

Workforce Investment Opportunity Act (WIOA)

Written By: Lisa Cook-Gordon, Co-Director Michigan Family Voices



With the passage of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Congress has reauthorized the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA), including the Rehabilitation Act, through 2020. The legislation will reform and strengthen the workforce investment system of our country, put Americans back to work and make the United States more competitive in the 21st century. President Obama commented on the bill's passage:

it "will help workers, including workers with disabilities, access employment, education, job driven training, and support services that give them the chance to advance their careers and secure the good jobs of the future."

WIOA has the potential for significant advancement in employment of people with disabilities. Here are a few details about the expected impact:

- Increased Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agency's role in transition
- Limitations on sub-minimum wage
- Requirement for formal cooperative agreement between VR and state Medicaid and Intellectual or Developmental Disability (IDD) agencies
- Changes in definition of supported employment

Representatives from VR, IDD, intermediate school districts, mental health agencies, Centers for independent living and advocacy organizations have been meeting to address these points. As well as, determine how Michigan will implement WIOA to advance employment for youth and adults with disabilities. Their focus will especially target performance indicators, youth eligibility and programming changes.

To learn more about WIOA visit the Institute for Community Inclusion site:

http://www.communityinclusion.org/article.php?article_id=382

and the U.S. Department of Labor's Training and Employment Notice:

http://wdr.doleta.gov/directives/corr_doc.cfm?DOCN=3556.

For more Information specific to changes in the Rehabilitation Act visit the Department of Education website:

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/rsa/publications/wioa-changes-to-rehab-act.pdf>



The Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council Presents...

Supported Decision Making

EVERYONE has the right to make choices!

Date: September 21, 2015

Time: 11:00am -2:00pm

Location:
capitalArea Career Center
611 Hagadorn Rd.
Mason, MI 48854

Cost: FREE

Lunch will be provided!

Space Is Limited!

To register:
Contact Tracy Vincent at
tvincent1@mlchigan.gov
or call 517-335-3155
to reserve your seat!



Featured Presenter: Dohn Hoyle, Arc Michigan

This presentation will provide participants with a long-term view of less restrictive alternatives to establishing guardianship. It will cover alternative and empowering ways to address the barriers and circumstances which will inevitably face students with a cognitive or intellectual disability as well as those with communication difficulties as they move into the adult world.



ADVOCACY/LEADERSHIP TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

COMING SOON TO SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN!

Leaders in Policy Advocacy (LIPA) is a leadership development program for adults with developmental disabilities and parents of minor children with developmental disabilities. The project trains and supports participants to become leaders in the disability rights movement. It is funded by the Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council and administered by The Arc Michigan.

Topics include:

- Disability History
- Inclusive Education
- Assistive Technology & Social Media
- Self-determination and Alternatives to Guardianship
- Person-centered Planning
- Access to Housing and Employment
- Benefits and Systems of Support
- Systems Change



Participation in LIPA requires a significant time commitment. Six (6) weekend sessions begin on Fridays at 12:30 pm and end for the day at 9 p.m. The class resumes at 8:30 a.m. on Saturdays and concludes at 3:00 p.m. There is no cost to participate in the training. Participants will be asked to share a hotel room with another class member, if lodging is needed. Meals will be provided, including to caregivers, and participants will be reimbursed for mileage to and from the training sessions. No child care will be provided on site, however, assistance with the cost of child care may be available.

The Leaders class will be offered October 2015-March 2016. Application deadline is September 15, 2015. Venue to be announced soon.

Dates:

October 9 and 10, 2015

November 13 and 14, 2015

December 4 and 5, 2015

January 8 and 9, 2016

February 5 and 6, 2016

March 4 and 5, 2016

To apply, go to <http://www.arcmi.org/new/lipa.htm>, where you can complete an application form online or download and print one to fill out and mail in. Please contact Project Coordinator Salli Christenson if you have questions or need help in applying. She can be reached at 1-800-292-7851, ext. 130, or salli.c@arcmi.org

ADVOCACY/LEADERSHIP INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITY

Michigan Alliance for Families is planning our future work throughout the state. Stakeholders' meeting will bring together families with children receiving special education and/or early intervention services for networking, dialogue, and planning and the members of the community that support them.

September 24, 2015

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Redford Community Center

12121 Hemingway

Redford, MI 48239

Register with Barbara Wright at (313) 557-8780 or
online at: www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/rsvp

October 5, 2015

1:30pm – 3:30 p.m. EST or 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. EST

Marquette Alger RESA

321 E Ohio Street

Marquette, MI 49855

Register with Lisa Casper at (906) 483-0442 or lisa@michiganallianceforfamilies.org or
online at www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/rsvp

October 7, 2015

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. CST

Ironwood Carnegie Library

235 E. Aurora Street

Ironwood, MI 49938

Register with Lisa Casper at (906) 483-0442 or lisa@michiganallianceforfamilies.org or
online at www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/rsvp

October 7, 2015

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. CST

Gogebic Community College Lundquist Center

E4946 Jackson Road

Ironwood, MI 49938

Register with Lisa Casper at (906) 483-0442 or lisa@michiganallianceforfamilies.org or
online at www.michiganallianceforfamilies.org/rsvp



Advocacy and Empowerment across the UP A Mini-Conference for Families and Individuals with Disabilities

**November 2, 2015
9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Marquette-Alger RESA
321 East Ohio Street
Marquette, MI 49855**

This FREE mini-conference is designed for families, students, caregivers, support parents, foster parents, educators, health care professionals, social workers, community agency representatives and others serving children and individuals with disabilities birth to age twenty-six to grow in their knowledge of advocacy and empowerment, employment options, rights and responsibilities for education, Medicaid and mental health, supported decision-making (including re-thinking guardianship), and transition.

