NTACT THE COLLABORATIVE

Transition Discoveries: Operationalizing Local Collaboration a Model for Success Presentation

An NTACT:C Webinar Presentation
October 13, 2022

TRANSITION DISCOVERIES

Your Voice · Your Story · Your Future

Transition Discoveries: Operationalizing Local Collaborations a Model for Success

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THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC

PaTTAN
Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network

Collaboration is the Key!

The Transition Discoveries Framework

- Research Behind "TD"
- Quality Indicators & Sub-Indicators of High Quality Transition

The Transition Discoveries Systems-Level Intervention

- The Four Stages of TD
  - Team Structure
  - Objectives, Key Activities, Outcomes/Deliverables

Pennsylvania's Statewide Scale-Up of TD

- Support and Funding Model
- TD Implementation Training Modules
- Community of Practice
- What Works Datahub
- Outcomes

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Learning Objectives

- Describe the value of meaningfully engaging students and youth with disabilities, family members and other transition stakeholders in the implementation and planning of transition programming and services.
- Identifying potential skills, qualities, and attributes of effective secondary transition practices at the local level that were proven to be effective for students and youth with disabilities, and family members.
- Describe how to develop a local level planning process to inform programmatic decisions to improve consistency and quality of transition programs

The Foundation: Power of Relationships, Partnerships & Collaboration

- PA Developmental Disabilities Council (Advocacy/Systems Change)
- George Washington University (Design/Research/Implementation)
- Parent Education, Advocacy & Leadership Center (PTI/Youth Empowerment Coordinator)
- PA Youth Leadership Network (By Youth for Youth/Built in throughout the whole initiative)
- Youth, families and stakeholders engaged in all aspects of the initiative (web content/design)
- Local Teams
- PA Bureau of Special Education, PA Training & Technical Assistance Network
- GW Secondary Transition Master's Interns
- And many more!

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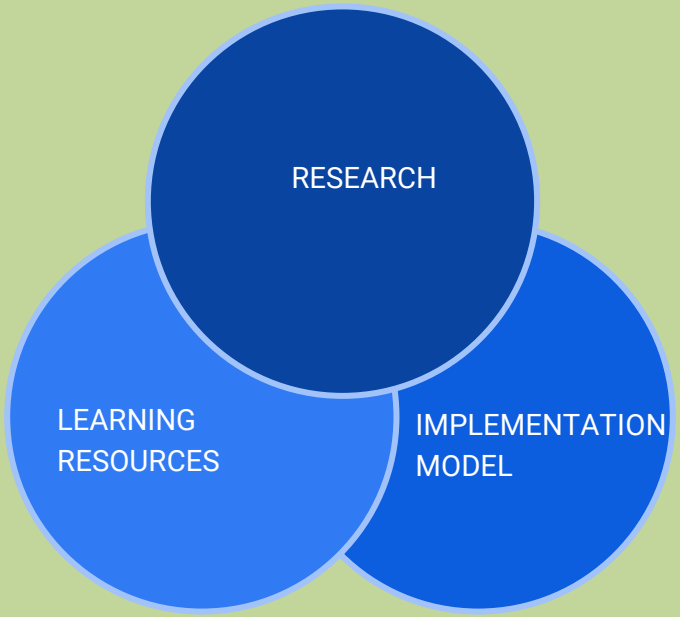
Transition Discoveries is a systems-level approach.

Systems are defined as the networks between youth, families, schools, agencies and community partners

TRANSITION DISCOVERIES INITIATIVE



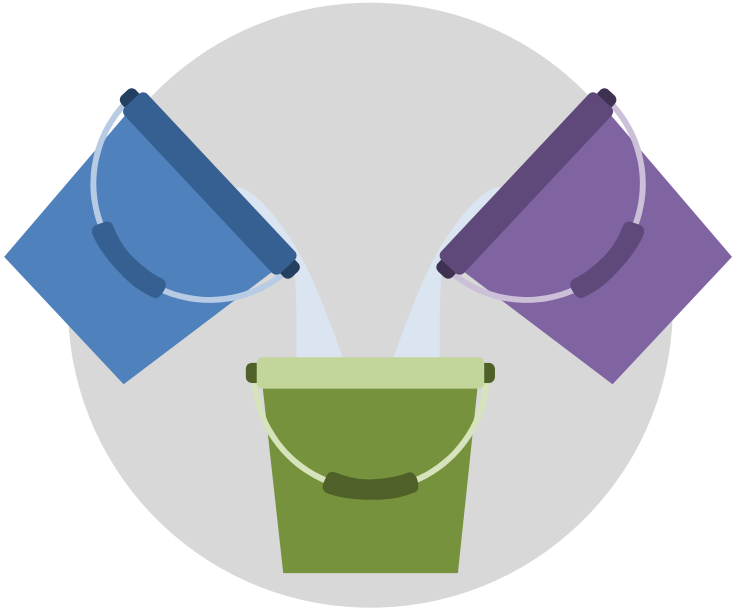
Participatory Action Research:
The Power of Partnerships

"Your Voice, Your Story, Your Future"

This project, Transition Discoveries, is supported in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council, through grant number 1801PABSDD, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201. Grantees undertaking projects with government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not necessarily represent the views of Administration of Community Living

The Power of Partnerships:
Transition Discoveries – Where We Began!

How do youth with disabilities and families describe their **dreams and goals for a successful transition to life after high school?**

