



# E-Connections

May 15, 2013

## HOW ARE TRANSITION SERVICES DIFFERENT FROM GENERAL VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES?

*By Rachel Anderson, Transition Specialist, Utah State Office of Rehabilitation*

The Utah State Office of Rehabilitation, otherwise known as Vocational Rehabilitation, provides a wide variety of individualized services to people with disabilities who need assistance getting back to work. Sometimes it is hard to differentiate between what types of services you may be eligible for, or how a Counselor can help you, when you are still in the public school system.



VR provides Transition Services across the State of Utah. One of the most prominent differences between our Transition and general services is that we have a Transition Counselor assigned to every public high school in the state! You do not have to go through a general orientation or try and get signed up for services all on your own. Having an assigned counselor that specializes in Transition Services has multiple benefits:

- You can start working with your counselor as early as 16 years old!
- Your counselor can attend your IEP or 504 planning meetings, which can be a helpful resource in transitioning into adult services, training, or employment.
- Having an assigned Transition Counselor to your school helps keep everyone on the same page. Your teachers, counselor, principal and parent etc. will all know who your VR Counselor is, and the best way to get them involved in your plan.
- Sometimes it can be scary leaving high school and not having your teachers or friends with you every day. Having a Transition Counselor involved in your transition planning as early as 16, helps you build a relationship with them so that you understand the services you may receive, build trust, and feel confident in your transition into adult hood.
- Transition Counselors can help make sure you have everything planned out, and all the steps in between taken care of, so you have a game plan right when leaving high school, rather than having added anxieties to your graduation, such as "where do I go from here?"

Our goal, as Vocational Rehabilitation Transition Counselors, is to provide the most appropriate counseling and guidance for your successful transition from high school to adulthood, independence, and employment.

For more information about our services, contact information, and what a Transition Counselor can do for you, please view our [website](#), [Welcome Video for Teens on YouTube](#), and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

You may also contact the Utah Parent Center at 801.272.1051 or Toll-Free in Utah at 1.800.468.1160 for more information about transition, vocational rehabilitation and additional services that may be available and beneficial for you and your teen or young adult.

## ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY IN ACTION VIDEO SERIES

The Family Center on Technology and Disability and PACER Center are pleased to share this AT in Action Assistive Technology Awareness Series. These videos are designed to strengthen awareness of AT devices that help individuals with disabilities participate fully in school, at home, and in the community.

[Video 1: Meet Sam](#) In this video, you will be introduced to Sam, a young man with cerebral palsy who, with the help of AT, is a successful college student, blogger, and sportsman.

[Video 2: Meet Elle](#) In this video, you'll meet Elle, a young woman with cerebral palsy who, with the help of AT, is able to communicate with family, friends, and teachers.

[Video 3: Meet Mason](#) In this video, you'll meet Mason, a young boy with vision loss who, with the help of AT, is able to learn reading and writing in the same classroom as his sighted peers.



[Video 4: Meet Jared](#) In this video, you'll meet Jared, a young man with cerebral palsy who, controls his computer using a sip and puff switch. That computer access allows Jared to run a business creating dynamic graphics and websites.

## ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY IN UTAH

### What is the Utah Center for Assistive Technology?

The Utah Center for Assistive Technology is a statewide resource offering information and technical services to help people with disabilities acquire and use assistive technology devices.

Our services are available to people with disabilities, parents and other family caregivers, rehabilitation counselors, independent living specialists, special educators, occupational therapists, physical therapists, allied medical professionals, and others who are concerned with and advocate for people with disabilities. UCAT offers free evaluations to anyone within the state of Utah.

For more information about UCAT, visit their website at <http://ucat.usor.utah.gov>, find them on [Facebook](#) or check out their amazing videos on their [YouTube Channel!](#)

What is the Utah Assistive Technology Program?

The Utah Assistive Technology Program (UATP) gets assistive technology into the hands of people who need it. Our goal is to help people use technology to be more independent in education, employment, and community settings. Our job is to provide assistive technology devices and services as well as train university students, parents, children with disabilities and professional service providers about assistive technology. We coordinate our services with community organizations and others who provide independence-related supports to individuals with disabilities.

For more information about UATP, visit their website at <http://www.uatpat.org>, on [Facebook](#), or the great videos on their [YouTube Channel](#).

## SUMMER CAMPS AND PROGRAMS:



The Utah Parent Center has compiled a list of [Summer Activities for 2013](#)! We have tried to include as many programs as we are aware of. If you have information on additional programs, activities or camps that you feel would be a good addition to this list, please email the information to Katie at [katieb@utahparentcenter.org](mailto:katieb@utahparentcenter.org).

