

CP OF NEW JERSEY'S

EDUCATING FOR SUCCESS

Fall 2001

SUCCESS STORIES
AND SOLUTIONS FOR EDUCATING
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Issue I
Volume I



CHARLOTTE'S TRANSITION TOWARD INDEPENDENCE

An active seventeen year-old with a cognitive disability, Charlotte participates in many activities throughout the normal school year thanks to a variety of supports. She wanted to stay active during the summer and acquire new employment skills. Her Burlington County high school called Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey to assess Charlotte's possibilities.

The skills that Charlotte wished to learn over the summer centered on her own self-advocacy and self-assessment. By helping Charlotte achieve her goal of working this summer, Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey was able to help Charlotte learn proper office interactions during her "extended school year." In addition, the program that helped Charlotte also taught her resume building, job skills such



as typing, faxing, data entry and even what to expect from her first day on the job.

A Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey Community Integration Consultant found Charlotte two opportunities: The first was a volunteer position at a local bank, where she first experienced office work; the second was a paying position at the very agency that aided her. Now, Charlotte can be found answering phones and performing clerical tasks around the halls of Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey ten hours a week, every week. The transition team made up of her case manager, CP of New Jersey Staff, Charlotte and Charlotte's parents will continue to interact as she moves into the work force or attends college. For now, though, Charlotte will return to school.

The situation above is real, but Charlotte's name has been changed. To find out about our transition services, call Myra Ryan at (888) 322-1918 Extension 513 or contact her via email at Mryan@cpofnj.org.

"Educating for Success" is available in alternative formats.

Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey is



Accredited in
Community Employment Services

Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey has been recognized by the New Jersey Department of Education as a "Registered New Jersey Professional Development Provider."



CEREBRAL PALSY OF NEW JERSEY EXPANDS SCHOOL SUPPORTS

With the appointment of Jeannette Van Houten, a Certified Special Education teacher with expertise in Assistive Technology, The Rehabilitation Technology Services Department will now offer one on one technical assistance and group workshops for teachers and school staff on the integration of assistive technologies in the classroom. Ms. Van Houten will also aid in modifying classwork to meet the core curriculum content standards for students with all types of disabilities, including learning disabilities. For more information, contact Fred Tchang at (888) 322-1918 Extension 588 or via email at ftchang@cpofnj.org.

UPCOMING TRAININGS



October 11, 2001
9 am - 3pm

Resource Room Teachers: How Technology Can Support You, How You Can Use Tech. to Support the Classroom Teacher.
Training at Middlesex County ETTC*

October 29, 2001
3 pm - 6 pm

Assistive Technology Devices and the IEP.
Training at Ocean County ETTC*

November 7, 2001
7 pm - 9 pm

Everything You Wanted to Know About AT: A Parent Empowerment Session
Training at Burlington County ETTC*

For more information, contact Fred Tchang at (888) 322-1918 Extension 533 or call the county ETTC.

*ETTC Stands for Educational Technology Training Center



**WE'RE HERE TO HELP.
CALL US FOR ASSISTANCE
IN THESE AREAS:**

- IEP Assistance
- Transition Planning
- Assistive Technology for Education
- Augmentative Communication
- Positive Behavioral Supports
- Family Support
- Work Based Learning
- School to Work Support
- Job Accommodations
- ADA Assistance
- Substance Abuse Prevention Education

CALL US TODAY AT (888) 322-1918
OR EMAIL US AT INFO@CPOFNJ.ORG.
WE CAN HELP YOU EDUCATE STUDENTS



Q. I think my son who has “special needs” needs a laptop for school. What steps should I take to get him one?

A. Many parents have heard about the ways computers help children learn and do school work. While your son may need to use a computer in order to benefit from his education, there are many other accommodations that can also help. When discussing the possibilities with your school district, don't begin with the solutions, start with the problem areas that need to be addressed and ask to solve these areas.

If your child has certain needs that you or the school believe could be addressed with the help of Assistive Technology (A.T.), you'll need to know your options. Either ask school staff with expertise in A.T. or outside consultants to start a formal evaluation process. This not only helps you and the school hear an objective evaluation of proposed solutions, but it also saves money and raises awareness of a greater variety of accommodations.

Q. We're having a hard time coming up with jobs that we feel are appropriate for our graduating students. How can CP of New Jersey expand the job pool?

A. Start by considering what the student *wants* to do, rather than what *limitations* he or she may have. A CP of New Jersey staff member can assist with this task. Once jobs are identified, it's a good idea to consider the kinds of job accommodations that will allow that student to do the work. Job accommodations come in many forms, from low-tech (specially designed wheelchair laptrays), to high-tech (an electronic organizer). CP of New Jersey staff can also help **locate** job sites and provide on the job “coaching.”

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Fill out the form below and fax, email or mail it back to us.

Fax : (609) 392-3505 Email: chazlett@cpofnj.org

Address: CP of New Jersey's “Educating for Success” 354 South Broad Street, Trenton, NJ 08608

Name: _____ Position: _____

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