

Berks County Transition Coordinating Council Reference Guide

Initial contact for a student with a disability	Who	Phone	Age	Services
Local School District Transition Coordinator	Call your local school district			Facilitates an appropriate Individualized Education Program (IEP)
Service Access and Management, Inc. (SAM)	Jeff Marks(MH) Kim Wittich (MR) Robin Tietlebaum (Children's Rep.)	610-236-4642 610-236-4806 610-236-4804	Birth through adult	Case Management for Mental Health/Mental Retardation clients including residential, employment, therapy, support, socialization, and vocational services. Crisis Intervention
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)	Janell Shaffer-Yoder	610-378-4370	Two years prior to graduation through adult	Vocational evaluation, counseling, coaching, placement, adaptive equipment, education & training opportunities
Abilities in Motion (AIM)	Jaclyn Kratzer	610-376-0010	All ages	Peer counseling, information & referral, attendant care, advocacy, independent living skills

Service and/or Advocacy Providers	Disability	Who	Phone	Services
BCTCC Assistive Technology Committee	All disabilities	Rod Zerr	610-987-8523	Phone number first for information on assistive technology
C.H.A.D.D.	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	Janet Freeman	610-286-3999	Advocacy, information and referral, adult support group
Berks Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services	Deafness, Hard of Hearing	Kandy Reyes & Elizabeth Setley	610-373-6992 (v) 610-374-7300 (tty)	Information, referral, interpreter services, hearing screenings, hearing aid program, advocacy, ASL classes, crafts, personal assistance, Deaf & Hard of Hearing Awareness Program, related library, assistive devices, Demonstration Center
Council on Chemical Abuse	Drug & Alcohol Addiction	George Vogel	610-376-8669 610-376-8423(FAX)	Information and referral
Berks County Learning Disabilities Association	Learning Disabilities	Debra George	610-988-8457	Advocacy, information and referral
Berks County Mental Health Association	Mental Health Concerns	Karen Hager	610-775-3000	Advocacy, education & support services, including individual case advocacy, information & referral, speakers bureau, self-help support groups, system advocacy
The ARC of Berks County	Mental Retardation	Thomas Dareneau	610-603-0227	Advocacy, information & referral for individuals with mental retardation and their families
Easter Seals of Eastern Pennsylvania	Physical Disabilities	Mark Ruggiero	610-775-1431	Early intervention, physical & occupational therapies, medical clinics, advocacy, outpatient, recreational & group programs, speech
United Disability Services		Andy Raebuck	717-397-1841	Advocacy, information & referral, attendant care, vocational services
Berks County Association for the Blind		David Neideigh	610-375-8407	Sheltered workshop, social services, errands & medical transportation, assistance through State Program
Pennsylvania Blind & Visual Services	Visual Disabilities	Ted Chrusch – Voc. Training	717-787-6176	Mobility instruction, business training, rehabilitation teaching and social services
Arbor, Inc./Teen Works	All	Sue Miller	610-374-9925	Training for youth 14 –21 in basic job readiness, occupational skills, education in basic living skills.
Fresh Focus 4U	ADHD	Shelly Birchess	610-779-7652 610-779-5622	ADHD information – Peer group advocacy

Where can a student get supportive employment services?	Contact	Phone	Disabilities Served	Services
(AHEDD)	Karen Conover	610-921-8515	All	Pre-employment services, job development & placement, coaching, support
Berks County CareerLink	John Moser	610-988-1358	All	Job search and job placement assistance, career resource center, youth program. School to work initiatives, labor market information, job development & referral, training opportunities
Berks County Intermediate Unit (BCIU)	Brian Hocking	610-987-8504	All	PAL Class – classroom and community based instruction focusing on job readiness skills Itinerant Services – to address vocational assessment, work experiences, transition planning support
Community Skills Program	Mark Heydt	610-376-3390	Acquired Brain Injury, Neurological Impairments	Independent living skills, mobility training, cognitive therapy, prevocational training, vocational rehabilitation
Goodwill Industries of Mid-Eastern Pennsylvania	Catherine Shearer	610-988-1365	All	Work readiness, job development, coaching, support, job retention service, individualized employment choice
Olivet Boys & Girls Club	Barry Palmer	610-478-8883	All	Career Preparation Program
Prospectus/Berco	Ginnie Haggerty	610-775-8060 x 101	All	Vocational evaluation, personal and work adjustment training, workshop services, residential services, recreation, family support services
Threshold/Berks Personnel Network	Verna Morris	610-678-8858	All	Work readiness, job development, coaching, support

Post Secondary Programs	Contact	Phone	Resources	Phone
Albright College	Tiffenia Archie	610-921-7255	CONNECT	800—692-7288
Alvernia College	Donna Klinikowski	610-796-8266	Education Law Center	215-238-6970
Kutztown University	Patricia Richter	610-683-4108	HEATH	202-939-9320
Penn State	Peter Coleman	610-396-6000	Parent Education Network	800-522-5827
Reading Community College	Tomma Lee Furst	610-607-6245	Regional Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center (ADA Hotline)	800-949-4232

Financial Assistance	Phone
Medical Assistance	610-736-4211
PASSABCO Benefits Counseling Assistance (office located in Goodwill – Contact Corrie Nelson, ext. 232)	610-988-1365
Social Security	610-320-5235 (v) 610-320-5096 (TTY)

“The mission of the Berks County Transition Coordinating Council is to plan and facilitate successful movement of students with disabilities from school programs to adult life.”

** Adapted from a reference guide developed by the Chester County Transition Coordinating Council

