



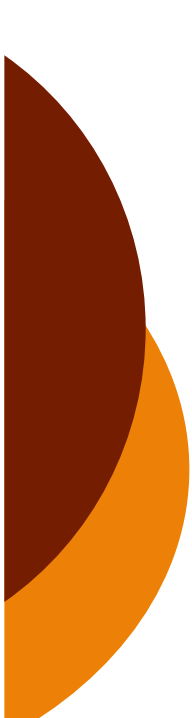
MASSACHUSETTS
CONSORTIUM

for Children with Special Health Care Needs

A Program of New England SERVE

Making Things Happen for Youth with Special Health Care Needs

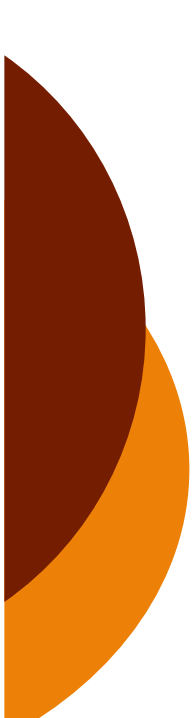
October 11, 2007



Transition for Youth with SHCN

Transition to Adulthood

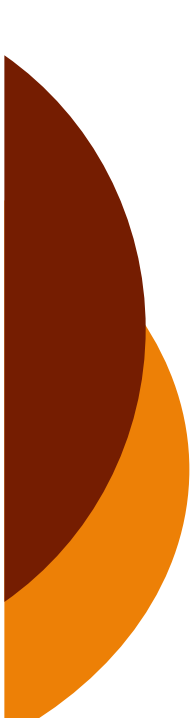
- A dynamic process experienced by youth
- Relevant to all aspects of adult life
- Different for every young person



Transition for Youth with SHCN

Successful Transition Requires:

- A complex array of services and supports that promote the transition process
- Help preparing youth to be as self-determining and self-sufficient as possible over a lifetime.



Challenges

Support for Families

- Limited availability of services
- Lack of support to navigate system

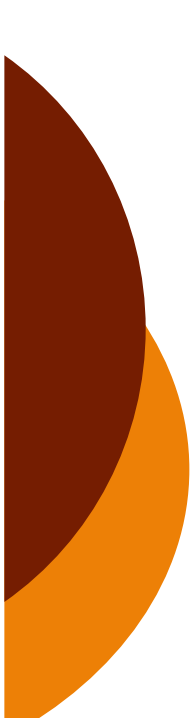
Coordination of Services

- Multiple state agencies; fragmentation
- Temporary funding

Limited Entitlements

Compliance with Legal Mandates

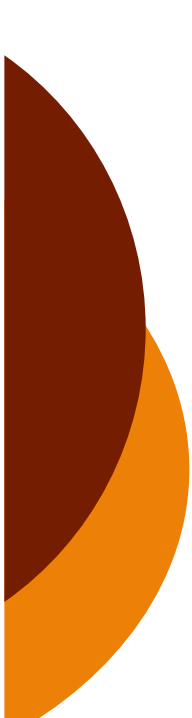
- Required services often not provided



Massachusetts is not alone ~

- All states identify school transition services as inadequate
- 97% of states report implementation of IDEA transition mandates are not easy or difficult
- Median # transition coordinators
= 0.6 per 10,000 students
= 3.88 minutes per year per student!

