

Why Do Transition Age Youth & Young Adults with Serious Mental Health Conditions (SMHC) Need More Attention?



There are between 2.9-6.5 million 14-30 year olds with SMHC in this country



Less than 1/2 of transition age youth and young adults with SMHC finish high school



Only 50% of transition age youth and young adults with SMHC are employed



Few states have succeeded in offering developmentally appropriate services

The Learning and Working Transitions RTC

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References: Valdes et al., 1990; Wagner et al., 1991; Wagner et al., 1992; Wagner et al., 1993; Kutash et al., 1995; Silver et al., 1992; Vander Stoep, 1992; Vander Stoep and Taub, 1994; Vander Stoep et al., 1994; Vander Stoep et al., in press; Davis & Vander Stoep, 1997.

The Future of the Consumer Movement: Young Adults

Mentoring

- Navigate the System
 - How to Get Heard
- Getting & Holding a Job
 - Advocacy
- Setting an Example
- Being a Role Model for Recovery

Adults & Young Adults: Getting to Know Each Other

- Differences in Lived Experiences
- Using Technology
- Sharing the Voices of Your Time

Young Adult Voice: Making it Real

- Advocacy
- Education & Training
- Involvement in all Stages of Research, Policy and Planning
 - Peer-Run Programs
 - Peer Support



TRANSITIONS RTC®

Gathering the Voice of Young People Across the Nation

Visit us online: <http://labs.umassmed.edu/transitionsRTC/>

For young adults: <http://voices4hope.wikispaces.com/>



The Transitions RTC is a national effort that aims to:

Improve Supports For Transition Age Youth & Young Adults Who:

- are between the ages of 14 and 30
- have a serious mental health condition
- want to complete schooling and training to move into rewarding work lives.



Principles:

- support transition age youth and young adults as students, learners & workers
- examine ways for programs to address the unique needs of transition age youth and young adults
- partner with transition age youth and young adults to conduct research and share our findings