STAGES OF BUILDING A COMPREHENSIVE YOUTH TRANSITION SYSTEM

DISCOVERY

- Uneven distribution of opportunities
- Lack of coordination and awareness of transition issues
- Disconnected activities driven by regulation
- Limited youth involvement in transition planning
- Low permanency rates and poor outcomes
- Pockets of excellence

- Build community awareness
- Recruit partners, youth, and alumni
- Map current programs and gaps
- Assess practices and measures
- Examine existing policies
- Define mission and purpose

BREAKTHROUGH

Set of core and ready partners agree to take action

DESIGN

- Awareness of inequities
- Partners, youth, and alumni planning together
- Effective approaches identified
- Clear roles among partners defined
- Community discussing foster youth outcomes

- Develop vision
- Cultivate community support
- Define partner functions
- Address gaps in policies and resources
- Specify measurable outcomes and indicators
- Create action plan

BREAKTHROUGH

Core partners agree to roles and actions

INCUBATION

- Demonstration of coordinated services
- Multiple-partner transition planning
- Cross-system staff development
- Coordinated evaluation and improvement strategies
- Youth are active in leadership roles

- Conduct and assess pilot activities
- Evaluate effectiveness of system and measures
- Train staff across disciplines
- Share results and inform partners
- Examine and influence policies

BREAKTHROUGH

Partners agree to expand actions

GROWTH

- Resources leveraged to serve more youth
- Clear evidence of youth impacts
- Increased number and range of partners
- Sequenced and coordinated activities
- Empowered working group includes youth

- Expand existing activities
- Integrate new partners
- Evaluate effectiveness
- Adjust strategies
- Conduct additional training
- Craft new policies

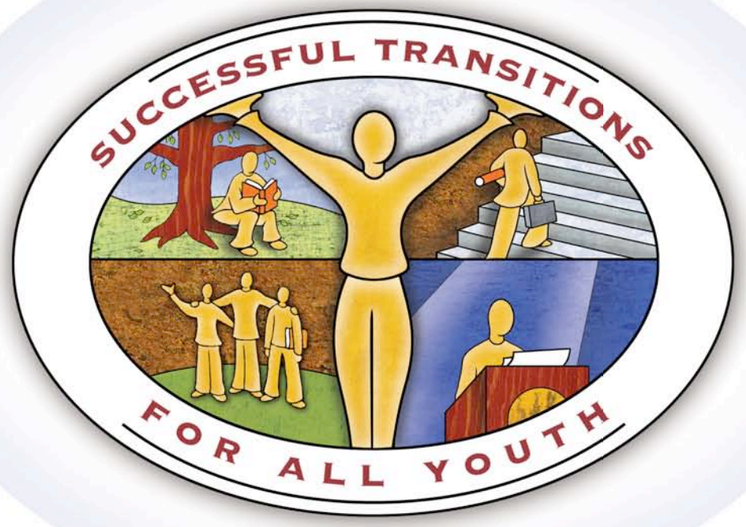
BREAKTHROUGH

Partners agree to integrate practices into system

INTEGRATION

- Blended, braided, and stacked resources address needs
- Policy and advocacy support systems improvement
- A collaborative system is sustainable and responsive
- Community is aware of transition issues
- Youth are fully engaged, connected, and successful

- Leverage additional resources
- Refine and document strategies
- Report results
- Publicly celebrate accomplishments
- Implement new policies
- Sustain the work through proven partners



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