### Handwriting Camps

Are you concerned about your child's handwriting? Easter Seals-Goodwill Pediatric Therapy Services is offering Handwriting Camps. Groups will run weekly on Tuesdays from June 18 through July 30, 2013. Classes will be held at The Children's Center, located at 350 South 400 East, Salt Lake City. The cost for the 7-week session is \$175. For more information, please contact Janae Trujillo at 801.946.1860. Additional information about Easter Seals-Goodwill and their programs is available on their website at: [http://esgw-nrm.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=NRMM\\_homepage](http://esgw-nrm.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=NRMM_homepage)

### Art and Yoga

Summer Fun for Kids and Their Parents: Art and Yoga in Salt Lake and Holladay offered by GreenTree Yoga. This program is for kids with autism spectrum disorders or other challenges. Children must be able to follow simple directions and participate independently. **Parents must attend with their child.** This is a six-week program that will be offered in two locations. The cost for this six-week class is \$52.00 per child, discounts offered for 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> sibling. Please contact Yael Calhoun at 801.656.7885 or by email at [yoga@greentreeyoga.org](mailto:yoga@greentreeyoga.org) to register or with any questions. More information is also available at [www.greentreeyoga.org](http://www.greentreeyoga.org)

## UTAH PARENT CENTER WEBINARS

What is a webinar?

A webinar provides you with the opportunity to obtain valuable information from the comfort of your home, office or other location. After accessing the webinar by clicking on the link below, you will be able to view the presentation slides while you listen to the presenter. The Utah Parent Center's webinars are recorded and then posted on our [YouTube Channel](#).

Here is a list of some of the webinars that are currently available on our [YouTube Channel](#) with more coming soon! For more detailed information about these topics visit, [www.utahparentcenter.org/training/webinars](http://www.utahparentcenter.org/training/webinars)

- [Legal Solutions for Families with Disabilities](#)
- [Executive Functioning Skills](#)
- Individualized Education Programs (IEP)
- Transition to Adult Services

## 50 QUESTIONS ABOUT LD: AN E-BOOK FROM THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR LEARNING DISABILITIES

When you—the LD community—ask us thought-provoking questions about learning disabilities via email, Facebook, Twitter, LD.org comments, and at events, we get them answered...and the questions and answers are too important not to share.

The National Center for Learning Disabilities recently, asked some of the top LD experts in the United States to answer 50 of your frequently asked questions. You'll find their responses in our e-book, "50 Questions About LD."

Topics in the e-book include:

- How to deal with the "LD" label
- RTI and working with your child's school
- The emotional impact of learning disabilities at school and home
- Preparing teens for college and work
- Related issues like AD/HD and giftedness

[Click here to get your copy of "50 Questions About LD" today to find answers to common questions about LD from real parents, like you.](#)



## UTAH'S FAMILY LINKS CONFERENCE UPDATE

The Family Links Conference Committee is pleased to report that both the Family Links Conference on Behavior and the Spanish Family Links Conference held in March and April respectively were both very successful events.

The Family Links Conference Committee met last week and has begun the planning process for the 2014 Statewide Family Links Conference event. The draft plans include a two-day event including a variety of breakout sessions and exhibitor fair. Please keep a watch for updates once we have confirmed dates and locations for this event!



# Utah Parent Center 30 Year Celebration Breakfast

September 10, 2013

8:00 – 9:00 AM

Marriott Hotel Ballroom

75 South West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah



## How You Can Help – Become a Sponsor Today!

### Sponsorship Funds are Needed For:

- Proceeds benefit programs of the Utah Parent Center
- Event Expenses
- Event Video Presentation
- Marketing
- Printing and Distribution

### Platinum Sponsorship \$5,000

- Sponsor promotional materials distributed at event
- Sponsor name & logo on event materials & slide show
- Sponsor name, logo, brief description, & link to website included in a eBlast sent to UPC list serve after event
- Sponsor name, logo, brief description, & link to website on UPC's sponsor webpage

### Silver Sponsorship \$1,000

- Sponsor name & logo on event slide show
- Sponsor name on UPC's sponsor webpage

### Customized Sponsorship Options:

- Become a Matching Sponsor Donor for raised funds.
- Inkind Donations of goods, services, legacy funding, etc.
- Custom – Contact us to tailor a sponsor package to fit your needs.

### Gold Sponsorship \$2,500

- Sponsor name & logo on event materials & slide show
- Sponsor name & logo included in a eBlast sent to UPC list serve after event
- Sponsor name & logo on UPC sponsor webpage

### Make checks payable to:

#### Utah Parent Center

230 West 200 South Suite 1101  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1337  
801-272-1051 or 800-468-1160

[www.utahparentcenter.org](http://www.utahparentcenter.org)

Utah Tax ID: N10466

Federal ID: 87-0426671

### Who We Are:

The Utah Parent Center (UPC) is an award-winning, non-profit, training and information center founded in 1983 by parents of children and youth with all disabilities to help other parents facing similar challenges. The mission of the Utah Parent Center is to help parents help their children, youth and young adults with all disabilities to live included, productive lives as members of the community.

### What We Do:

The UPC utilizes an effective parent-to-parent model to help thousands of parents annually. The staff has built collaborative networks with disability organizations, education, health and human service professionals, and agencies. The Center promotes change within the community through various projects, activities, and training for families with children with disabilities and special health care needs.

