

TACTICS

**A GUIDE TO TRANSITION
RELATED SERVICES
IN COLLIER COUNTY**



**TRANSITION ACTION COMMUNICATION TEAM
INTERAGENCY COUNCIL SUPPORT**

Table of Contents

Overview -----	3
Quick Reference Guide -----	4
District School Board of Collier County -----	5
Transition -----	6
Florida Gulf Coast University -----	6
Lorenzo Walker Institute of Technology -----	7
Edison Community College -----	8
Sunrise Community of Collier County -----	9
Lutheran Services -----	9
CMS Network -----	10
Epilepsy Services of Southwest Florida -----	10
Family Network on Disabilities -----	11
Florida Division of Blind Services -----	11
The Mental Health Association of Collier County -----	12
Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida -----	12
Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program -----	13
David Lawrence Center -----	13
Special Olympics Florida - Collier County -----	14
Deaf and Hearing Impaired -----	14
Vocational Rehabilitation Services -----	15
The Dignity Group -----	15
Social Security Administration -----	16
Friends of the Developmentally Disabled -----	16
Transportation -----	17
Visually Impaired Persons of Southwest Florida -----	17
Agencies for Persons with Disabilities -----	18
Career and Service Center of Collier County -----	19
Naples Equestrian Challenge, Inc. -----	19

TACTICS

Transition Action Communication Team Interagency Council Support

The mission of TACTICS is to increase opportunities and resources for students with disabilities who reside in Collier County, through promoting greater community collaboration

Members of TACTICS come from several agencies within the community. Agencies represented include: Agencies for Persons with Disabilities - Dept. of Children and Families, The District School Board of Collier County - Exceptional Student Education Department and Lorenzo Walker Institute of Technology, Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Goodwill Industries, Social Security Administration and TECH/SUNRISE Opportunities of Collier County.

This booklet has been compiled by TACTICS with funding through Collier County Exceptional Student Education .

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

Agencies for Persons w/Disabilities (APD)	(239) 643-5900
Brain & Spinal Cord Injury	(239) 433-6723
C.A.R.D.. (Center for Autism & Related Diseases)	(800) 328-8476
C.H.A.D.D.	(800) 233-4058
Children's Medical Services	(239) 513-7400
DCF (Dept. of Children & Family Services)	(239) 643-5900
David Lawrence Center	(239) 455-1031
Deaf and Hearing Impaired	(239) 278-7150
Edison Community College	(239) 732-3700
Epilepsy Foundation of SW FL	(239) 649-7430
FND - Family Network on Disabilities	(800) 825-5736
FND - Collier County	(239) 417-3636
FL Diagnostic & Learning Resource System	(239) 377-8363
FL Gulf Coast University	(239) 590-7925
Florida Division of Blind Services	(239) 278-7130
Goodwill Industries	(239) 278-7140, Ext. 192
Goodwill Industries - Naples	(239) 649-1984
Goodwill Industries - Immokalee	(239) 658-3300
Lorenzo Walker Institute of Technology	(239) 377-0900
Lutheran Services FLORIDA	(239) 278-7765, Ext. 403
Lutheran Services Patty Leonard, Reg. Dir.	(800) 651-1853
Mental Health Assoc. of Collier Co.	(239) 261-5404
Naples Equestrian Challenge, Inc.	(239) 596-2988
School Board of Collier County	(239) 377-0001
School Board of Collier Co. - ESE Dept.	(239) 377-0084
SEDNET	(239) 377-0131
Social Security Administration	(800) 772-1213
Special Olympics - Collier County	(239) 775-1991
SUNRISE Community of Collier County	(239) 643-5338
Vocational Rehabilitation Services - Naples	(239) 659-1910
Vocational Rehabilitation Services	(239) 658-3314

Information contained within this brochure has been provided by the individual agencies and organizations as a service to the community. Please contact each agency or organization for additional information and current programs and requirements. This brochure was funded through IDEA, Part B, Department of Exceptional Student Education, District School Board of Collier County.

