

Jeanne M. Ricigliano

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PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Established an innovative, premier Regional Center for Transition for Youth and Adults with ASD and other related disabilities at Autism Up/Golisano Autism Center
- **Developed a one of a kind program for young adults that incorporates 8 Core areas of a person's life. This program, Full Life Academy serves people ages 16+ to develop their skills for life.**
- Proven ability in developing, strengthening and maintaining interagency connections and collaborations with community agencies serving students and adults ages 5 to 50
- Expertise and success in convening and engaging educators, students and families and community based partners to work together supporting successful student outcomes;
- History of personal and professional experience in supporting inclusive education and successful transition of students with disabilities to independent living, supported employment and full community participation;
- Created and developed the Parent Partner/Family Engagement and Involvement Position at Monroe 1 BOCES that assisted in improved communication and collaboration for families of students ages 5-21 at Monroe 1 BOCES and their component districts, Regional BOCES, Rochester City School District and non-districts. This position is replicated at Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES;
- Developed and coordinated a Career Exploration Program that included job shadowing and internships for students with disabilities ages 14-21 in collaboration with eight community agencies;
- Developed and secured funding for an after school respite program for students ages 5-21 with developmental disabilities in collaboration with Monroe 1 BOCES and Heritage Christian Services-Respite Creek;
- Developed and secured funding at the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities Family Support Services for an adult education program at Monroe 1 BOCES for individuals with developmental disabilities, ages 16-50. This program provides life skills, computer skills, and recreation opportunities as well as providing families with Respite-Learning Unlimited. Program is replicated at Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES;
- I cultivated effective relationships with employers to create customized internships, job shadowing and employment for special education students in a community-based classroom as well as in my role as Work Based Learning Coordinator at RCSD;
- I have a wide range of experience as a trainer and instructor for school administrators, educators, and other professionals on topics including family involvement and engagement, transitions, self-advocacy and self-determination, disability awareness, and person-centered planning and employment for people with disabilities
- Successful in networking and developing long-lasting professional relationships with school professionals and leaders of community-based groups and non-profit organizations;
- Demonstrate commitment, confidence, and leadership in working on multidisciplinary committees, task forces, and groups;
- Strong reputation as dependable, task-oriented, independent, self-starter, innovative, creative, and an active and supportive team member; and
- Proficient in oral and written communication, and competent in using a wide range of technology and software

DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR COMMUNITY TRANSITION AND FULL LIFE ACADEMY

AutismUp 50 Science Parkway, Rochester New York 14620 (September 2019-Current)

- Established an innovative, premier Regional Center for Transition for Youth and Adults with ASD and other related disabilities at Autism Up/Golisano Autism Center to improve successful transition from high school to college, career and independent living.
- The Center provides customized supports and services directly with youth and young adults, their families, advocates, educators, professionals, service providers and area-wide employers.
- The center works collaboratively with stakeholders to successfully prepare young adults with ASD to achieve their personal goals and choices, and access opportunities to fully participate in college, career and independent living.
- Establish new AutismUp programs to fill gaps and unmet community needs serving all youth and young adults with ASD and related disabilities (with or without Medicaid benefits)
- Creates community collaborations to expand options and opportunities for participants and families at AutismUp
- Provides workshops for families, participants, community members and businesses

DISTRICT WORK BASED LEARNING COORDINATOR

Career Pathways & College & Business Partnerships, Rochester City School District, 131 W. Broad Street, Rochester, NY 14614 (October 2018-February 2019)

- Monitor and regularly appraise student and program progress
- Collaborate with other professionals (social workers, teachers, psychologists, school counselors etc.)
- Work with teachers and administrators to expand service learning in support of addressing the needs of a diverse community
- Serve as a liaison between the school district, high schools, and employers
- Coordinate connecting activities between school-based and work-based learning
- Organize various field trips to increase and enhance the educational experience for students
- Assist the Principal, Executive Director, and postsecondary representatives in defining needs, developing plans, establishing goals, and formulating policies and procedures for program development
- Recruit new businesses and organizations to provide quality work-based and school-based learning opportunities for students; serve as a liaison between the district and business and industry
- Provide Career Planning Assessments, Career Exploration, Internships, Job Shadowing, Service Learning, and other WBL program experiences and job opportunities for students
- Educate students, families and staff on resources available within the community for all students to assist/expand learning and earning opportunities.

