

Western Montana Region 5 MYTransitions Council meeting minutes January 30, 2017

1. **Welcome and introductions:** Marcie Roberts, Michelle Pickell, Andrew Lowney, LanAnn Bryant, Becky Boykin, Jan Witt, Kwanele Ngema, Bronwyn Troutman, Jessica Vacca, and Jude Monson

2. **Council Purpose is to network with each other about your 2016-2017 School Year Plans for Youth Transition.**
Flathead and Lincoln Counties: Montana Employment Opportunities: Marcie Roberts reported that in Flathead, Glacier and Whitefish High Schools they are providing Pre-ETS services such as job readiness skills. **Summit** will be offering BALLS and SoftSkills this winter.
Lake and Sanders Counties: No update
Ravalli County: Summit: Jan Witt, Hamilton HS; Becky Boykin, Summit and Kwanele Ngema, Summit reported that the BALLS class has begun with 10 students. Summit will be offering Pre-ETS classes in Florence HS. **JOBS:** Michelle reported that she is offering their Job Ready program in Ravalli HS's.
Missoula and Mineral Counties: JOBS: Michelle reported that they are offering their Job Ready program to Missoula Public High Schools. **BSHS:** LanAnn reported that for their internal business they have purchased a popcorn maker and continue operating their Eagle Nest thrift store. Head Start has moved near them and will be another site for job shadow and internships. MPHS administration policy is to have outside agencies complete a Request for Proposal to offer Pre-ETS services for their students. Today the BSHS students heard about and completed the **MYLF** applications www.montanaylf.org that will be held July 17-24 at Carrol College in Helena. **Movin On:** Bronwyn reported that the Movin On program for students entering considering a college route will be held at the U of M on July 11-14th. <https://www.umt.edu/dss/Transition>
Sentinel HS: Ashley House is looking for a used pickup to purchase for their recycle program. **Summit:** We are offering free MYTransitions SoftSkills classes to Missoula County HS this semester. Sentinel HS finished this class this fall.

3. **State updates:**
 - **Montana Legislative Session - Helena**
 - Monday January 30th there have been hearings throughout today regarding HB 2 Governor's Budget - Disability Employment, IL and Youth Transition services budget to keep needed services at current line item. HB 274 Education Bill to raise graduation age up to 19.

 - **MYTransitions SoftSkills Facilitator Training**
 - **Contact Mary Di Biase at www.montanayouthtransitions.org to register for train the trainer workshops by Feb 10th**
 - Feb 28 from 10 am to 3:15 pm @ Hampton Inn, Kalispell

- March 1 from 10 am to 3:15 pm @ Marcus Daly Hospital, Hamilton
- **Montana OPI updates** No updates.
- **ASPIRE** is a statewide contract working with 5 other neighboring states for students with disabilities who receive Social Security Benefits. In Flathead and Lincoln counties Summit and ASPIRE are working with about 10 students. In Lake, Ravalli and Missoula County there are another 10 students. Some students are taking the entire Summit BALLS workshop and some will take a shortened version this summer on a one on one or small group basis. ASPIRE case manager Kim York just completed the MYFILES training in Missoula and Ravalli County for both students and their parents.
- **Rural Institute** – No update other than we know that Ellen Condon continues to travel and educate schools about the Pre-ETs services.

4. National updates:

- **Walmart Pipeline contract** – Summit Independent Living Center, Inc. works with 3 other national organizations that are committed to youth and career development through youth led connection with community resources, skills building, mentorship, job shadowing, and internship. These groups include:
 - **AAPD** – American Association of People with Disabilities
 - **APRIL** – Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (IL) Conference in Spokane October 20, 2017 – youth - continued with Oct 21-23rd annual IL conference
 - **NCIL** – National Council on IL – annual conference held in DC July 24 -27 @ Grand Hyatt Washington – Theme - Revolution!

5. **Other information: Kalispell Real Life Fair:** May 15th. Glacier HS Parent Night brings a once a month speaker into educate about resources in their community.

6. **Next meeting: March 27 @ 4 pm**