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF COLLIER COUNTY

5775 Osceola Trail
Naples, Fl. 34109
377-0001

CO-STEP (Collier County Skills Training for Employment Program) is designed to provide instruction in employability and vocational skills for students with disabilities. Students develop a realistic perception of their abilities, skills and values in order to better plan and prepare themselves to be a successful contributing member of the world of work. Course options include Career Education, Employability Skills, Social and Personal Skills, Career Preparatory Education and Career Placement.

A.C.E. ("Academy for Career Education") is designed to provide an opportunity for 11th and 12th grade students to fulfill their high school graduation requirements and receive post-secondary training in a variety of occupations.

L.I.F.E. (Learning Independent Functional Employment) is designed to provide an opportunity for students with moderate to severe disabilities to increase their exposure to various work areas and provide intensive training in transition related service areas.

DIPLOMA OPTIONS AND POST HIGH SCHOOL OUTCOMES FOR ESE STUDENTS:

Standard Diploma:

College/University Entrance
Community College
Vocational/Technical Training
Military Services
Direct Entry into Work

Special Diploma Option 1 and Option 2:

Vocational/Technical Training
Adult Education/Non-Degree
Supported Employment
Military Services
Direct Entry into Work
Community College

Please check with current High School Course Catalog for applicable diploma requirements. Contact individual post high school institutions for current entrance requirements and procedures.

TRANSITION

Transition is the process of preparing students with disabilities to move smoothly from the school environment into the community and adult life. The students' identified goals for their post school life will be the common thread for their secondary school experience. The family, community, and school will guide and advocate for the student in the planning and implementation of these goals.

Transition Services will be addressed for all students with disabilities at age 14 (or younger if determined by the Individual Education Planning team).

Transition plans are outcome-orientated and designed to assist the student to achieve goals for post-school living. Transition plans will reflect the student's individual needs, desired post-school outcomes, and expressed preferences/interests. The student's IEP will include the student's transition goals and address areas to assist the student in achieving these goals.

TRANSITION PLANNING-- Beginning in middle school, students identify general interests and aptitudes and plan for potential post-school activities. Each year students meet with their Exceptional Student Education team to revisit their transition plan and to fine tune it as they gain additional knowledge about themselves, the world of work and the options available to them. In their senior year , the transition plan is finalized and students are connected with agencies that can assist them with their transition into the adult world.

FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY

Office of Multi Access Services (OMAS)
1050 FGCU Blvd. S.
Fort Myers, FL 33965

OMAS promotes opportunities for full participation in university academics, programs, activities and services by students with disabilities, through the provision of reasonable accommodations and other support services.

The OMAS staff provides initial consultation and periodic review of each student's needs and works with faculty and staff to provide accommodations.

Contact: (239) 570-7925
(239) 590-7930 TTY
OMAS@FGCU.EDU
<http://www.fgcu.edu>

LORENZO WALKER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

3701 Estey Ave.
Naples, FL 34102
(239) 377-0900

A.C.E. Academy for Career (x70913)-- A.C.E. is designed to provide opportunity for 11th and 12th graders to fulfill their high school graduation requirements and receive post-secondary training in a variety of occupations.

Project Explore (x70939) -Available only to individuals with disabilities 16 years or older, not enrolled in high school. -- Project Explore is a self-directed assessment and workplace readiness experience.

Project Explore--Moorings Park (x79942)- Available only to individuals with disabilities 16 years of age or older, not enrolled in high school.

Vocational Certificate Programs (x70942)-- Workforce Education provides individuals with job preparatory and instruction and career related experience leading to employment:

- ◆ Technology
- ◆ Personal/Human Services
- ◆ Transportation/Industrial
- ◆ Health Services Accounting, Operations, Computer Electronics, Legal and medical Secretary, PC Support Services
- ◆ Culinary arts, Cosmetology, Early Childhood Education, Law Enforcement Dispatcher, Firefighter
- ◆ Automotive Aviation, Marine, Apprenticeship Programs
- ◆ Dental, Medical and Nursing Assisting, Practical Nursing, Surgical Technology, Massage Therapy, and others.