REGIONAL VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION-COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT SPECIALIST
Center for Human Services Education a Division of Heritage Christian Services, East Rochester, New York
14445 (2015 – 2018)

Provide technical support and professional development to all school districts within Region 8 (Midwestern) that:

- Provide educational programs, training and technical support to all school district personnel in our region
- Increase the awareness and understanding for educators, school counselors and school administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation Adult Career and Continuing Educational Services-Vocational Rehabilitation (ACCES-VR) programs, Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, Office of Mental Health, Workforce Development and other community resources and services throughout the Mid-West Region of NYS
- Support districts to identify students with disabilities who benefit from ACCES-VR OPWDD, OMH and other services and supports to achieve positive post-secondary outcomes
- Offer a wide range of skills and competencies in order to meet specific targeted objectives, including establishing strong, effective working relationships with all 68 school districts (107+schools) including the Rochester City School District, Non Districts and Charter Schools
- Form strong working partnerships and communication systems with all ACCES-VR Counselors, OPWDD staff, OMH, Regional Workforce Development and all school personnel including, but not limited to school administrators, Committee on Special Education Chairs, School Counselors and Special Education and General Education Teachers
- Design and deliver creative and responsive professional development, develop resources and curriculum materials to meet the needs of different audiences

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Special Education Teacher, Holy Childhood, Henrietta, New York

- Instructor in the initial Community Classroom at Holy Childhood
- Develop and implement lesson plans that are personalized for students ages 18-21.
- Develop relevant, individualized education goals for students' Individualized Education Program in collaboration with students, family, school and community team
- Effectively manage classroom and appropriate student behavior
- Differentiate instruction to meet the educational needs for all students and achieve their Individualized Education Program goals
- Create and facilitate transition related activities to support the post-secondary goals and objectives of students

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Transition Specialist, Genesee Valley Educational Partnership, 80 Munson Street, Leroy, and New York provided programs, services, and technical support to the majority of the 22 school districts in the Genesee Valley Educational Partnership component school districts

Parent Partner, Certified Person Centered Planning Facilitator, and Train-the Trainer, Monroe #1 BOCES (1996-2012)

Facilitated Person Centered Transition Planning with students and their Circle of Support serving the 10 component districts of Monroe #1 BOCES and additional districts as per contract request. (1998-2012)

Midwestern Transition Coordination Site, a New York State Education Department funded network
Monroe #1 BOCES, Fairport, New York

Served the more than 70+ school districts within the mid-west region (1996-2012)

- Worked directly with school district staff, students with disabilities ages 5-21 and their families in transition planning, including advocacy, access to school and adult services, coordinating community resources, facilitating Person Centered Transition Planning sessions with students, families and their school and community partners; development of career exploration, coordinated community-based career shadowing experiences.
- Developed and implemented trainings for educators, administrators, families, community agencies, and students on transition planning, improving postsecondary outcomes, self-determination, self-advocacy, disability awareness, person centered planning, and supporting a young adult with disabilities.

Person Centered Planning Coordinator, US Department of Education, Office of Post-Secondary Education, Transition and Postsecondary Programs for Students with Intellectual Disabilities (TPSID)

Institute for Innovative Transition

University of Rochester, Rochester, New York (2010-2011)

- Provided person-centered planning for each of the 4 TPSID model demonstration projects
- Developed and provided a 4-day person-centered planning training for staff at the 4 TPSID model demonstration projects
- Provided coaching/mentoring to staff at each TPSID demonstration project

Information & Referral Specialist, Strong Center for Developmental Disabilities, Institute for Innovative Transition, Rochester, NY (2008 to 2011)

