehab Commission will be discussed.

Presenter: Kevin McDonough DDS Acting Area Director, Central Middlesex Office

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC)

Services provided, eligibility requirements, and the process in applying will be addressed.

Presenters: Nancy Donovan, Mass Rehab Senior Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Lowell Area office, and James Fratojillo, Director, MRC Statewide Employment Services Department (MRC/SES)

1:00 Conference ends

To register online and view full speaker bio's
please visit: www.minutemanarc.org and visit the Events Tab