Study of State and Local Implementation and Impact of IDEA (SLIIDEA)



The Consortium's Response

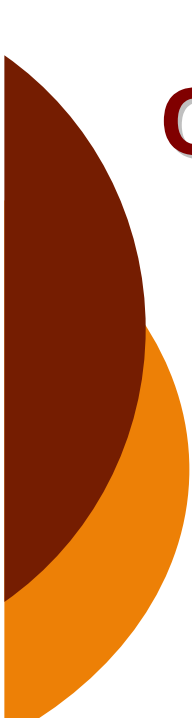
2004: Consortium's Transition Task Force produced Background Brief

- Identified key issues
- Described programs that address transition needs
- Recommended key priorities

Consortium Transition Task Force: Key Recommendation

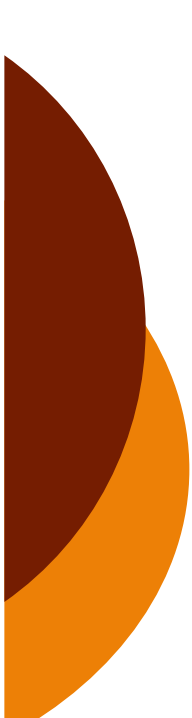
Training for care coordinators that addresses primary life domains upon with successful transition hinges:

- ❖ Health care
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Employment
- ❖ Housing
- ❖ Community and social relationships



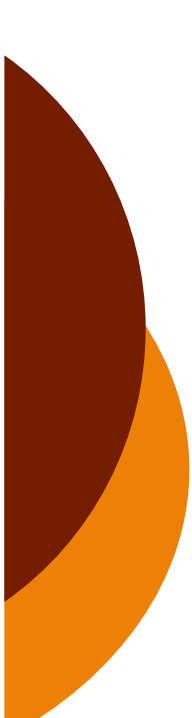
Consortium Transition Task Force: Key Messages of Training

- Expand expectations
- Create a vision
- Start planning early
- Care coordinators play pivotal role



The Consortium's “Make Things Happen” Project

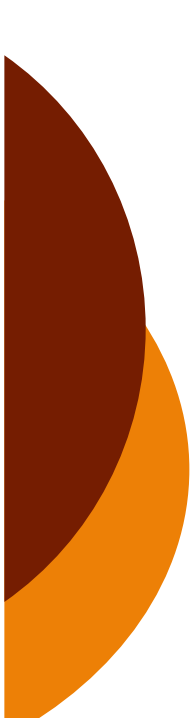
- MA DPH / MCHB: “Moving Forward Together” grant (2005-08)
- “Make Things Happen” (MTH): component to address transition needs
- Curriculum development: key informants, needs assessment, focus groups, pilot training



“Make Things Happen”

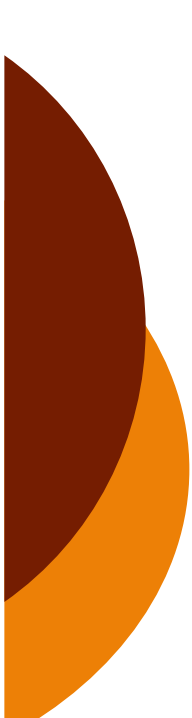
Key Components of Curriculum

- Transition: What Is It and How Do You Plan For It?
- Youth and Parent Panel
- Transitioning to the Adult Service System
- Health and Healthy Living
- Developing a Transition Plan
- Putting It All Together



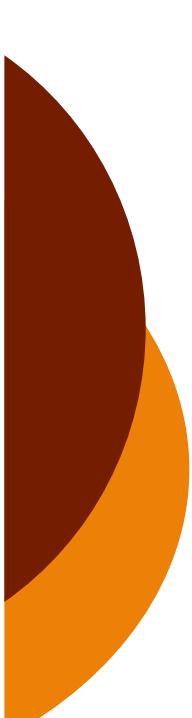
“Make Things Happen” A Presentation

- **Pixie Plummer, MD, Children’s Hospital Boston and Boston Community Medical Group**
- **Manu Thakral, RN, Massachusetts General Hospital Institute for Health Professions**



MTH Project: Lessons Learned

- Training needs:
 - Providers
 - Families and Youth
 - Care Coordinators
 - Schools
- Care coordination
- Sustainability: Funding for new initiatives



For Discussion

- Current unmet needs for youth and families relating to transition?
- Key challenges to addressing these needs?
- What are the transition priorities in Massachusetts?
- Are there initiatives in MA to address these needs and priorities?