Methods for Sharing Youth and Emerging Leader Voices

Becoming Leaders for Tomorrow (BLT) Project
Utah
Al Romeo, RN PhD
Megan Chytraus, Advisory Committee
http://blt.cpd.usu.edu

Utah State University
College of Education and Human Services
Center for Persons with Disabilities
FAMILY VOICES
Utah Department of Health
Purpose

- Allow youth and emerging leaders to network with each other to learn about and propose methods for sharing their voices and ideas about leadership and transition with communities.
Learning Objectives

- Discuss and learn about successful and unsuccessful strategies for sharing youth/emerging leader ideas about transition and leadership with local, state, and national communities
- Brainstorm new strategies for sharing ideas about transition and leadership
- Develop list of suggested methods and helpful hints
- Learn about costs and technical challenges of various methods
What methods are projects using? Utah

- Becoming Leaders for Tomorrow (BLT) Project
  - [http://blt.cpd.usu.edu](http://blt.cpd.usu.edu)
- Serve on committees
- Review materials and websites developed by partners
- Present at conferences, workshops, meetings (in-state, national)
- Video from panel presentation ($400 for video)
  - [http://www.cpd.usu.edu/media/flv/?dir=UISP%20-%20UT%20Medical%20Home](http://www.cpd.usu.edu/media/flv/?dir=UISP%20-%20UT%20Medical%20Home)
- Members of US Paralympic Team and local Special Olympics Team
- Art...
Video from panel presentation

Utah's Integrated Services Project (UISP)

Respecting the Young Adult Patient

A group of young adults discuss how physicians can encourage the independence of their patients who have disabilities by helping them take over the responsibility of their own health care.

To begin "play" you can either use the play controls at the bottom of the media box or select "shift + I" to get information on all the controls available to you.
Members of US Paralympic Team and local Special Olympics Team
Logo Contest

- Graduate
- Career
- Achieving Tomorrow's
- Independence
- Reality...
- Today!!!
- Family
- Friends
## Methods Summary

by Youth Information, Training & Resource Centers

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### Methods:
The methods that the state or national center uses may include one or more method in the grouping but does not necessarily include all methods in the grouping.

1. Participation on boards, committees, councils, town meeting
2. Presentations at conferences, training events, workshops, partner meetings
3. Provide peer training, mentoring, youth-led conferences and summits
4. Create art, pictures, stories, poems, plays, acting
5. Develop newsletters, editorials, reviews, radio spots
6. Use websites, blogs, listservs
7. Engage in political action, petitions, rallies
8. Create videos for groups, recruitment, training, stories
9. Participate in sports or social groups
10. Participate in faith-based or community groups
11. Review or develop training and other materials

Please send edits to Al Romeo, alromeo@utah.gov, or visit http://blt.cpd.usu.edu/.
Methods Summary

- Participate on boards, committees, councils, town meetings
- Present at conferences, training events, partner meetings
- Provide peer training, mentoring, youth-led conferences and summits
Methods Summary (cont.)

- Use websites, blogs, listservs
  [http://www.deafspot.net/deafblogs/index.html](http://www.deafspot.net/deafblogs/index.html)
- Engage in political action, petitions, rallies
- Create videos for groups, recruitment, training, stories
- Participate in sports and social groups
- Participate in faith-based and community groups
- Review or develop training and other materials
  [http://www.youth-project.org/Guide.html](http://www.youth-project.org/Guide.html)
Valentine's Poetry
by Jason English

LOVE
Love is sweet as river of chocolate,
Roses smells lovely happiness of love.
Smiles bring romantic passion,
Kisses soft as float on clouds,
Just feel tender touch of smooth skin.
Make me lose into your eyes.

OCEAN
Love flow like Ocean,
Sunset show colors of romantic.
Flowers take a ride on sweet swim in
Ocean of love,
Ocean is hot passion of love.

***
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Access Living Youth Center
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Extensive historical research indicates that students with disabilities, particularly those with learning disabilities, are more likely to drop out of school and become marginally employed than their non-disabled counterparts. Current studies reveal that youth in school settings are especially vulnerable and require good career guidance well before graduation and the subsequent loss of in-school supports. Independent Living Centers (ILCs) can teach skills that will help students achieve success both during their middle and high school years and beyond. ILCs across the nation actively embrace a focus on youth with disabilities. Their “outside-the-box” initiatives recognize youth self-advocacy as the critical “change-element” for students with disabilities seeking full and active community inclusion. This effort is particularly important in the “in-school” transition programs seeking to connect young students with employment fitting their interests and desires.

Over 500 Independent Living Centers located across the country are actively seeking out “customers” with disabilities. In 2002, 90% made it their primary objective to seek out and support youth, particularly students making the leap from school settings and educational supports to work/community living. ILCs recognize the great value of collaborating with schools to provide advocacy education outreach. The schools, in turn, receive a value-added bonus, the opportunity to partner with the ILC in addition to the advocacy skills acquired by individual students.

Summit Independent Living Center staff in Missoula, Montana, has developed and continues to refine an effective “self-advocacy tool” for youth in the western counties of the state. Summit staff seeks to engage school-aged youth with disabilities through their BALLS (Building Advocacy and Living Leadership Skills) initiative. BALLS is a curriculum designed to educate youth to engage in self-advocacy, utilizing it as a means to promote their interests, particularly as they transition from school to community working/living environments. It is understood students given the opportunity to acquire and hone self-advocacy skills are more likely to succeed when they make choices representing their best interests.