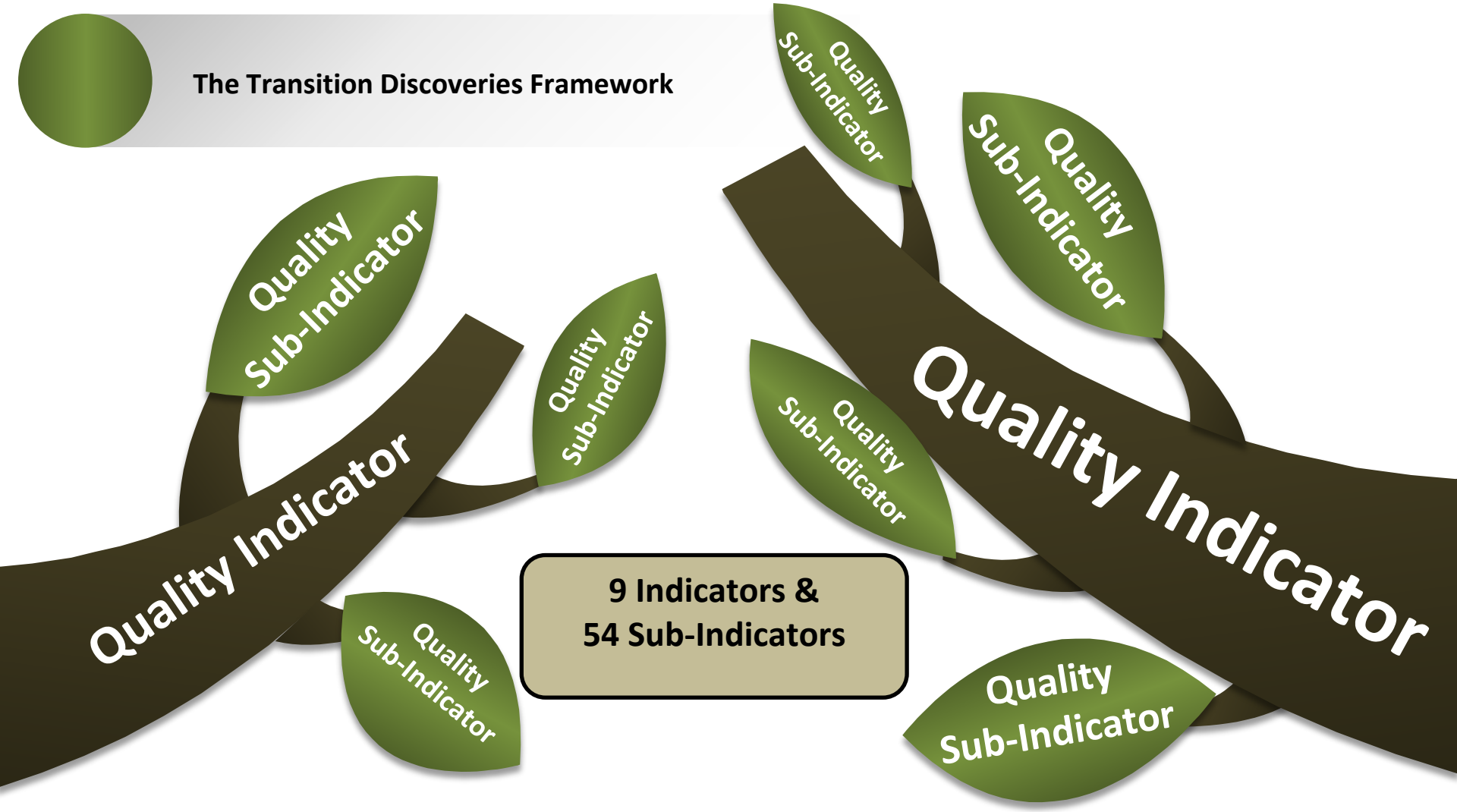


How do youth with disabilities and families and transition stakeholders describe **successful practices in secondary transition, resources and supports, and strategies** for transition to adulthood?

Essential Question:

Is there an **underlying framework** to explain how successful transition practices are defined by youth with disabilities, families, and transition stakeholders?

The Transition Discoveries Framework



In the TD Systems Level Intervention, high quality transition practices, programs and services are defined by the **Transition Discoveries Quality Indicator Framework (Kester et al., 2021)**

The TD Framework

Transition Planning
Youth Development
Person and Family Directed Planning
Family Engagement
Relationships
Independent Living & Community Engagement
Cross Agency Collaboration
Employment
Postsecondary Education

- Teams identify strengths and potential priorities for improvement through a systems-wide, community-driven action plan.
- Plans align with one or more of these 9 areas and one or more of the 54 practices within them.
- Data collected during implementing TD will inform site of which are strengths, and which will be focused upon for action planning

Explore the Framework

Explore the Research

Transition Quality Empowerment Project

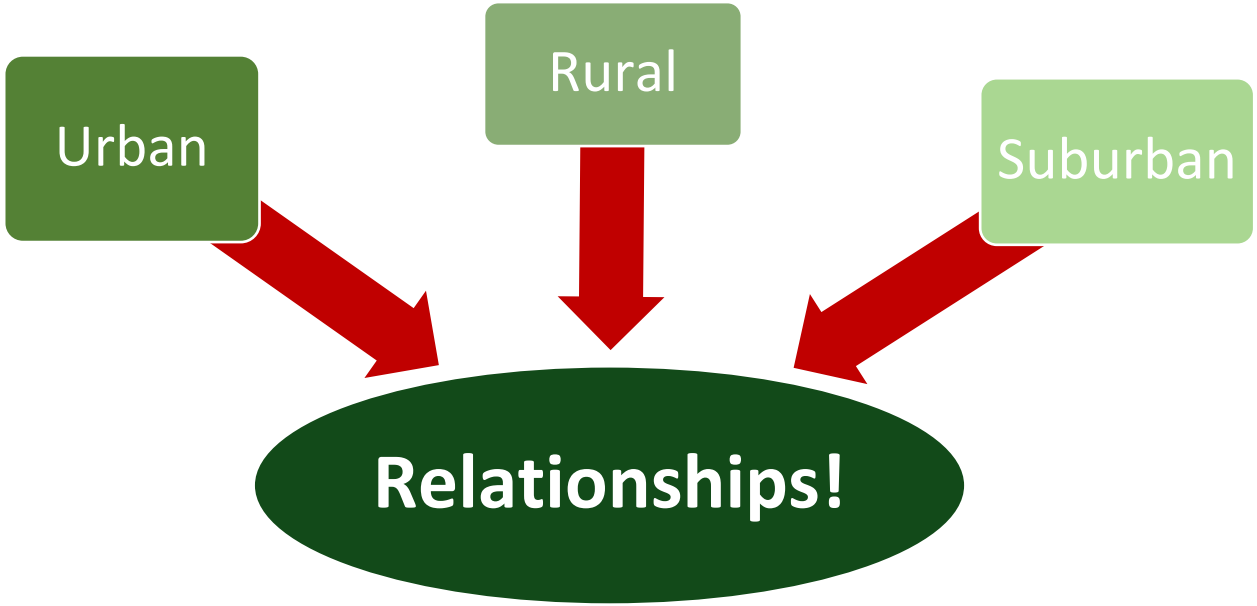
In the second round of funding from the PA Developmental Disabilities Council the George Washington University partnered with the PEAL Center (PTI) and the PA Youth Leadership Network (PYLN)

Three primary sites implemented the Model -

- Pittsburgh Public Schools
- Warrior Run School District
- Berks County Transition Coordinating Council

These sites paved the way for the PA scale-up statewide.

