

WHAT'S NEW FROM NCWD/YOUTH

New Resources Centering on Youth, Families, and Employment Tips

New resources from NCWD include a podcast series on helping youth develop soft skills for job success; there is also an Info Brief for Families on soft skills for job success, which is available in English and Spanish. There are also blog postings focused on advice for youth on managing their money, community partnerships, college resources, disability disclosure, and family involvement. For more information on any of these resources go to <http://www.ncwd-youth.info/>

ON THE JOB: STORIES FROM YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES

This resource from the Waisman Center at the U of WI, Madison features youth with developmental disabilities who began working in competitive-wage, community-based jobs early (between the ages of 16-18) and who used natural supports, as well as some paid supports at first, to be successful. It includes the community, employer, school, and family factors that led to the youths' success on the job. For more information go to <http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/naturalsupports/pdfs/YS.pdf>

THE INFLUENCE OF FAMILIES ON THE EMPLOYMENT PROCESS

From ICI at the U of MA-Boston, this Tools for Inclusion resource seeks to share people's thoughts and feelings about how their families help them make decisions throughout their lives. Family is important for many reasons: family members can motivate people to work, and can help them understand why work is important. Families can also have a big influence on self-determination and empowerment, helping people develop a real understanding of themselves and their place in the workplace. Their involvement is important throughout a person's life. This resource also includes tips so that families can be more involved in helping people find and keep jobs. Findings and ideas for families are offered for each of the four phases of the employment process, including: The Early Years, Planning for Work, the Job Search, and Making Decisions to Accept a Job. The resource can be found at http://www.communityinclusion.org/article.php?article_id=326

JobTIPS

JobTIPS is a free program designed to help individuals with disabilities explore career interests, seek and obtain employment, and successfully maintain it. JobTIPS addresses the social and behavioral differences that might make identifying, obtaining, and keeping a job more difficult for someone. Though JobTIPS is designed for direct use by individuals with autism and other disabilities, this program (including all of the printables, assessments, and videos) is also suitable for delivery by teachers, family members, clinicians, mentors, and job coaches. JobTIPS can be found at <http://www.do2learn.com/JobTIPS//index.html>