

The Value of Navigator and Integrated Transition Teams for Support of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

Donald Den, Kurstyn Froud, Megan Daly, Lori Parsons, Susan Sorenson, Tanya Mellios, Dr. Sarah-Jane Meachen, and Cindy Leland

November 8, 2018



Ministry of
Social Development
and Poverty Reduction

Key Objectives for Session

1. See the value of the transition coordinator in an integrated service delivery as applied in a real complex case
2. Recognize the importance of maintaining partnerships throughout longer time frames, as planning services for individuals with DD can be lifelong
3. Measure the success of partnerships through tangible results in the outcomes of clients

Kurstyn- At the Center

- Completed WorkBC Employment Program
- Currently completing her Dogwood certificate and volunteering with Easter Seals
- Currently employed part-time with Apple Inc.
- With the support of her team along with government and community services, Kurstyn is flourishing into an independent self-advocating young adult



STADD in 30 seconds or less...

- STADD is a partnership with government and community supports, so that youth and their families are supported during the transition to adulthood.
- Helps youth to define and achieve their goals, and connect them with the services they need and want.



STADD's Vision:

- A ‘one-government’ approach to transition planning: *Everyone working together for you and your child.*
- Transition planning that is ‘person-centred’: *It is all about the youth and their hopes, dreams, and goals.*



What is a STADD Navigator?

What does a Navigator do?



Leads Transition Planning

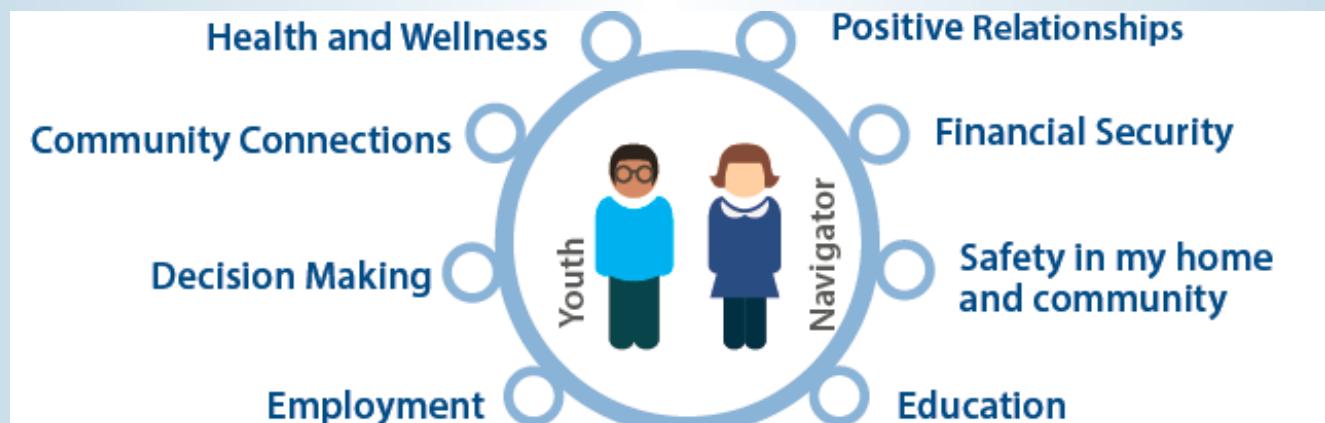


Works with the Youth



Takes a Team Approach

Ensures that all aspects of the individual's future life are taken into account.



What is a Transition Planning Team?

COMMUNITY

MCFD/DAA:

Start a transition planning meeting and keep track of the transition plan. Provide information to CLBC to determine eligibility for CLBC adult supports and services.

CLBC:

Determine CLBC eligibility and communicate outcome to youth & their family/support team. Help youth & their family/support team explore and plan for a range of CLBC services such as: employment and residential services, skills development & social/recreational opportunities.

STADD Navigators:

Act as transition coordinators. Help organize transition planning team and development of person-centered transition plan. Encourage and support information-sharing and coordinate access to government and community resources.

FAMILY:

Provides support to the individual and works along side the transition planning team.

OTHER:

Depending on the individual, other government partners can be involved in the planning and transition process.

Disability Assistance:

Complete application for disability assistance, Persons with Disabilities program, or medical equipment and supplies at age 17^{1/2} for benefits that may start at age 18.

WorkBC Centres:

Provide pre-employment supports to students with developmental disabilities on their last year in high school. Support young people eligible for WorkBC in finding sustainable employment.

School District:

Develop transition goals as part of Individual Education Plan (IEP). Determine need for school assessments and complete accordingly. Provide information on grants and scholarships.

PGT:

Consult with eligible youth, family and support networks on the planning tools available for their personal, health care, legal and financial matters.

Health Authority:

Conduct eligibility assessment for health services as required. Provide health services as appropriate.