Establish unconventional communities of practice between youth families and stakeholders across schools, agencies and the community.



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TRANSITION DISCOVERIES IMPLEMENTATION AND RESOURCES

What is the Transition Discoveries Systems-Level Intervention?

A research-based approach where youth, families and stakeholders collaborate deeply on improving transition practices, programs and services **at a systems level**.

When implementing TD, “systems level” means collaboration between youth, families and stakeholders across…

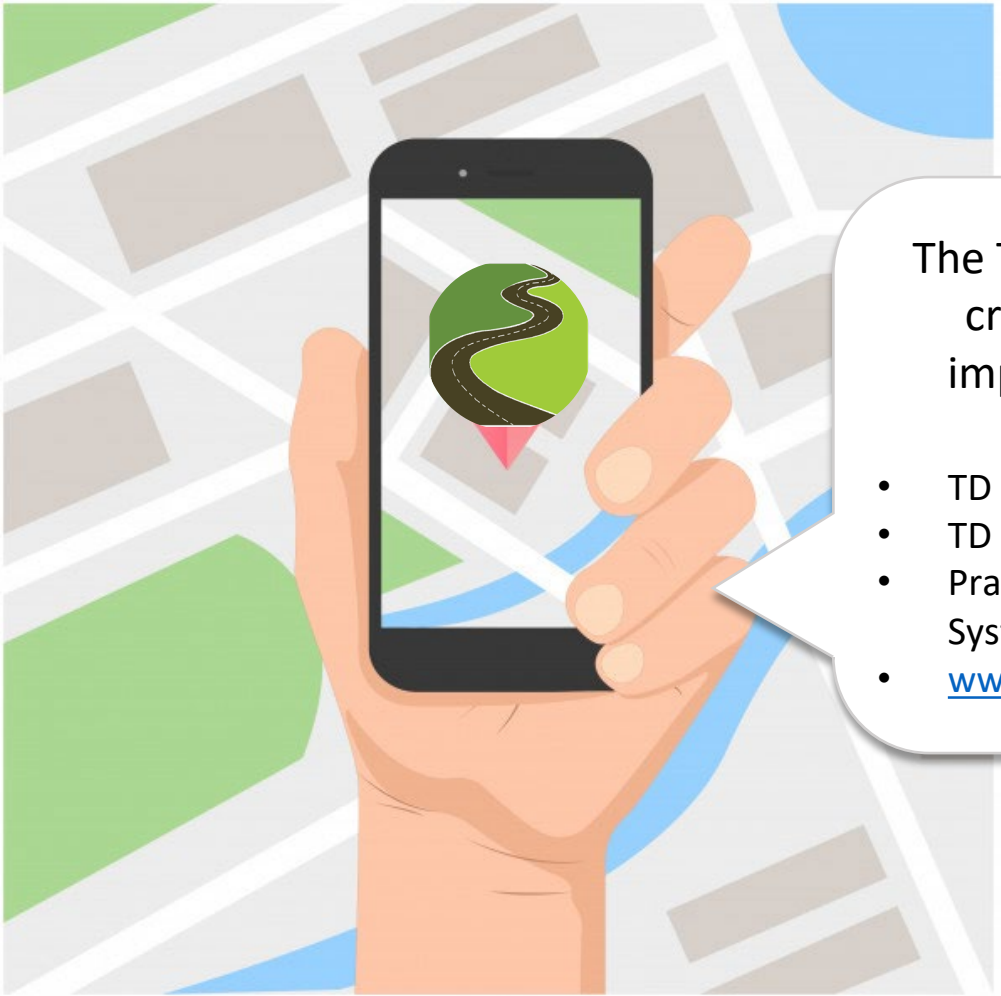
- Schools (HS and MS as applicable)
- Agencies (VR, ODP, HHS, etc.)
- Community partners (businesses, providers, PTIs, etc.)

…to improve programming and opportunities for all young people with disabilities in the community / LEA.

What are the goals of the TD Systems-Level Intervention?

Using comprehensive resource package from TD, LEAs engage **youth, families and stakeholders in the design and implementation of a data-driven plan to improve, expand and innovate current transition practices, programs and services.**

1) Identify effective practices, programs and/or services across the system.
2) Identify potential priorities for improvement and organizational factors that contribute to them across the system.
3) Develop and implement a systems-level plan that draws upon strengths to address priorities and their contributing factors. *Plans leverage the comprehensive resource package from TD.*



The Transition Discoveries (TD) Initiative has created a set of tools to support TD-SLI implementation and to guide your work!

- TD Framework
- TD Quality Indicator Survey (TDQI)
- Practical Training Modules on EBPs and the TD Systems-Level Intervention
- www.transitiondiscoveries.org

The Transition Discoveries Infographic Guide

TRANSITION DISCOVERIES

Transition Planning
1.1 Career Exploration Planning and Preparation

What is career exploration planning and preparation?

...Exploration and learning about careers through a transition team at school so that you know what kinds of work you want to do during and after high school.

Ideally, this planning and preparation includes...

- Having a team to help you become aware of careers
- Giving you many opportunities to explore careers through meeting with professionals, visiting job sites, volunteering, work study, internships, and getting a paid job while in high school
- Learning about and getting the services and supports to help you succeed at work
- Learning skills so that you can manage your time, schedule what you need to do and take care of yourself at home and work
- Building your skills to get along with others at work
- Helping you identify your career goals and steps you need to take to get a job

This career planning and preparation results in...

- Knowing about careers that fit you
- Learning skills to succeed in your career
- Providing you with a chance to try different work experiences to find a good match
- Getting and keeping a job that pays at least minimum wage in the community

"Starting in 10th grade we do Planning for the Future and Start on Success. In class, my teacher every couple of weeks is like, 'Hey, what do you want to do in your career'? You start there and you do different things every year and it builds up to an internship in your senior year. It might not be exactly what you want, but it'll be along the line of what you're like trying to get into. It'll be in your field. And if you wanted to, or a different position opened up, they would move you."

