



## Next Steps: The Transition Series

is a training developed to assist parents and families in preparing students for the change from life as a student in school to life as a citizen in the community. For all young people, preparing for this change is complicated. For students with disabilities and their families, preparing for such changes can be particularly challenging, overwhelming, and exciting!

The Transition Alliance NEXT STEPS training team will be presenting the Transition Series in October through November 2011. This year's series will be hosted by the Southwest Cook County Cooperative, at the Transition Center.

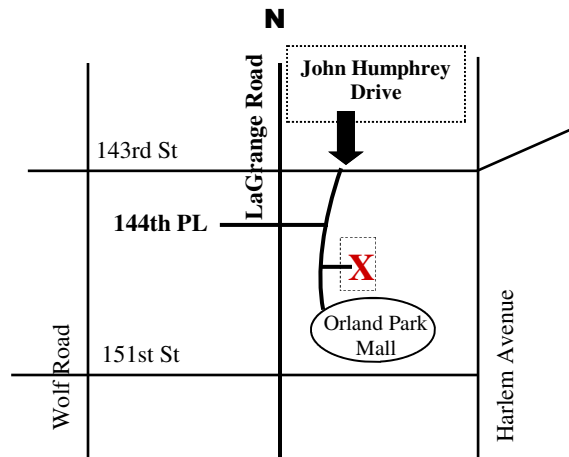
*Directions to*  
**SouthWest Cook County Cooperative's  
Transition Center**  
Located at  
**14535 John Humphrey Drive  
Orland Park, Illinois 60462  
708-873-1600**

**From the North, West and Northwest of LaGrange Road and 144th Place:**

Take local roads or highways to LaGrange Road (Rt 45)  
Go south to 144th Place street (stoplight) and turn east (left)  
Go to John Humphrey Drive, turn right

**From the South/Southwest of LaGrange Road and 144th Place:**

Take local roads or highways to LaGrange Road (Rt 45)  
Go north to 144th Place (stoplight) and turn east (right)  
Go to John Humphrey Drive, turn right



# Next Steps: The Transition Series



*a training series designed  
for parents and family members*

2011

LADSE  
Vocational Alliance  
Building the Future Now

## *Your NEXT STEPS Training Team will be presenting the following workshops:*

### *1. Transition: Making it in the Real World*

Tuesday, October 4, 2011, 6:00-8:30 pm

Participants will review the four critical goals of transition, and consider practical activities which promote their achievement. Participants will become familiar with pertinent federal legislation and understand the important roles for family members in the planning.

### *2. Transition Plans: Roadmaps to the Future*

Tuesday, October 11, 2011, 6:00-8:30 pm

IDEA requires transition planning for all students with disabilities. Participants will learn how transition planning can be incorporated into students' ongoing special education plans. The influence of competency testing, graduation requirements, diplomas, integration and curriculum emphasis on transition plans will be discussed.

### *3. Planning Ahead:*

#### *Future Finances & Supports*

October 18, 2011, 6:00-8:30 pm

Theresa Varnet, JD., will be presenting on ways to set up your finances to protect and provide for your family member with a disability. Other issues that will be discussed will be public benefits, Social Security support, Guardianship and how to plan effectively. Materials will include information on writing a Letter of Intent and coordinating supports.

### *4. Moving On: Life in the Community*

October 25, 2011, 6:00-8:30 pm

Do satisfying work opportunities for young adults with disabilities really exist in the community? During this workshop, a panel of adult community service representatives provide information and answer questions regarding local employment, education and independent living options.

### *5. Preparing for Work While in School*

Tuesday, November 1, 2011, 6:00-8:30 pm

Participants learn about what should be happening in school to ensure that students with disabilities find satisfying work in the community. Guest speakers will discuss specific examples of community based vocational education opportunities. Participants will learn how reasonable accommodations, job coaches and supports in the workplace assist a student in learning, enjoying and keeping a job.



## Participant Comments

*“I would recommend this for all parents of students with disabilities—even those in elementary school.”* - Parent from Burr Ridge

*“I attended all five workshops. Each one was beneficial and will make a difference in planning for my daughter’s future.”* - Parent from Riverside

*“I wish I would have come to this series two years ago!”* - Guardian from Oak Forest

*“The material, the presenters, the networking—the best.”* - Parent from LaGrange

*“Transition starts at age 14 1/2, this is great material for junior high through high school”*  
- Parent from Orland Park

**Registration is Free - Seating is Limited**

**Registration:**

**September 1st through September 22nd**  
**You may register for one or all workshops.**

**To Register Online:** [www.ladse.org](http://www.ladse.org)  
click on “Next Steps”

**To Register by Phone:** contact Tricia Iraci  
at 708-482-1170