



OUR HISTORY

“Innovative Approaches” is a grant funded project working to improve the system of care for children and youth with special health care needs up to age 21, through the collaborative efforts of parents, our community providers, and organizations.

Cabarrus County Innovative Approaches



...Contact Us...

If you would like more information OR would be interested in helping with this project, please call:

Debbie Biggerstaff, SW
Innovative Approaches Project Coordinator
Office: 704.934.4399 * Fax: 704.934.4205
DCBiggerstaff@cabarrushealth.org

To see what we are currently working on visit:
The Community Toolbox:
<https://www.myctb.org/wst/ia/cc/default.aspx>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

School & Work: Will my child...

1. Finish High School?
2. Go to college?
3. Have a job when he/she is an adult?
4. Need to work on job skills?
5. Need a job assessment through Vocational Rehabilitation?

Living Arrangements: Will my child...

1. Live in their own house or apartment (with or without a roommate or spouse)?
2. Continue to live at home with parents?
3. Live with other members of the family (brother, sister, extended family member)?
4. Live in supported community housing (group home)?
5. Need another option (specify): _____

Medical Care—Health Care Transition:

1. If my child sees a pediatric doctor, begin talking with them about the transition to adult medical care at age 18.
2. Which doctor will they transfer to for primary care?
3. Will they need to continue specialty care with adult providers?
4. How can I develop a Health Care Transition plan?
5. Does my child have a basic health notebook or way to organize their medical and service records?

Financial: Will my child...

1. Qualify for SSI or SSDI now or when they turn 18? Where do I apply?
2. Qualify for Medicaid now or when they turn 18? Where do I apply?
3. Continue to qualify for coverage on my insurance plan after age 18? Who do I talk with about this?

Planning Ahead for Community Services:

1. Do you know what services are available for you and your child?
2. Do you know how to access services—*****Consider applying for available services now that typically have a waiting list**
3. Am I familiar with Innovations Services or CAP/MRDD? How do I apply?
4. Am I familiar with Respite Services? How do I apply?
5. Does my child qualify for CAP-C?
6. Will they qualify for CAP-DA?
7. Will they need personal care services?
8. Will they need private duty nursing services? If so, how do I apply for any of the above?

PREPARING FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND

Cabarrus Health Alliance
1307 S. Cannon Boulevard
Kannapolis, North Carolina 28083



Preparing for **LIFE** after High School.

Preparation for transition should begin when a student is in Middle School

1. What will their day be like when they no longer attend school? Will they be able to work, engage in recreation activities, and perform daily chores around the house?
2. What kind of support does your child need to be successful - can they be alone, can they direct themselves throughout the day, or do they need set structure?
3. What about independent transportation—is it possible, can your child successfully use the bus system or obtain a driver's license?
4. Can your child answer the question **“what do you want to do when you are done with school?”**
5. Do you know what your child is interested in? Does your child know?
6. Are you familiar with continuing education opportunities? - e.g., compensatory education at RCCC, CPCC, Beyond Academics at UNCG, the role of the Disability Services Office at 4-year universities?
7. Are you familiar with guardianship? Do you need full or partial guardianship?



Student Age ACTION NEEDED

12-14 Years:

- Actively Participate in your child's IEP meeting at school - be sure to include social skills, communication, functional math and reading, self-help and self-advocacy skills on the IEP to help increase independence

By 14 Years:

- Begin Transition Planning
- Identify job interests and abilities
- Identify community services that provide job training and placement opportunities
Prepare job placement file with references and list of skills
- Explore guardianship before age 18
- Begin application to adult service agencies
- Consider summer employment or participate in volunteer experiences

16-18 yrs

- Contact adult services programs: Colleges, Vocational or Technical schools
- Social Security Administration (apply for SSI or Disability benefits)
- Residential or Independent Living Services
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Identify Recreational/Leisure Activity Groups
- Begin Medical Transition process

17-18 yrs

- Begin to consider and research Guardianship (finalize by 18yrs)
- Continue to review and update Transition Plan
- Take ACT or SAT tests if needed for educational plans
- Visit colleges and their Disability Services offices
- Register with Disability Service Office of your preferred school by end of senior year

18-22 yrs

- Continue to review and update Transition Plan
- Establish needed Health Benefits
- Develop long term financial support plan