Transition-age youth

PYLN Pennsylvania Youth Leadership Network

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TEMPLE UNIVERSITY Institute on Disabilities

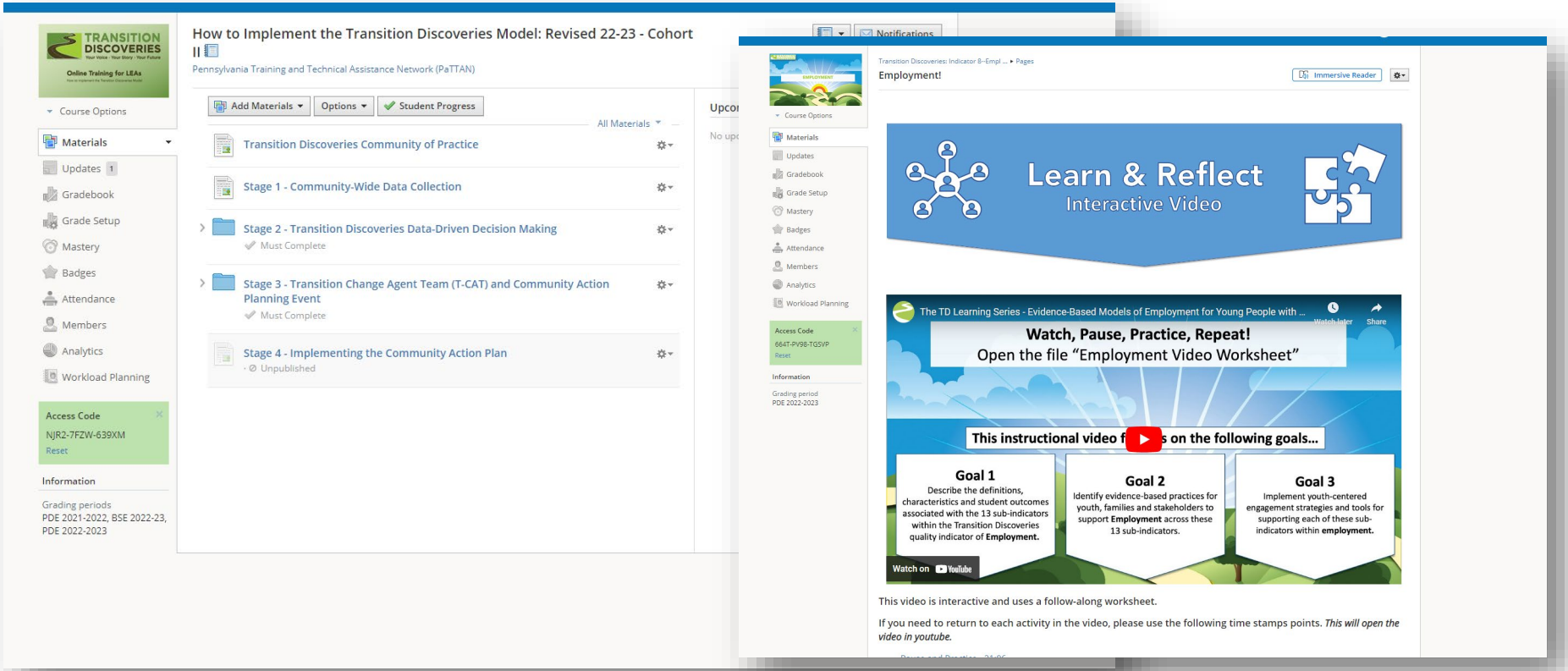
Transition Discoveries was funded by a grant from the PA Developmental Disabilities Council.

Turn on your phone's camera and point it at the screen now to access the guide.

The Transition Discoveries Quality Indicator Survey

- Gathers data on the current quality of transition practices, programs and services (as defined by the TD framework and supporting literature)
  - Online – Web and Mobile Friendly
  - Three versions (youth, family and stakeholder)
  - Youth version is written at a 5th grade reading level
  - Youth version includes audio narrations for all questions
  - Youth, family and stakeholder versions can be toggled between Spanish and English at any time
  - TD has facilitation guides to support young people who best respond in a co-completed style with an educator
  - Stakeholder version gathers data on organizational factors that impact the current quality of transition practices, programs and services.
  - Youth version - 10 to 15 min, Family - 20 min, Stakeholder – 25 min

The Transition Discoveries Courses



PA STATEWIDE IMPLEMENTATION

Promoting Data Driven Decision Making and Engagement of Youth, Families and Stakeholders

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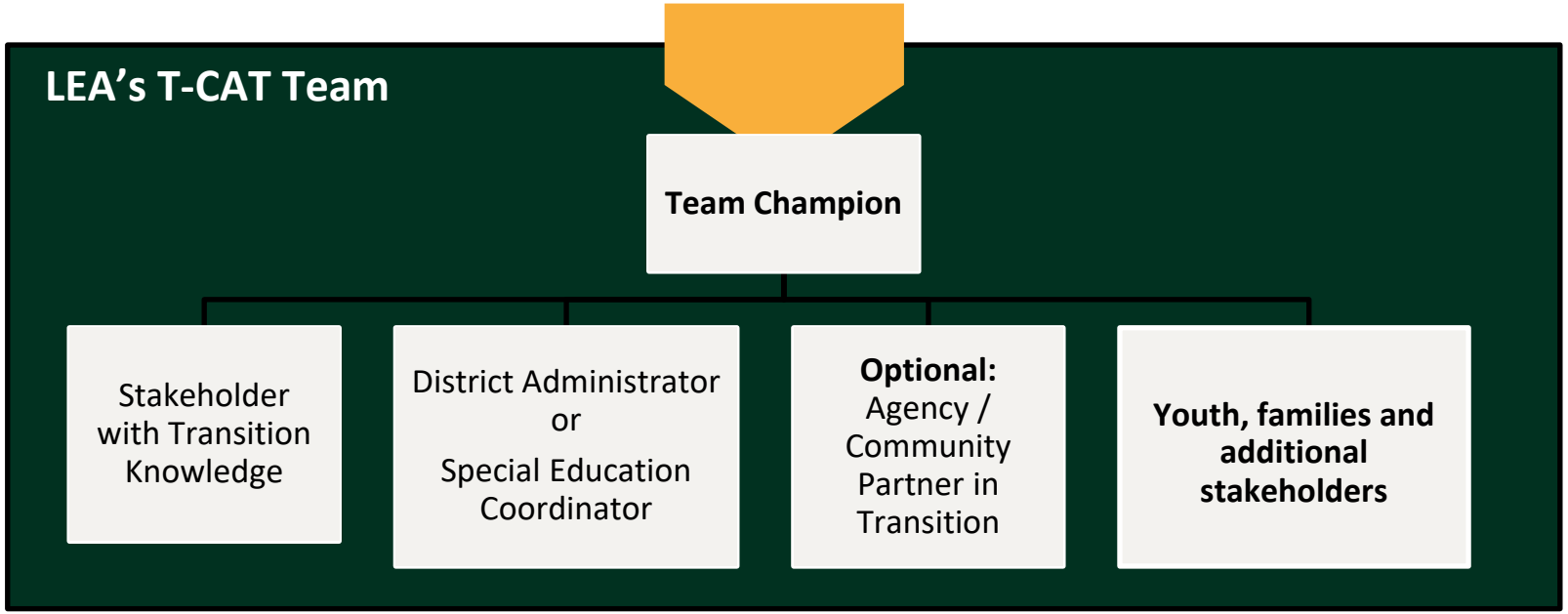
PaTTAN's TD Pathways Grant - Purpose