- Provided Information and Referral Services for families of children with disabilities ages birth to 50, service providers, educators, physicians and other health professionals, community agency professionals and individuals with disabilities serving the counties of Monroe, Livingston, Wyoming, Seneca, Yates, Schuyler, Chemung, Steuben, Ontario and Wayne
- Maintained statistical data, records and reports regarding students and families served
- Outreach to over 3000+ individuals in the community
- Co-created and implemented specialized training on “Sexuality and Developmental Disabilities” designed for families, individuals with disabilities, physicians, health and community service professionals, and educators

Additional responsibilities at all positions have included the following:

- Assist students with disabilities (1:1 and in small groups) in developing positive post-school outcomes including administering transition assessments such as interest inventories, work place values, resume writing, interviewing skills, job search techniques, job shadowing and volunteer experiences
- Link families/students/school personnel to community services/agencies/post-secondary options.
- Facilitate eligibility for ACCES-VR /OPWDD
- Provide information and professional development to school personnel/state and community agencies/families/students regarding implementation of federal and state education laws and regulations
- Ensure student participation in developing their IEP goals and objectives and participation in their CSE meetings
- Attend CSE meetings to report academic and transition activities
- Create and conduct educational and transition related trainings and resources for students, families, district personnel, community and state agencies

- Proficient at collecting and reporting project data to inform needs and successes

Consultant to National Project SEARCH (2009-2011)

- Co-created training curriculum on Family Engagement for National Project SEARCH
- Presented Family Engagement training curriculum at 4th Annual International Project SEARCH Conference (2010)

Job Coach and Para-Professional, Monroe #1 BOCES, Fairport, New York (1991 to 1996)

- Assisted students with their assigned tasks at job sites and maintained student progress records.
- Assisted classroom teacher in achieving the IEP goals of students with disabilities

PRESENTATIONS & TRAININGS

I have developed and presented numerous trainings on a wide range of topics related to inclusive education, transition planning, employment, job coach training, person centered planning, community involvement, collaborative practice and family engagement/involvement. I have presented to numerous local, regional, statewide and national organizations, teacher education programs both undergraduate and graduate and the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) program at Golisano Children's Hospital / Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics

MEMBERSHIPS

Finger Lakes Advanced Manufacturing Enterprise (FAME)
 Monroe County/ Rochester Youth Council- Rochester WORKS!
 Rochester Area Employment Network (RAEN)
 Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)
 Monroe County Transition Collaborative (1997 to present)
 Wayne Finger Lakes Transition Collaborative
 Genesee Valley Transition Collaborative
 New York State Rehabilitation Council (2005-2011)
 NYS Work Experience Coordinators Association

EDUCATION

Certified Work Based Learning Coordinator, Buffalo State College, Buffalo, New York
 Masters of Education, Special Education, Roberts Wesleyan College, Rochester, New York
 Students with Disabilities - Grades 7-12 - Generalist, Roberts Wesleyan College, Rochester, New York
 Associates Degree, Human Services, SUNY Empire State College, Rochester, NY

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Darkness to Light –Stewards of Children Facilitator -June 2016 Developmental Disabilities and Sexuality Training Facilitator -December 2017 Certified Employment Support Professional (CESP) May 2015-2018 Interdisciplinary Specialty Program in Autism at Nazareth College (I-SPAN) Nazareth College of Rochester, Rochester, New York 2013-2014
 Ticket-to-Work Benefits and Work Incentives Cornell University, School of Industrial Labor Relations, 2011
 Program on Employment and Disability, School of Industrial Labor Relations
 Person-Centered Planning & Person-Centered Planning Train-the-Trainer Cornell University, School of Industrial Labor Relations, Program on Employment and Disability, 1998

ACTIVITIES/HONORS

- January 2001 New York State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council, Community Leader recognition
- November 2001 Mother of the Year - March of Dimes Upstate New York Chapter
- March 2003 Monroe #1 BOCES Board Recognition
- December 2008 New York State Model Transition Program Recognition
- June 2012 The Advocacy Center, Barbra Bryson Community Award