

CaPROMISE: Increased Self-Sufficiency for SSI Youth and their Families



OUTCOMES

Expected outcomes for the youth and their families:

- ♦ Increased education attainment in high school, postsecondary education and/or training
- ♦ Increased access to community services based on individual need
- ♦ Improved employment outcomes for youth and family members
- ♦ Increased exploration, understanding and utilization of Social Security Work Incentives
- ♦ Improved understanding of financial and benefits planning
- ♦ Post-program reduction in Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments

"As parents we have to go on and advocate for our kids. CaPROMISE started with the kids where they're at and looked at all of their individual strengths and built on that. Because of the support services through CaPROMISE his self-confidence has increased to where this year he's bragging that he signed his IEP." quote from a parent

Accomplishments as of March 31, 2018

- ♦ **1,646** youth between 14 and 16 years old, who receive SSI, and their families were recruited for the study to increase opportunities for educational and economic self-sufficiency. **1,403** continue to participate.
- ♦ **99%** of the participating youth completed a person-driven plan for career development
- ♦ **75%** of participating youth continue their enrollment in high school
- ♦ **25%** of participating youth have exited high school
 - **232** with a diploma
 - **73** with a certificate of completion
 - **34** exited to an Adult Transition Program
 - **1** received a GED
- ♦ **120,716** interventions in five categories were provided to youth and their families including:
 - **Case Management and Transition Services**
 - **Financial Planning and Benefits Management Services**
 - **Career and Work-based Learning Services**
 - **Parent and Guardian Training and Information Services**
 - **Other Support and Services**
- ♦ **2,653** work experiences in a wide range of job classifications including sales, community/social service, arts and entertainment, and office/administrative support.
- ♦ **1,126** youth engaged in at least one paid or unpaid work experience
- ♦ **955** youth engaged in at least one paid work experience. Average wage – \$10.52/hour Average hours – 11.9 hours/week
- ♦ **1,115** youth enrolled in Department of Rehabilitation
- ♦ Over **1,200** community agencies were accessed by the youth and their family members
- ♦ **91** staff in the participating LEAs are certified benefits planners
- ♦ **20** Local Educational Agencies (LEAs), **16** Family Resource Centers, **12** dedicated Vocational Rehabilitation team members, **4** Independent Living Centers and **3** university internship programs in Rehabilitation support the youth and families engaged in CaPROMISE



Person Driven Planning



Family Engagement



Career & Work-Based Learning

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Lessons Learned

"CaPROMISE has helped me a lot because I can benefit from this. It helps me to be independent. I thank [my Career Service Coordinator] for being here for me, because it lets me do a lot of things on my own. I loved the work experience I got to do. I got to do things I never did before. I actually made friends there."

Quote from a CaPROMISE student

- ♦ The youth's and family members' needs drive all interventions and supports including areas such as housing, legal and immigration issues, nutrition, education and employment
- ♦ All efforts must be individualized and targeted to both immediate and long-term needs and expectations for the youth and their family members
- ♦ Mental health and/or social-emotional support for youth and family members is critical for continuous growth
- ♦ Opportunities that enable families to "take a risk" by having youth seek employment without the fear of losing benefits is vital
- ♦ Public benefits, work incentives and financial planning must be constant and consistent
- ♦ Family engagement is crucial to breaking the cycle of receiving lifelong benefits and shifting the focus to maximum independence
- ♦ Youth involvement in work-based learning activities in high school is strongly associated with plans to pursue postsecondary education and employment
- ♦ Creating a network of support for youth and families require staff to engage, nurture and ensure a "warm handoff" with community providers
- ♦ Individualized case management practices and person-driven interventions are critical and necessary – the youth and families are seldom aware of the wealth of community resources
- ♦ Working with the Department of Rehabilitation's dedicated vocational rehabilitation team increases education and employment opportunities for students with a wide range of disabilities, including those with the most significant disabilities
- ♦ The common data management system must collect evidence-based practices and serve as the management tool for targeting areas of interventions for youth and their family members
- ♦ Program and organizational silos among transition efforts need to be erased and replaced with collaborative efforts that are driven by the youth's needs

"While I am able to apply my past experience and skills, CaPROMISE has taken me to new depths of providing resources and developing a wider range of skills...The progress is enormous with CaPROMISE youth and families. From seeing the parents obtain employment to the youth learning how empowering it is to work is one of the biggest areas of progress. After providing work experiences to CaPROMISE youth,

they now have employment goals, are motivated to continue their education and are striving to become self-sufficient."

quote from a CaPROMISE Career Service Coordinator

For further information and to contact CaPROMISE
<https://www.capromise.org/>



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