- Build a team to create and support engagement in the collection, review, and analysis of survey data
- Develop a customized approach to the transition planning process to improve inclusive transition services and supports for students with disabilities
- Empower youth, families, educators, and community members to serve as meaningful partners in the design and delivery of transition planning and systemic implementation of transition services
- Utilize available resources and supports to improve and increase cross agency collaboration

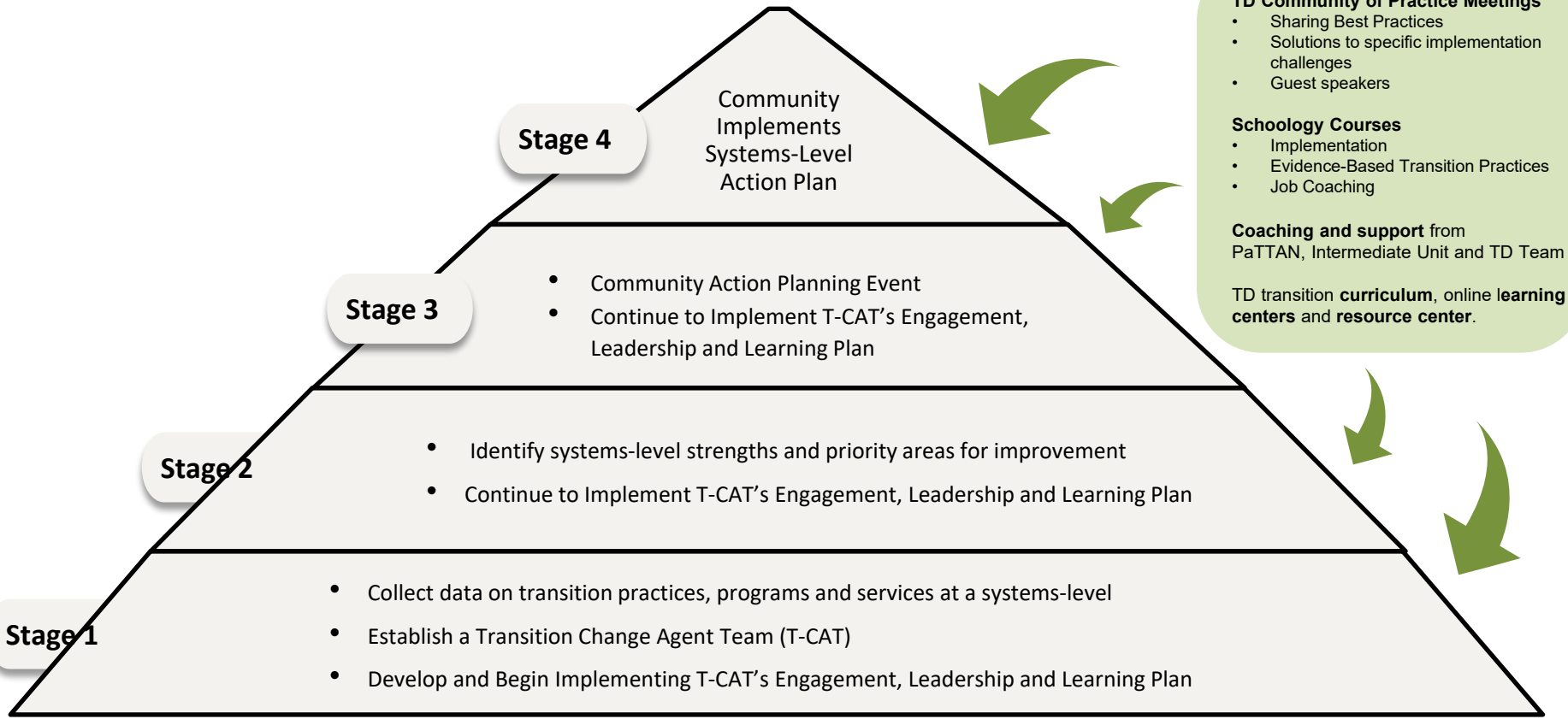
Coaching Structure & Team Formation

Transition Discoveries Initiative Team

External Support from Local Coach (IU TAC) and PaTTAN / TD Initiative Coach



TD Implementation Model



TD Community of Practice Meetings
- Sharing Best Practices
- Solutions to specific implementation challenges
- Guest speakers

Schoology Courses
- Implementation
- Evidence-Based Transition Practices
- Job Coaching

Coaching and support from PaTTAN, Intermediate Unit and TD Team

TD transition **curriculum**, online **learning centers** and **resource center**.

