

# Disability Research Institute 2005 Symposium

Work Opportunity Initiatives

William Ebenstein, Ph.D.  
City University of New York

# Youth and Transition to Work

Panel Session #3

# City University of New York Youth Transition Demonstration Project

- Goal: Improve Educational & Employment Outcomes of Youth with Disabilities
- CUNY Project Targets Youth 16-18 Years Who Live in the Bronx, New York
- Project is Housed and Uses Resources Available on CUNY College Campuses

# Interventions/Best Practices

- Self-Determination
- Informed Parental Activism
- Physical Fitness/Health Education
- Peer Mentoring
- Meaningful Work-Study Experiences
- Travel Training
- Active Job Development & Placement

# Self-Determination

- Self-Determination Workshops and Activities that Promote Disability Awareness, Decision-Making and Other Self-Determination Skills

# Informed Parental Activism

- Parent Peer Mentors, Networking and Culturally Competent Peer Support
- Activities and Resources that Help Parents Develop the Knowledge and Skills to Access Needed Transition Services

# Physical Fitness/Health Education

- Explore the Relationship Between Physical Fitness/Health Education and Employment Outcomes
- Develop Inclusive Physical Fitness/Health Education/Recreation Programs as Continuing Education Classes on College Campus

# Peer Mentoring

- Youth with Disabilities as “at-risk” Youth
- Social and Recreational Interactions with College Students with Disabilities

# Meaningful Work-Study Experiences (On-Campus)

- Work-Study Placements on Campus
- Summer Jobs on College Campus
- Vocational Training through College Continuing Education

# Travel Training

- Work with Youth with Disabilities, Parents, and Public Transportation Authority to Enhance Access to Public Transportation (Buses, Subways, Ride Services, etc.)
- Use New Technologies to Support Travel Training Efforts

# Active Job Development and Placement

- Use Sector-Based Approach to Develop Relationships with Employers and Refine Vocational Training Programs
- Advocate for Jobs for Individuals with Disabilities Among all Your Partners in All Aspects of Your Organization