

Further Comments on the Education and Interagency Issue

Jan Nisbet, PhD Comment:

The educational system and the Area Agencies must work much more closely together to assure that when young people with disabilities graduate from high school and transition to adult life that they have the skills to live and work. There must be new programs put in place that combine funding streams and create individualized transition plans for students with disabilities between the ages of 18 and 21. Employment and/or higher education for young people graduating from high school must be a measured educational outcome and school systems must be held accountable. 9/20/05 Testimony

Indeed Braddock 2005 and others have recommended “an enhanced emphasis in self-determination skills training, launching programs for 18 to 21 year olds, interagency collaboration, preparation of additional transition personnel, and a general nationwide refocusing on the positive outcomes of supported employment.” Braddock 2005, p. 39.