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1. Recruitment:
LEA's Transition Discoveries Team draws on sources of information, connections and contacts in order to identify youth, families and stakeholders who could complete the Transition Discoveries survey

External Support:
PaTTAN Consultants
TaC / IU Coaches
GW Transition Discoveries Coaches

3. Progress Monitoring
LEA uses the "Monthly Implementation Update" to plan and track their progress

2. LEA team provides opportunities for youth and families to:

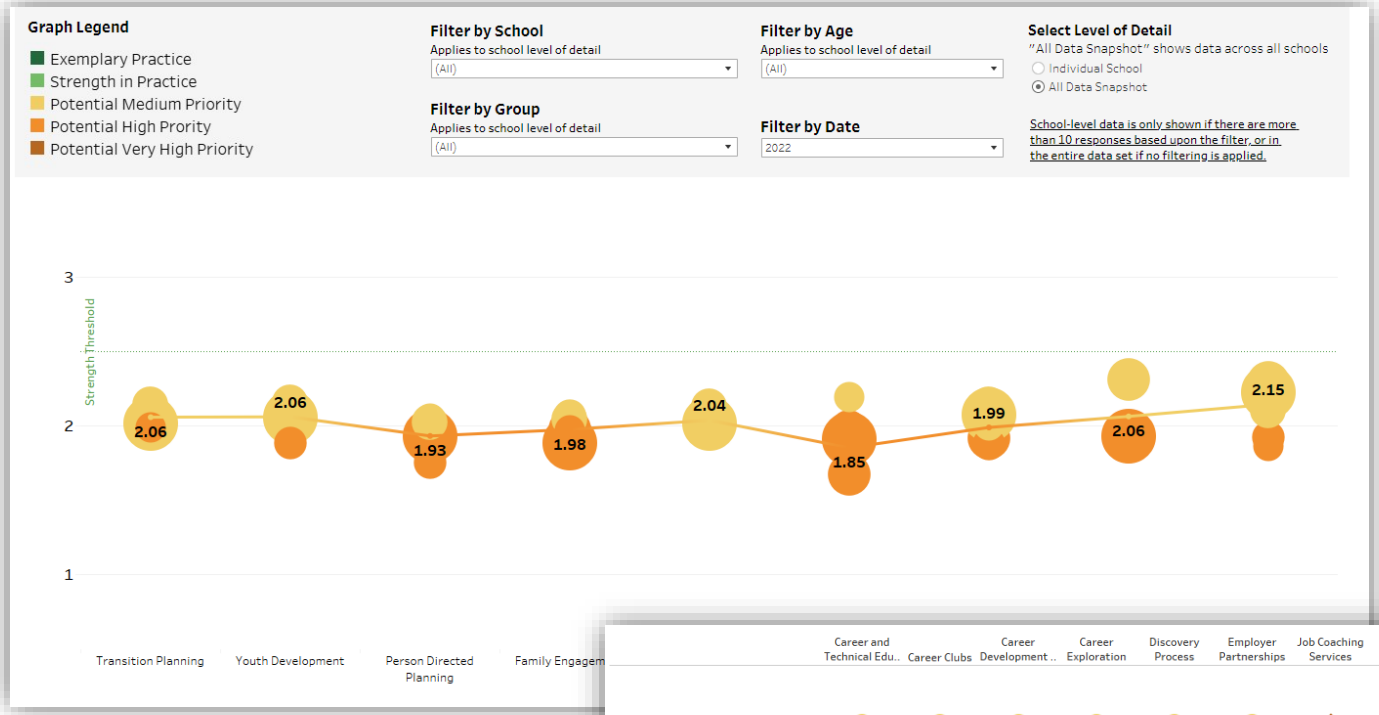
- Learn about transition through the transition discoveries framework
- Share their experiences through the survey.

School & District Data

Collaboration with agencies and community partners with connections to youth and families

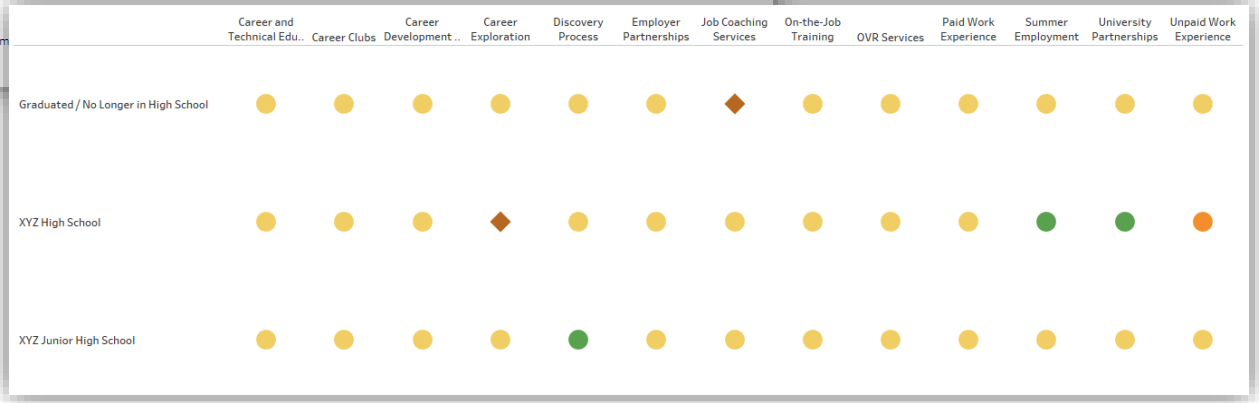
Information from educators, transition staff, agency staff and community partners

Stage 1



The What Works Datahub

- Auto-analyzes the data
- Data is fully-interactive and visualized with multiple means of representation and action to support all T-CAT members – youth, families and stakeholders.
- Universal design for learning



Stage 2

LEA Team Will Identify Priority Areas for Community Action Planning

- Highest Ranked Sub-Indicators
- Recommendations from young people, families and stakeholders about effective practices for these sub-indicators

