

Family

Employment

Awareness

Training

A webinar series for families
of students and young adults
with intellectual and
developmental disabilities

A partnership between the Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities at Rhode Island College and Indiana
Institute on Disability and Community Center on Community Living and Careers



Paul V.
Sherlock Center

On Disabilities / Rhode Island College

Housekeeping

- We want to keep things informal but ask that you keep yourself on mute unless you want to ask a question or make a comment.
- You can also comment or ask questions using the “chat.”
- This session will not be recorded since it is interactive, and we strongly encourage participants to actively engage, ask questions, or share personal examples when appropriate.



Family Employment Awareness Training – Webinar Series

May 05 – Overview / Transition to Employment in Rhode Island

May 08 – Possibilities for Employment – Supported and Customized Employment

May 12 – Family and School Roles

May 15 – Adult Supports and Resources



Online Materials and Resources

(Materials included for entire series)

- PowerPoint handouts
- Glossary
- Activities
- Plan for Employment
- Links to related resources
- Website for resources – www.featri.net



Agenda

- Who we are
- Introduction to FEAT
- Employment stories
- Employment First in RI – Panelists
- Next steps



Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities

- Rhode Island's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD).
- Provide training and technical assistance, research and information.
- Individuals with disabilities, their families and those who support them.
- Across the age span.

www.sherlockcenter.org



Who is in the Room?

Participate in the Zoom poll so we can tell who is here:

- Family member of a youth with a disability
- Youth aged 14 – 22 with a disability
- Teaching professional
- Other professional
- Other



Activity – Question for you ...

What is the biggest barrier to successful employment for people with disabilities?

(Type in Chat or unmute to share your thoughts.)



Path to Employment Success

Research says that students with disabilities are more likely to become employed as adults when:

- Family expects that the student can and will find work they enjoy.
- Student receives instruction in self-determination – being in control of what happens, making choices, setting goals.
- Student engages in several long-term work trials that match their interests in real work settings (preferably paid) before exiting school.



Path to Employment Success

Three-pronged transition approach to achieve adult employment success:

- Family Employment Awareness Training (FEAT)
- Promote teaching of self-determination skills while still in school.
- Training and technical assistance for employment specialists, in schools and adult providers to provide multiple real work internships.



Family Employment Awareness Training (FEAT)

Mission

To raise the expectations of families and people with disabilities about the possibility of finding meaningful and satisfying work in a person's home community.

Key principles

1. Everyone with a disability can work when given the right supports and services.
2. Everyone with a disability can have a job or be a business owner that is both enjoyable and satisfying.
3. Everyone with a disability will always make more money working than by relying on public benefits alone.



**Any questions
for us?**



Meet Mike – Works at Gregg's Restaurant

- Gregg's in North Kingstown, RI
- Prep cook
- Agency providing support:
Spurwink RI

[Mike's video](#)



Meet Deavon


Front End Clerk - Stop and Shop



Meet Emily – Self-Employed

Love Letters by *Emily*

Handmade cards, Photo prints, Inspirational quotes ... and more!
Featuring American Sign Language letters, ILY in ASL & Heart Hands images
signed by former RI School for the Deaf student Emily Maxwell.



For more info visit Emily's Facebook page and Etsy shop:
www.facebook.com/LoveLettersbyEmily
www.etsy.com/shop/LoveLettersbyEmily

([Love Letters by Emily Video - Story](#)) and [Love Letters by Emily Video - Highlights](#))



A New Path

Big Picture Outcomes

- Individual quality of life
- Family quality of life
- A desirable life



Employment First in RI

“... Employment opportunities in fully integrated work settings shall be the first and priority option explored in the service planning for working-age adults with developmental disabilities in Rhode Island.” (2013)

- <https://bhddh.ri.gov/developmentaldisabilities/about/employmentcommunity/>
- U.S. Department of Justice Consent Decree, April 9, 2014
 - Person-Centered Planning – students age 14 and up
 - Career Development Plan – students age 14 and up
 - At least two community-based work trials before exiting high school

www.olmstead-ddnews.org – updates on Consent Decree News



Meet Jessica – Baltimore, Maryland

Partnership:

- Personal strengths
- Family
- Employment supports
- Employer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2jAmMX-V8s>



Transition to Employment is a partnership

ROLES OF

- Family
- School – IEP Team and Transition Supports
- Connecting to adult supports
 - Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS)
 - Department of Behavioral Healthcare Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH) – Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)



Let's hear from some Rhode Island workers

- **To be announced**



Questions for Panelists

**What more do you want to
hear from panelists?**

(Unmute or type in Chat.)



Family Employment Awareness Training – Webinar Series

May 05 from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. – Overview / Transition to Employment in Rhode Island

May 08 from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.– Possibilities for Employment – Supported and Customized Employment

May 12 from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. – Family and School Roles

May 15 from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.– Adult Supports and Resources



For Next Session....

Something to think about before the next webinar:

- Together with your family member, discuss the Activity Sheet
“Discovering Passions” in the web resources – www.featri.net
- What kind of career might be enjoyable and/or satisfying for you or your child?
- Next Webinar (May 12, 4:30-6:00 p.m.) – Possibilities for Employment – Supported and Customized Employment



Discovering Passions Activity

- What are my family member's passions?
 - Environment
 - Activities
 - Possible employment ideas?



Discovering Passion

What kind of environment does _____ enjoy being in?

- Sound – noisy or quiet?
- People – many or few?
- Location – indoors or outdoors



What kind of activities does _____ prefer?
What activities does he/she enjoy doing for extended time periods?



Considering environment and activity preferences, what are some possible employment ideas for _____?



Technical Assistance

Sherlock Center on Disabilities

www.sherlockcenter.org

- Available for follow-up and to answer individual questions
- Crystal Cerullo ccerullo@ric.edu
- Call: 401-456-8915



Evaluation for Today

Click on this [link](#) or find it in Chat.

Please complete!



THANK YOU!

See you at our next session!

4:30 – 6:00 p.m. May 8