G.E.D. Preparation (x70942)-- Covers the five GED subjects of writing, social studies, science, literature and mathematics along with test taking strategies. Instruction is individualized in a lab setting.

EDISON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Mission statement: Edison Community College provides post-secondary opportunities so students can satisfy their educational needs. Specifically, we fulfill our mission through:

- Undergraduate Associate in Arts degree learning focused on upper-division transfer.
- Associate in Science degree and occupational certificates focused on job preparation through skill acquisition or enhancement.
- Developmental learning designed to assist students in acquiring or renewing skills necessary for college-level learning.
- Shorter-term skills enhancement through credit and continuing education programs.
- Leadership as an educational and cultural resource.

ECC provides reasonable accommodations for qualified students with a disability. Accommodations are designed to provide equal access to the curriculum. It is the obligation of the student with a disability to request accommodations. Students must provide current diagnostic documentation (from a qualified professional) that confirms a physical or mental disability. This documentation is needed to provide sufficient information on the student's functional limitations so appropriate and effective academic accommodations can be recommended. Accommodations may include, but are not limited to: readers, note takers and interpreters, free tutorial services (Learning Assistance Lab), campus mobility assistance (Public Safety Office), alternative testing/test accommodations, computers with speech access, tape recording, TDD (telephone system for the deaf), and large print/Braille.

Contact: Auxiliary Aids Office
Edison Community College
7007 Lely Cultural Parkway
Naples, FL 34113
(239) 732-3107

SUNRISE COMMUNITY OF COLLIER COUNTY AKA TECH OF COLLIER COUNTY

Sunrise Community of Collier County is a private, not-for-profit corporation whose mission is to provide people with disabilities the assistance and support necessary to enable them to live valued lives in the community.

- Supported Employment Specialists help individuals learn to search, apply for and retain positions of employment and earn competitive wages within the community.
- Supported Living Specialists help individuals learn the many aspects of living independently in their own homes.
- Adult Day Training programs provide opportunities to develop new skills for every day living and pre-vocational skills, social skills, leisure time skills, adaptive technology training and mobility training.

There are both center based and off site programs.

Contact: Program Director - Adult Services
3984 Arnold Ave.
Naples, FL 34104
(239) 642-5338
Website: <http://sunrisecc.naples.net>

LUTHERAN SERVICES FLORIDA (LSF)

The goal of LSF Youth and Family Services is to reunite families torn apart by conflict due to the ungovernable and truant behavior of troubled teens. Programs include short-term, residential shelters for runaways and troubled youth (ages 10-17) as well as both individual and family counseling.

Services available:

Screenings and Assessments	
Referrals	Counseling
Case Management	Intervention
Temporary Shelter	Aftercare/follow-up for 6 months

Contact: Lutheran Services Florida
Shepherd of the Glades Lutheran Church
6020 Rattlesnake Hammock Rd.
Naples, FL 34113
(239) 278-7765, Ext. 403

CMS NETWORK

The Children's Medical Services (CMS) Network is a health care program specifically designed for children with special health care needs, ages birth to 21, who meet medical and financial guidelines. It is a member of the Florida Kid Care family of health plans. Your child will receive medical care from health care professionals and institutions that meet the highest standards of pediatric care.

Services covered by the CMS Network are:

- ✓ Doctor visits and surgeries
- ✓ Hospital Inpatient
- ✓ Hospital Outpatient/Emergency Room
- ✓ Therapy
- ✓ Laboratory/X-ray
- ✓ Home Health Care
- ✓ Prescription Drugs

Services, except for emergencies, must be prior approved by your child's primary care physician and provided by CMS approved health care providers. Services which have not been approved are not the responsibility of the CMS Network.

Contact: CMS
1665 Medical Blvd.
Naples, FL 34100
(239) 513-7400

EPILEPSY SERVICES OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

Purpose: To enhance the lives of individuals affected by epilepsy, and their families, by providing Direct Client Services that include Medical, Case Management and Support Group Services, i.e.: Community Prevention/Education Services focusing on preventing head injuries and removing the social stigma associated with seizure disorders.