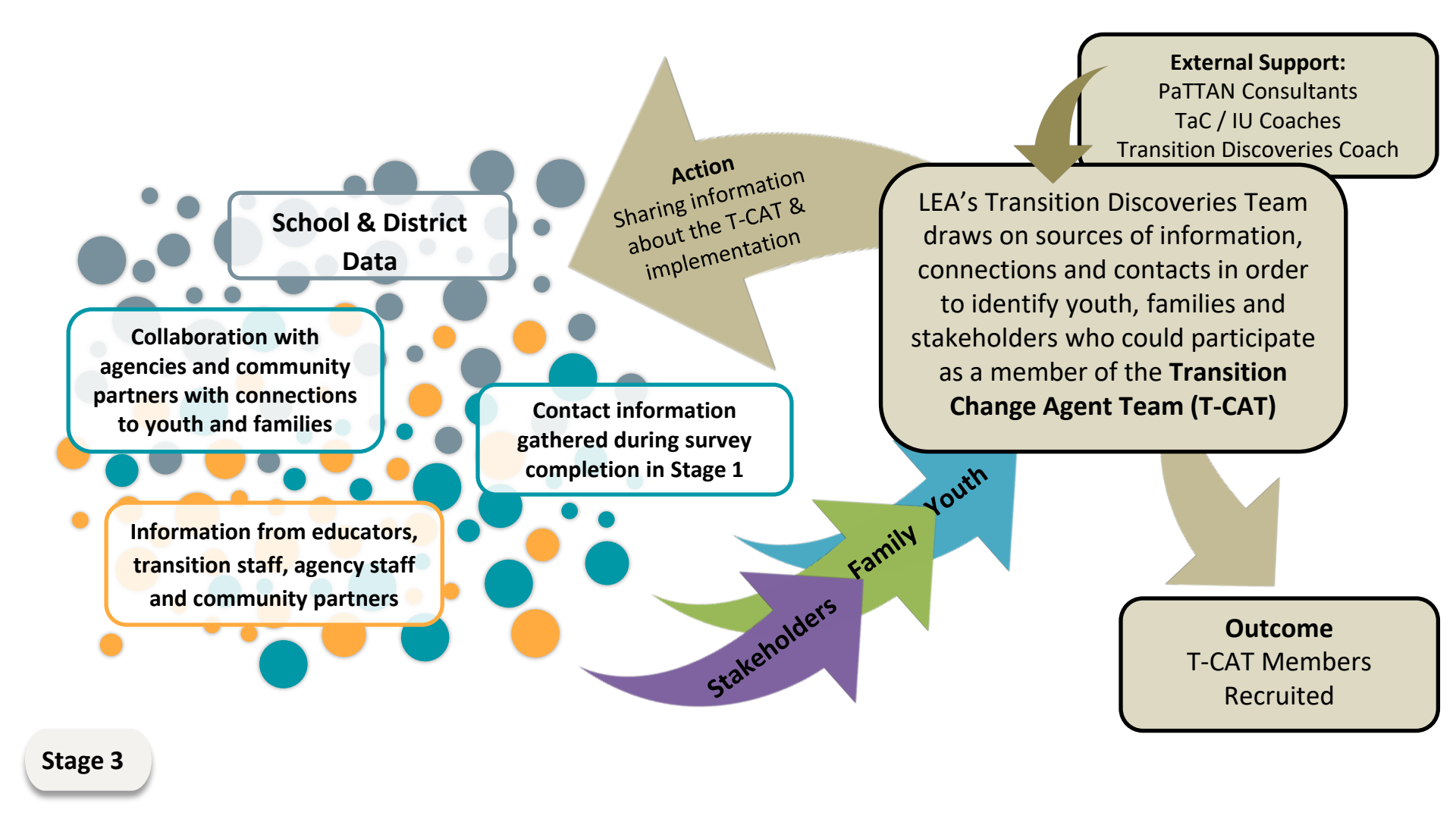
Additional knowledge provided by the local team

Lowest Ranked Indicators

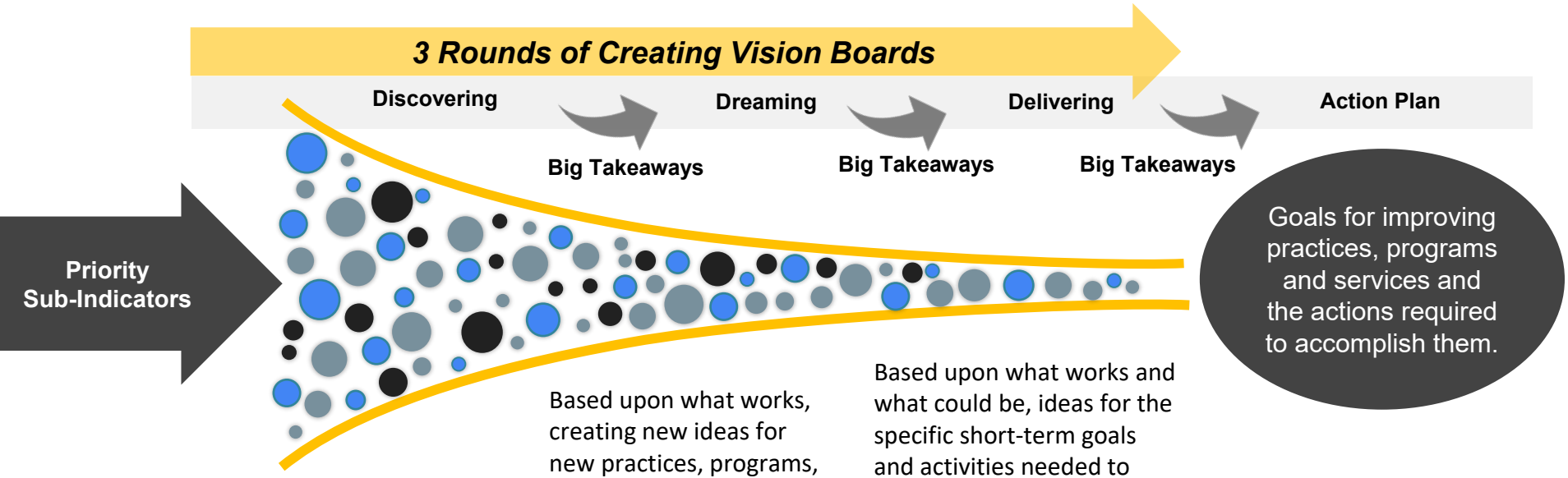
- Lowest Ranked Sub-Indicators
- Recommendations from young people, families and stakeholders for improving practices related to the lowest ranked sub-indicators

Stage 2

Priority Sub-Indicators


School & District Data
Collaboration with agencies and community partners with connections to youth and families
Contact information gathered during survey completion in Stage 1
Information from educators, transition staff, agency staff and community partners
Action
Sharing information about the T-CAT & implementation
External Support:
PaTTAN Consultants
TaC / IU Coaches
Transition Discoveries Coach
LEA's Transition Discoveries Team draws on sources of information, connections and contacts in order to identify youth, families and stakeholders who could participate as a member of the Transition Change Agent Team (T-CAT)
Youth
Family
Stakeholders
Outcome
T-CAT Members Recruited
Stage 3

The Community Action Planning Process



Identify positive practices, programs, supports and activities that happen now to support the priority indicators/sub-indicators.

