

# ProActive Caring e-News



October 2021

## ***New School & Home Transition Exchange webcasts coming up***

The *School & Home Transition Exchange* will host two webcasts in October.

For the first webcast, on Oct. 7, we are delighted to welcome Joyce M. Hawk, Senior Family and Community Educator in the Community Support Network at the **Family And Community Engagement (FACE) Center**, a program of the New York State Education Department (NYSED) Office of Special Education (OSE) Educational Partnership. Hawk will provide a Transition Planning & Services Overview: ***“What Schools are Required to Do to Help Students Prepare for Life after High School.”***

Hawk has worked with individuals with disabilities for more than 35 years. In addition to helping parents of children with disabilities better understand the special education process, she has coordinated accommodative services for college students with disabilities, taught college courses, provided career

### ***About the School & Home Transition Exchange***

*The School & Home Transition Exchange* is a forum for family members and educators to discuss how to support students with intellectual and developmental disabilities as they prepare to live as adults.

The Exchange is moderated by Lawrence Force, Ph.D., LCSW-R, and facilitated by parent/advocate Lisa Nathan and school psychologist/advocate Peggy Pisano. Each of the biweekly videocasts focuses on a different topic and generally runs for 45 minutes, including discussion with participants.

### **Upcoming Webcasts**

**Oct. 7:** "Transition Planning & Services Overview: *What Schools are Required to Do to Help Students Prepare for Life after High School*" with guest speaker Joyce M. Hawk (below)

counseling to high school students, managed residential programs for individuals with developmental and emotional disabilities, and provided professional development training for school district personnel. Hawk works in partnership with school districts, families, community agencies, and colleges to improve effective transition planning practices and services through her active participation in regional transition councils and other consortiums. In addition to a college degree, she holds professional competency certifications in College Coaching for students with Asperger Syndrome, Basic Assistive Technology Services, and Person-Centered Planning. She is sure to provide participants valuable information and resources.

The second webcast, ***“When the School Bus Stops Coming: The Transition from School to Adult Services”*** will be on Oct. 21. It will bring together the wisdom and experience of three individuals: Lauren Miller, Transition Coordinator for Orange/Ulster BOCES, and our regular presenters, school psychologist Peggy Pisano, and parent advocate Lisa Nathan.



**Oct. 21:** *“When the School Bus Stops Coming: The Transition from School to Adult Services.”*



*School & Home Transition Exchange* webcasts will be held at 7 p.m. every other Thursday through the fall semester.

To participate, click the registration button below. Registrations are appreciated at least a day in advance so we have time to send you a Zoom link.

If you have registered for a previous *School & Home Transition Exchange* program, you need not register again. Those who have registered will automatically receive a reminder and a link for future programs. All are welcome, and the programs are free of charge.

[Click here to register](#)

# Albany Autism Conference to be Held Virtually

The 20th annual autism conference of The Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) at SUNY Albany will be offered virtually this year. The conference is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 22.

CARD conferences aim to disseminate information on evidence-based interventions and practices that have been shown to improve educational outcomes for children with autism spectrum disorders.

Parents, school personnel, and community professionals are welcome. The Keynote Session, *Pivotal Response Treatment for ASD*, will be presented by Pamela Ventola, Ph.D.

Breakout sessions will include:

- *Strategies for Supporting the Emotional Wellbeing of Students with ASD* (Presenter: Verity Rodrigues, Ph.D.)
- *Behavioral Parent Training: The What, Why, and How* (Presenter: Kait Gould, Ph.D., BCBA-D)
- *Identity Reconstruction Through Functional Communication* (Presenters: Victoria Morrison, M.S., CCC-SLP and Lexi Drake, M.S., CCC-SLP)
- *Behavioral Strategies for Learning: Keeping Students Engaged* (Presenter: Michelle Hopton, M.Ed., BCBA)

There is a conference registration fee of \$15 for New York State residents. Additionally, Continuing Education Units are available for a wide range of professionals for an additional \$5 processing fee per eligible session. For a flyer, session descriptions, objectives, and presenter bios, click [here](#). For online registration, click [here](#).

## Mark your calendar for Transition Institute

The Community Support Network (CSN) of the Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) holds a Transition Institute, an annual conference on post-secondary transition covering topics ranging from employment options, inclusive college programs, social and recreational programs, systems navigation, self-advocacy, and policy issues.

**Save the date** for the next CSN Annual Training Institute, which will be offered virtually from **Jan.19-21, 2022**.

For more information about the Training Institute, including a Request for Proposals, [click here](#).

Additionally, the Community Support Network offers a wide range of programs and trainings throughout the year for parents of children with special needs and the professionals supporting them.

Selected topics include:

- First Steps in the Career Planning Process
- Transition Planning for Life after High School
- Assistive Technology Considerations in Special Education
- Preparing for the Transition to College
- Pathways to Graduation: Understanding Diploma Requirements, Options, Scoring and Commencement Credentials
- Understanding the Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential
- Understanding the Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential
- Transitioning from Special Education to Adult Services

WIHD is one of just 67 University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD's) nationwide. You can visit the [WIHD website](#) for information about these workshops and check the [events calendar](#) for details as well as information about [sessions being offered in Spanish](#). While WIHD's coverage area is Westchester County and the Lower Hudson Valley, you'll find many educational programs that are offered virtually.



Parent Network of WNY provides education and resources for families of individuals with special needs.



Parent Network is committed to providing parents and caregivers with a rich skillset of information and tools including mindfulness.

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