Eligibility: The Seizure Disorder Clinic and related medical services are open to low-income, uninsured individuals of any age who have a diagnosis of epilepsy. Case management and services are available to all individuals with a diagnosis of epilepsy, with no income restrictions. There are no eligibility requirements for other services.

Contact: Epilepsy Services of S.W. FL
852 First Avenue South, Suite #108
Naples, FL 34102
(239) 649-7430

FAMILY NETWORK ON DISABILITIES

The FAMILY NETWORK ON DISABILITIES (FND) is a statewide parent organization that provides information, education and support to people who have family members with disabilities.

FND PROVIDES: Information, Training, Individual Assistance and other services.

Contact: FND
2735 Whitney Road
Clearwater, FL 33760
(727) 523-1130 (Voice and TDD), Fax: (727) 523-8687
Parents: 1-800-825-5736
Parent Liaison of SW Florida: Wilbur Hawke 1-800-825-5736

FLORIDA DIVISION OF BLIND SERVICES

The Division of Blind Services through collaborative efforts with people who are blind and bilaterally visually impaired and through partnerships with the community, provides integrated services leading to independent lifestyles, employment and transition from school to work.

Vocational Rehabilitation Services may include:

- ◆ Diagnosis and Evaluation to determine eligibility
- ◆ Counseling and Guidance to maximize an individual's personal or vocational gain
- ◆ Job Placement
- ◆ Job Modification or Reengineering
- ◆ Vocation and/or Academic Training
- ◆ On the Job Training
- ◆ Personal and Social Adjustment Services
- ◆ Orientation and Mobility Training
- ◆ Post Employment services
- ◆ Low Vision Aids
- ◆ Adaptive Technology
- ◆ Information and referral enabling an individual to access information and the community
- ◆ Management or Disability or Physical Restoration
- ◆ Advocacy

Contact: Division of Blind Service
2830 Winkler Ave., Suite #207
Ft. Myers, FL 33916
(239) 278-7130 (800) 219-0180

THE MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF COLLIER COUNTY

The Mental Health Association of Collier County is dedicated to promoting mental health and achieving victory over mental illnesses through advocacy, education, prevention and social action. The Mental Health Association provides the following services to the citizens of Collier County:

- ◆ Information and Referral Service to the mental health community
- ◆ Divorce Support programs
- ◆ Counseling for indigent families
- ◆ Anxiety and Depression Support Groups
- ◆ Depression Screenings

Contact: The Mental Health Association of Collier County
 2335 9th Street North, Suite #404
 Naples, FL 34103
 (239) 261-5405

GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA, INC.

Goal: To assist individuals to choose, obtain, and/or retain employment commensurate with their vocational, social, psychological, and medical needs and abilities. In addition, services are made available to employers to facilitate the successful employment of individuals with disabilities.

Individuals served are those who have physical developmental, psychiatric, hearing, or visual disabilities and/or other barriers to employment. Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, Inc. will not discriminate against any person referred and/or receiving services with regard to race, creed, sex, religion, color, age, national origin, disability or marital status.

Contact: Goodwill Industries
 4150 Ford Street Extension
 Ft. Myers, FL 33916
 (239) 278-7140, Est. #192

BRAIN AND SPINAL CORD INJURY PROGRAM (BSCIP)

Florida Department of Health

The mission of the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program is to provide all eligible residents who sustain a traumatic brain or spinal cord injury equal opportunity to obtain the necessary services to enable them to return to an appropriate level of functioning in their community.

The BSCIP Program can provide inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation care, Transitional living services, adaptive equipment, home modifications, and other services necessary for community reintegration. Case management is the primary service that is available to assist clients and their families.

All services except case management are contingent upon the availability of funds. Any resident who sustains a traumatic brain or spinal cord injury and who meets the following requirements is eligible.