Based upon what works, creating new ideas for new practices, programs, supports and activities that could support the priority indicators/sub-indicators.

Based upon what works and what could be, ideas for the specific short-term goals and activities needed to achieve them that will lead to implementing the practice, program and or service created during "dreaming".

Stage 3

During each part of three-step process, attendees will contribute to a virtual, community-wide, systems-level vision board (via Padlet).

The virtual vision board is not like any you've experience before….

- It will contain all information shared during the three-step process (discovering, dreaming, delivering).
- During the event it will transform from ideas into an action plan.

Stage 3

Schoology Training on TD Implementation and EBPs

Year 1

Empowering and Growing the T-CAT

Transition Discoveries Data Collection

Identifying Priorities for Action Planning from the Transition Discoveries Data

“Nuts and Bolts of Job Coaching”

Year 2

Action Plan Implementation

Plus: 1 or more evidence-based practices courses based on TD Framework

TD Community of Practice

padlet

Transition Discoveries + 19 · 21d

Transition Discoveries Community of Practice

Join the Community of Practice for Transition Discoveries implementation teams across the state to share ideas, questions, celebrations, and tough spots. Transition Discoveries experts will be on hand to help you as you build new and exciting experiences for young people, families, and your entire transition community.

Padlet 101

Click below to learn about all the ways that you can share your knowledge and experiences in this space!

How to post:

- https://padlet.com/support/padlets_howtopost

When files won't upload:

- https://fi.padlet.com/support/when_uploads_fail

Let's get the conversation going! Post or comment to get started.

Virtual Meeting Recap

About this Column

After each virtual meeting, your PaTTAN and TD coaches will share

It Takes a Village: Tool & Strategies for Effective Transition

About this Column

Think of this like an ongoing transition conference. All teams

Stage 1 Resources

About this Column

Stage of TD is all about hearing from youth, families and stakeholders in your community about what's working really well in transition, and areas that are ready for innovation! Connecting the dots across silos of knowledge! In this space, we welcome you to share updates about your work - who you've reached and how you did it. This way, teams can learn from each other about best practices!

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PA TD Impact & Insights:
By The Numbers

- So far, 25 LEAs / T-CATs have implemented TD w/ PaTTAN's support across 2 cohorts
- 2,200 + Youth, Families and Stakeholders have participated in TD statewide
- T-CATs have designed and implemented a broad range of transition programs, services, policies and leadership structures, including but not limited to:
  - Student Enterprises
  - Youth Leadership / Relationship Building and Mentorship Programs
  - Paid and Unpaid Work-based Learning Experiences
  - Work-skills / Prep Programs
  - Family Training, Support and Networking Programs
  - Restructured / Designed Transition Councils w/ Youth, Family & Stakeholder Roles
- TD Data has clearly identified employment, cross agency collaboration, postsecondary ed/training, family engagement and youth development as an areas of needed support and development statewide

TD Pathways Grant - Eligibility & Funding

The funding available to each successful grant application is as follows:

1. A maximum of $45,000.00 is available and will be distributed over a two-year period.
2. The following terms will apply:
   a) Upon completion of Year 1 – Phase 1: $7,500
   b) Upon completion of Year 1 – Phase 2: $7,500
   c) Upon completion of Year 2 – Phase 3: $15,000
   d) Upon completion of Year 2 – Phase 3: $15,000
   e) Equipment costs, clothing (except work uniforms – not streetwear), gift cards, food and entertainment, and student salaries are not allowable expenses.
   f) General supplies must be purchased prior to May 31, 2024.

PaTTAN's TD Pathways Grant – Application

The following essential program priorities must be addressed in the grant application:

1. The grantee must review and report relevant data to begin identifying targeted areas for improved and enhanced transition programming and practices specific to the LEA and surrounding community.
2. Review, report, and describe current engagement levels of relevant stakeholders :
3. Identify Transition Change Agent Team (T-CAT) Members
4. Report and describe readiness to implement
5. Describe sustainability plan

PaTTAN's TD Pathways Grant –

Summary of Phases & Deliverables

Year One

Funding Phase 1

- Establish T-CAT
- Identify Representative Sample & Begin Distributing the TD Quality Indicator Metric (Stage 1 Data Collection)

Funding Phase 2

- Complete Data Collection
- Design and Begin Implementing T-CAT's Learning, Engagement and Empowerment Plan
- Identify up to four priorities for community-driven action planning based upon TD data.
    - **Employment must be one of the priority areas.**
- Complete The Nuts and Bolts of Job Coaching Schoology course (a minimum of one member per T-CAT).

PaTTAN's TD Pathways Grant

Summary of Year 2 Phases & Deliverables

Year Two

Funding Phase 3

- Continue implementing the T-CAT's Learning, Leadership and Empowerment Plan.
- Host a community-wide action planning event, led by T-CAT team
- Collaborate to begin implementing the transition action plan.
- Submit baseline Employment data.

Funding Phase 4

- Continue to implement the transition action plan in collaboration with stakeholders across schools, agencies, and community partners.
- Submit final Employment data.

Where are We Going

Wave 5 PADDC Funding

- Social Media Platform (Sign-in feature)
- TD Website Learning Centers by Youth for Youth - Deeper Dive into the 64 Sub-indicators (Practices)
- Dissemination
- Website Learning Management System
- Sustainability
- Interest in Helping Other States/Teams to Implement the TD Systems Level Intervention

PaTTAN Partnership

- Statewide Implementation
- Alignment of our annual Transition Conference to TD Framework
- Update Professional Development Curriculum

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PA SECONDARY TRANSITION

Questions, Feedback and Comments!

Your Feedback is Encouraged

- Watch for an email from Zoom tomorrow and please complete the brief evaluation

- Contact ntact-collab@ uncc.edu if further questions or follow-up from today.

Today's PowerPoint is posted at www.transitionta.org under Training or directly @ https://transitionta.org/trainings/transition-discoveries-webinar/

THANK YOU

for joining us!

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IDEAs that Work

Office of Special Education Programs
U.S. Department of Education

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