(Continued on page 2)
Newsletters
(news you can use)

Members' Circle

By Kristen Jones

Movie of the Month

Emmanuel's Gift (2005)

Oprah Winfrey narrates this movie. Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah was born with a deformed right leg. This African nation has over 2 million citizens with disabilities. Emmanuel dedicates his life to making life better for people with disabilities. He rides his bike across the country to open minds and change lives. This young leader's work has motivated the King of Ghana to pass several laws protect the rights of people with disabilities in Ghana.

Book of the Month

During a blizzard in 1964, Dr. Henry delivered his own twins. While his son was born healthy, he realizes that his daughter has Down's Syndrome. Dr. Henry does not think his wife can
Blogs

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Make Money with Your Blog

DeafBlogs.net has reviewed some ways for you to Make Money with Your Blog, so if you are interested, check it out.

Deaf Blogging Directory

Welcome to DeafBlogs.net - the central directory for Deaf weblogs! This site will be updated periodically to list the newest Deaf blogs as they are submitted to the site.

If you have a weblog that is not listed, contact us so that we may add your blog. Send emails to DeafSpot @ gmail.com

Please help spread the word about DeafBlogs.net by adding a DeafBlogs link or button to your site or blog. DeafBlogs.net

New: Now our blogs are listed in the order they were updated. Most recently updated blogs will be toward the top of the list!!!
SPECIAL ED BUDGET CUTS = CUTTING OFF OUR FUTURE

CPS must STOP special education budget cuts and layoffs! Students with disabilities aren’t getting the education they DESERVE.
Review and develop training materials

Transition Guide

What Comes Next?

A Guide written by and for Teens and Young Adults with Disabilities

Funding provided through a grant from
The Administration on Developmental Disabilities,
United States Department of Health and Human Services
HHH 405-D
370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20447

Inclusion Research Institute
1010 Wisconsin Avenue
Suite 340
Washington, DC 20007
(202) 338-7153
More Methods…

● Please share your ideas with us…
What we learned…
(comparing methods)

● Community impact: use groups, boards, political action
● Personal touch: use stories, poems, pictures
● Larger audiences: use accessible websites, newsletters, videos (see Wednesday presentations on accessible technology)
What we learned... (presentations)

- Audiences like youth/emerging leader voices (rather than staff presentations)
- In-person (low-tech) works best for question-and-answer sessions
- Can use videos when emerging leaders not available
- Combinations work well (video to cover major points, then in-person questions)
What we learned...
(more)

- Take opportunities as they come along
- Do what you like to do
- Be creative
- Have fun
Other Lessons Learned (safety)

- Names: limit use, first names for youth
- Identity: do not give out addresses; use grantee address for contact info
- Personal info: limit details like hobbies and favorite things, names of pets or service animals, hometown or school names, family member names
- Consent for pictures, videos, quotes, etc.
Technical lessons learned…
(video pro & con)

● Professional video services result in better quality, but cost more and have a different “feel” (less personal)

● Social networking sites offer easy way to upload videos but consider safety, comments, etc.

● Consider using audio and still pictures, art, or text to make “videos” without a video camera

● Consider adding captions (can be done with some software) to make it more accessible
Technical lessons learned…
(picture & sound)

- Lights: lights and glass in back lower quality
- Camera: consider the quality of the camera and costs; practice using the camera
- Action: try to use a tripod for steady pictures; for panels or interviewing – keep camera on person answering question (emerging leader) or consider using 2 cameras to reduce switching back and forth
- Sound: consider using external microphones; consider using multiple microphones and sound mixer for panels or interviewing
Examples

● Tyler (professional look) http://www.imtyler.org/

● …Veterinarian Assistant (home video look; back light 3:54)
  http://www.peoplefirstofnh.org/WorldOfWorkOnlineTraining.htm

● …Considering Careers & Jobs (home video look; movement 0:36-1:01; sound)
  http://www.peoplefirstofnh.org/WorldOfWorkOnlineTraining.htm
Other Lessons Learned

- What lessons learned do you want to share?
Thank you!

- We appreciate your help in making this presentation possible.

- Find this presentation at http://blt.cpd.usu.edu
Abstract

- Youth and emerging leaders have vital insights into what it means to experience transition to adulthood and become leaders in local, state, and national communities. Some youth and emerging leaders naturally make their own opportunities to share their voices. Some youth and young adults, however, struggle to find ways to share their voices.

- Various methods can be used to help youth and young adults share their voices and express their ideas. Some low-tech methods, like writing newsletters and talking at meetings, are still some of the best ways to share ideas and have a lasting impact on small groups in the community. Poetry, songs, and artwork are other, creative ways to share ideas and make personal connections.

- Video, web sites, cell phones, and other technology offer new ways to deliver written words, spoken voices, and creative arts. While many grantees use websites to share information developed by youth and emerging leaders, newer social networking methods offer ways for youth and emerging leaders to add their insights to the collective knowledge base of communities. Utah developed a video of young adults sharing their ideas with providers at a medical home training session and posted the video, with captioned version, on web sites as a no-cost means of dissemination. Other states are exploring social-networking sites as ways to share youth- and emerging-leader-voices to wide audiences.

- Grantees can use proven low-tech and newer technology-based methods to reach wide or focused audiences. This session will help grantees explore current and new methods to help youth and emerging leaders share their ideas with communities and help them achieve tomorrow’s reality today.