Post Secondary:

Fourteen public post-secondary institutions offer Adult Special Education programs that include Employment Preparation, Vocational Skills Training and Academic Skills Development.

COMMUNITY



June 20, 2017

Value of a STADD Navigator

- Due to the complex nature of the case, Kurstyn's transition goals changed numerous times during the process, so having that history with the Navigator is important
- Due to this changing nature, Navigator ensured that the team was connected and stayed on the same page
- Bridged the child team into the adult team, ensuring information crossed over
- Due to cross-ministry nature of STADD, Navigator was able to connect Kurstyn with multiple supports, including employment, education, and health needs

Let's Meet the Whole Team!

- In order for Kurstyn to be successful in her transition, she needed the supports of several individuals, many of which are here today
- Team members have to ensure consistent communication and maintain extensive relationships over a long period of time to ensure Kurstyn is supported, mentally and physically
- Due to shifting nature between youth and adult services, as well as the complex nature of the case, this team structure becomes even more important



MCFD- Tanya Mellios

Role on Team: MCFD Social Worker working with Kurstyn and her family; recognized that Kurstyn's transition would likely be complex, and recommended transition planning

- Started working with Kurstyn and her family in 2010, worked with her until 2016 when she aged out of services
- Took part in regular meetings between 2010 and 2015 to discuss health and support options for Kurstyn and her family, bringing in multiple supports
- Assisted in the referral to both STADD and CLBC when Kurstyn was 17 years old; team-based transition planning commenced in January 2015
- Successfully advocated for Kurstyn to have an 'extra' year at school, which was strongly supported by her care-team

Goal: Focus was on Kurstyn getting access to the supports she needed as a youth, and assisting in the transition to adulthood as Kurstyn began to advocate for herself more as a young adult.

CLBC- Susan Sorensen

Role on Team: CLBC Facilitator working with Kurstyn and her family

- Started working with Kurstyn and her family in 2014, when she was 17, still working with her as she is accessing adult services
- Took part in transition planning meetings beginning in 2015
- Assisted in getting Kurstyn Health Services for Community Living (HSCL) set up in her home, including health supports and equipment
- Also helped connect Kurstyn to Caring Touch, CLBC-contracted agency; which includes workers that assist Kurstyn with daily living activities and life in her community.

Goal: Focus was on Kurstyn getting access to the supports she needed to live and function as an adult

Centre for Child Development- Cindy Leland

Role on Team: Occupational Therapist working with Kurstyn and her family

- Started working with Kurstyn in 2014, worked with her until 2016 when she was transferred to Homeshare Community Living OT
- Worked on team to ensure Kurstyn and her family got the equipment they needed and to ensure Homeshare knew how to assist with her care

Goal: Focus was on Kurstyn gaining independence in transfers and personal care skills, as she had a goal of living on her own eventually

GF Strong- Dr. Sarah-Jane Meachem

Role on Team: Psychologist working with Kurstyn

- Started working with Kurstyn in 2015, worked with her until end of 2016 when she transferred out of youth services
- Worked with Kurstyn to ensure optimal mental health, and supported her throughout her various medical and physically-related challenges that she faced
- Referred Kurstyn to the DDHS program through Fraser Health

Goal: Focus was on Kurstyn's mental health, and her ability to navigate the challenges and obstacles she faced. Importance of "empowering clients to advocate for themselves."

STADD- Megan Daly

Role on Team: Kurstyn's first STADD Navigator and transition team coordinator who worked with her and her family, as well as her larger team

- Started working with Kurstyn in 2014, following a referral from her MCFD-CYSN Social Worker
- STADD transition team originally included STADD Navigator, MCFD-CYSN Social Worker, Teacher, OT, PT, Child Development Consultant, BC Children's Complex Care Team Staff, GF Strong Staff, Nursing Support Services, and Bayshore Nursing supports
- Provided consistent transition updates to Kurstyn and her family to ensure needs were met

Goal: Focus was on Kurstyn's needs and goals being met as she transitioned from youth to adulthood.

STADD- Lori Parsons

Role on Team: Kurstyn's second STADD Navigator and transition team coordinator who worked with her and her family, as well as her larger team

- Started working with Kurstyn in 2017, as Megan was moving to another position within the Ministry of Social Development
- Worked with transition team already developed, and focused on goals relating to education, employment, and health-supports
- Coordinates meetings with other government and community partners as Kurstyn's support needs and goals change

Goal: Focus was on Kurstyn's needs and goals being met as she transitioned from youth to adulthood.

Kurstyn's Closing Thoughts

1. It is important in complex cases to have the support of a team that will work together to support the individual and their family
2. If you have a family that is unsure of where to go, take advantage of your ability to connect them to the appropriate supports
3. If you are unsure of the supports available, ***just ask***



Questions?

