

**Western Montana Region 5 MYTransitions Council meeting minutes
November 21, 2016 @ 4 PM @Summit Independent Living Center, 700 SW Higgins**

- 1. Welcome and introductions:** Andrew Lowney, Ashley House, Bronywn Troutman, Cara Wherley, Jessica Vacca, John Howard, Lananne Bryant, Susan Morris, Tom Sullivan, Tori Pennell, Jude Monson and guest Shanell Marshall from MILP.
- 2. Main purpose to network with each other about your 2016-2017 School Year Transition Plans** Each county was encouraged to discuss related PRE-ETS, youth transitions needs, MYTransitions Conference and student services such as school open house, Real Life Fair, job shadow, soft skills, or family related requests. In addition add any services that are provided for youth 18-24 years of age.

Although there was some discussion of local plans within schools and vocational rehabilitation, much of the discussion was a follow up of the excitement and new learning from the MYTransitions Conference.

- 3. State updates: Fall related conferences and other programs**
 - MAR Montana Association for Rehabilitation October 17-19th at Fairmont.
 - Pre-ETS definitions is becoming clearer across the state thanks to Ellen Condon and the Rural Institute
 - Self Care – Dr Earl Suttle was a dynamic speaker. His recent book “Great Life Choices for Teens” (Who want to make a difference) was brought up by Tom Sullivan of Job Service.
 - MYTransitions Conference on November 14 - 16th in Helena
 - Region 5 meeting at the conference was well attended and shared topics, ideas and updates discussed: See attached for general overview.
 - Montana OPI was at the MYTransitions vendor booth with information
 - ASPIRE – In Western Montana there are 10 students in Lake, Missoula and Ravalli Counties. There about that many in Flathead County.
 - U of M and Rural Institute – Continue working with Pre-ETS.TRIO is not funded enough to work with 2 year colleges across the state.
- 4. National updates:**
 - NCIL - National Council on IL Starting July 24, 2017 will hold its annual meeting in DC. Youth sessions will be organized by Kings Ford.

- APRIL – Association for Rural Independent Living (IL) Conference – Youth training in October was attended by a Summit staff, peer and board member. Starting in October 20, 2017 APRIL will hold its Youth and annual training in Spokane, Washington.
- Walmart Pipeline Grant and Summit ILC contract
 - AAPD – American Association of People with Disabilities along with NCIL and APRIL will complete their employment contract in April, 2017.

- **Next meeting:** January 30, 2017