Lunch will be provided.

To Register For This Conference Visit:

<http://svy.mk/1LkZmBE>

For more information calls SPEAKS at (906) 635-8984.

A Leadership Opportunities Session will be held from 3:45 pm – 4:15 pm. This session will allow individuals and families to learn about available leadership opportunities.

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN 2015

Building Blocks of Pride: Disability Pride

September 18, 2015
 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
 Jerry L. White Center
 14804 West McNichols
 Detroit, MI 48235
<http://svy.mk/1WVNrmQ>

Everything My Child Needs to Know About Sexuality

September 21, 2015
 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
 WayneRESA
 Boyd's Auditorium
 33500 Van Born Road
 Wayne, MI 48184
<http://svy.mk/1zjfgZG>

Parent and Educator Partnerships Building Collaborative Communication Skills Together

September 23, 2015
 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 Otsego District Public Library
 401 Dix Street
 Otsego, MI 49078
<http://svy.mk/1MRNQSsu>

Discipline for Students on IEP's

October 7, 2015
 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Family Resource Center
 1901 Maple Street
 Saginaw, MI 48602
<https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/THVC3M6>

Parent and Educator Partnerships Building Collaborative Communication Skills Together

October 12, 2015
 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 Jerry L. White Center
 14804 W. McNichols
 Detroit MI, 48235
<http://svy.mk/1MRNQSsu>

Family Voices on Committees and Councils

October 14, 2015
 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 Family Resource Center
 1901 Maple Street
 Saginaw, MI 48602
<http://svy.mk/1EnWdnG>

Parent and Educator Partnerships Building Collaborative Communication Skills Together

October 28, 2015
 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 Clare-Gladwin RESD
 4041 E. Mannsiding Road
 Clare, MI 48617
<http://svy.mk/1MRNQSsu>

Discipline for Students on IEPs

November 4, 2015
 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 Lewis Cass ISD
 61682 Dailey Road
 Cassopolis, MI 49031
<https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/THVC3M6>

Understanding My Mental Health and Medicaid Rights

November 9, 2015
 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 Genesee ISD Davis Education Center Conference Room ABCD
 2413 West Maple Avenue
 Flint, MI 48507
<http://svy.mk/1KbKRpg>

Everything My Child Needs to Know About Sexuality

November 10, 2015
 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 Washtenaw ISD
 1819 South Wagner Road
 Ann Arbor, MI 48106
<http://svy.mk/1zjfgZG>

Team Up for Your Child ROAD MAP

November 11, 2015
 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 Family Resource Center
 1901 Maple Street
 Saginaw, MI 48602
<http://svy.mk/1KbLbnT>

Discipline for Students on IEPs

November 23, 2015
 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
 Rochester African American Parent Network
 Rochester Community Schools
 501 West University
 Rochester, MI 48307
<https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/THVC3M6>



Understanding My Mental Health and Medicaid Rights

December 1, 2015

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Adrian Public Library
143 E. Maumee Street
Adrian, MI 49221

<http://svy.mk/1KbKRpg>

Discipline for Students on IEPs

December 2, 2015

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

St Clair County RESA
499 Range Road
Marysville, MI 48040

<https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/THVC3M6>

Team Up for Your Child ROAD MAP

December 10, 2015

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

CMU Bovee University Center- Mackinaw Room
103 Preston Street
Mount Pleasant, MI 48859

<http://svy.mk/1KbLbnT>

Family Voices on Committees & Councils

December 11, 2015

Clare Gladwin RESD
4041 E. Mannsiding Road
Clare, MI 48617

<http://svy.mk/1EnWdnG>

Who Should Attend Collaborative Learning Opportunities?

Individuals and family members of young children, teen and young adults with special needs/disabilities (including: youth guardians; adoptive, biological, foster and step-parents, domestic parents who co-parent, grandparents, siblings, aunts/uncles, nieces/nephews, cousins, neighbors, religious leaders, and others who person defines as a family member), organizations and service providers of families of young children, teen, young adults, and individuals with disabilities

We encourage individuals and families to invite people who provide support and services to you and your family. Providers are encouraged to invite individuals and families you support and serve. Forming partnerships between people served and those providing services is crucial in building collaboration and partnering in decision-making at all levels with individuals and families of children and youth with special needs/disabilities.

For More Information about Collaborative Learning Opportunities contact:

Michigan Family Voices at (800) 292-7851 extension 427 or info@michiganfamilyvoices.org

Visit the Michigan Family Voices Website for most updated advocacy, leadership, and learning opportunities at:

<http://michiganfamilyvoices.org>



<http://on.fb.me/1UgikhK>



<http://bit.ly/1JmU9ZD>