- ✓ Has been referred to the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Central Registry (1-800-342-0778)
- ✓ Is a legal resident of Florida
- ✓ Is medically stable
- ✓ Does meet the state definition for traumatic spinal cord and/or moderate to severe traumatic brain injury
- ✓ Is reasonably expected to benefit from rehabilitation services based upon the goal of community reintegration

Contact: Counselor CMS - BSCIP
9800 S. Healthpark Drive
Ft. Myers, FL 33908
(239-433-6723, Ext. 111
VRS Central Registry: 1-800-342-0778

DAVID LAWRENCE CENTER

The David Lawrence Center is a private, not-for-profit community behavioral healthcare center whose primary mission is to provide a wide range of mental health, alcohol and drug abuse services to meet the needs of the citizens of Collier County.

Services provided include:

- ◆ Adult Community Services
- ◆ Children's Community Services
- ◆ Emergency Services
- ◆ Outpatient Services
- ◆ Residential Services

Contact: David Lawrence Center
6075 Golden Gate Parkway
Naples, FL 34116
(239) 455-1031

SPECIAL OLYMPICS FLORIDA - COLLIER COUNTY

- A NON-PROFIT CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION THAT WAS FOUNDED IN 1972
- Staffed solely by volunteers
- A year -round sports training and athletic competition program in a variety of Olympic-type sports for persons eight years of age and older with mental retardation. Special Olympics competition provides continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrates courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

Participants compete year round in:

Athletics (track and field)	Aquatics	Basketball
Bowling	Equestrian Sports	Golf
Power Lifting	Soccer	Tennis

Contact: 2663 Airport Road South, Suite #D101
Naples, FL 34112
(239) 775-1991

DEAF AND HEARING IMPAIRED

The Division of vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) has VRS Counselors specifically trained to understand the difficulties of persons with hearing problems. These counselors use total communication (sign language, oral , interpreters, etc.) with deaf persons and understand their problems and abilities. VRS Counselors may be called on the phone with a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD).

In the State Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services there is a Deaf and Hard of Hearing Service program that studies, plans, develops, and improves statewide VRS services for deaf and hard of hearing persons.

Contact: VRS Counselor for Deaf and Hearing Impaired
4150 Ford Street Extension, Suite #3
Ft. Myers, FL 33916
(239) 278-7150 TDD (239) 278-7378

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES PURPOSE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) provides services for eligible individuals with physical or mental disabilities. These services are designed to enable individuals to enter, regain, or retain employment.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND SCHOOL-TO WORK TRANSITION

Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) assists students who have a physical or mental disability with employment opportunities. School-to-work transition involves a number of activities that help students find a job. Students may be referred by the school to VRS for post-school planning and services.

To be eligible for VRS, students must have a physical or mental disability which may present barriers to getting and keeping a job.

What type of assistance can VRS offer? VRS offers many services that will help students obtain employment. Some are:

Vocational Evaluation and Career Planning	Job Placement
Counseling and Guidance	Job Coaching
School-Site and Community Based Training	Training and Education after High School
Medical & Psychological Diagnosis & Treatment	

Contact the VRS Transition Counselor at:

(Naples)
215 Airport Road North
Naples, FL 34104
(239) 659-1910

(Immokalee)
750 South Fifth Street
Immokalee, FL 34142
(239) 658-3314

THE DIGNITY GROUP

Information about rights, trusts and guardianships

Contact: 5683 Strand Court
Naples, FL 34110-3343
(239) 596-0526

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

The Social Security Administration administers the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. It determines the eligibility of claimants makes the basic payments to recipients and maintains a master record of recipients. A child under age 18 may be found disabled with a physical or mental impairment that is comparable in severity to one that would prevent an adult from working and that is expected to last at least 12 months or result in death. For more information about benefits for children, ask at any Social Security office for a copy of the booklet "Benefits for Children with Disabilities" (Publication No. 05-10026),

A person age 18 or older is considered disabled if a physical or mental impairment or combination of impairments prevents him or her from working and that impairment is expected to last at least 12 months or to result in death.

