Pathways to Partnership
PARTNERING FOR STUDENTS AND YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES TO IMPROVE JOB OPPORTUNITIES

VR Agency → Rehabilitation Services Administration
CIL → Administration for Community Living
Special Education → Office of Special Education Programs
The Ability Center advocates, educates, partners, and provides services supporting people with disabilities to thrive within their community.
Counties Served

Defiance
Fulton
Henry
Lucas
Ottawa
Williams
Wood
OUR PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

Community Living
Assistance Dogs
Advocacy
Youth & Transition
Information & Referral
Next Steps Summer Program

Our summer initiative prepares high school students with disabilities for the next phase of life.

Participants are paired with local job sites to master employability skills through paid work opportunities.

Students reside in a college dorm throughout the six-week program and gain valuable independent living skills including cooking, laundry, and time management.
Next Steps Summer Program

• Collaborate with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities
• Two-way referrals
• Employment portion mirrors that of OOD’s Summer Youth programs

SKILLS AND TOPICS COVERED

Employment readiness
Budgeting & Money Management
Campus/Dorm safety
Time-management
Meal preparation
Socialization & Recreation
Responsibility
Laundry & Housekeeping
Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities’ Ohio Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) is a career leadership training program for 11th and 12th grade high school students with disabilities.

In 2020, YLF expanded to provide five regional forums around the state including Toledo, Columbus, Dayton, Cleveland, Canton.

July 2020: held completely virtually, covering topics such as:

- Experience of Disability
- Technology & Resource to Reach Goals
- Leading in my Community
- Principles of Leadership
- Living on My Own
One of the ongoing efforts sponsored by the Ohio Employment First Task Force is to improve community integrated employment for youth with disabilities. MAP (Multi Agency Planning) for employment is a strategic planning training and technical assistance process.

- The Ability Center
- Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities
- Lucas County Board of DD
- OCALI
- Toledo Public Schools
- Ohio Means Jobs
- State Support Team
- National Technical Assistance Center on Transition
- 2111 United Way
Independence
Equity
Inclusion
Education
Community

abilitycenter.org | 5605 Monroe Street, Sylvania, OH 43560 | 419.885.5733
Challenge

Connect with your partners and get to know each other!

Take the first step to set up a meeting!
Q&A for Panel Participants

- **Corinna Stiles**, PhD/JD, Director, Office of Independent Living Programs, Administration on Disabilities
- **Carol Dobak**, JD, Acting Deputy Commissioner, Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA)/OSERS
- **David Guardino**, PhD, Associate Division Director, Research to Practice Division, Office of Special Education Programs OSEP/OSERS
- **Lisa Broseke**, Youth Employment Coordinator, The Ability Center, Sylvania, OH