With the expansion of transition programs to include community-based employment for students with disabilities, it has become increasingly clear that students who are eligible for SSI benefits can and do benefit from the SSI work incentives. For a student to profit from these work incentives, he or she must be receiving or be eligible to receive, SSI benefits.

Contact: Social Security Administration - Naples
3174 Tamiami Trail, East
Naples, FL 34112
(239) 530-3364 (800) 530-3361

FRIENDS OF THE DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED (FODD)

Whom we serve: Adults that are developmentally challenged, who reside in Collier County. We serve a wide range of adults with varying disabilities.

What we do: We provide a fun and supportive environment through monthly structured social events and weekly bowling. We are also affiliated with Special Olympics of Collier County.

Future Planning: Our goal is to develop a campus type facility in Collier County where our clients could live as independently as possible.

Contact: FODD
P.O. Box 1109216
Naples, FL 34108
(239) 596-1138
E-mail: foddnaplesfl82@earthlink.net

TRANSPORTATION

State of Florida & Collier County subsidized para-transit (door to door) transportation provided under the Transportation Disadvantaged Program for individuals who are physically, developmentally and/or economically challenged.

Contact: Community Transportation (Also known as ATC)
3584 Exchange Ave., Unit "C"
Naples, FL 34104
General Office/Reservations/Enrollment
(239) 649-0228

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

(239) 596-7777

Web site: [http://www.colliergov.net/atm/Transit Development](http://www.colliergov.net/atm/Transit%20Development)

Collier Area Transit System (CAT) – The Collier Area Transit (CAT) system is Collier County's first large scale attempt at public transportation. The system currently operates limited routes in Collier County. The current cost per ride is \$1.00 with unlimited day and month passes available for sale. The new CAT system operates from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

VISUALLY IMPAIRED PERSONS OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

Information and services for visually impaired persons.

Contact: 975 Imperial Golf Course Blvd., Unit #118
Naples, FL 34110
(239) 597-7629

AGENCIES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (APD)

The Agency for Persons with Disabilities assists people and their families. It also provides assistance to identify the needs of people with developmental disabilities and funding to purchase supports and services.

The developmental disabilities identified in Florida law are:

Spina Bifida
Autism
Cerebral Palsy (CP)
Mental-Retardation
Prader-Willi Syndrome

The services children and adults can receive are called supports and services that make it easier for people to live, work and play in places they choose. The Agency for Persons with Disabilities can arrange for a support coordinator to assist individuals in identifying the supports and services they need. Together a plan of supports and services will be developed to assist people with developmental disabilities.

Contact: Naples Office
215 Airport Pulling Rd.
Naples, FL 34112
(239) 643-9475
(239) 643-9476

CAREER AND SERVICE CENTER OF COLLIER COUNTY

www.CareerAndServiceCenter.org

Naples
215 Airport Pulling Road North
Naples, FL 34112
(239) 649-1984

Immokalee
750 South Fifth Street
Immokalee, FL 34142
(239) 658-3300

Anyone - Everyday - Anytime Florida Relay 711

Job Seeking Service

- Career development workshops
- Career and skills assessment
- Resume preparation and review
- Job search assistance
- Internet access to job opportunities
- Labor, market and wage information
- Self-service resources
- Referral and placement

Business Services

- Employee recruitment
- Private interview facilities
- Job postings and referrals
- Job matching
- High skills workforce training
- On-the Job (OJT) Training
- Assistance with Business closures
- Labor market analysis and information

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

NAPLES EQUESTRIAN CHALLENGE, INC.

Naples Equestrian Challenge provides therapy through horseback riding for children and adults with physical and mental disabilities.

Riding has proven to be an effective therapeutic treatment of the following disabilities:

Cerebral Palsy
Stroke
Multiple Sclerosis
Spina Bifida

Down's Syndrome
Spinal Cord Injuries
Emotional Disabilities
Developmental Disabilities

Autism
Mental Retardation
Learning Disabilities
Amputations

Contact:

Naples Equestrian Challenge, Inc.
206 Ridge Drive
Naples, FL 34108
(239) 596-2988



