NTACT:C 2025 Capacity Building Institute

PROGRAM

The purpose of the NTACT:C 2025 Capacity Building Institute is for state delegates to:

- increase knowledge of effective secondary-transition-focused practices;
- use relevant transition data to reflect on current practices;
- update or develop interagency strategic plans;
- foster youth engagement and leadership; and
- develop new, and strengthen existing, partnerships with other states and entities.

This year's CBI themes are:

- Engagement of students, youth, and families in their educational and secondary-transition services
- Data-based decision making, sharing, and use to improve programs and outcomes at the state- and local-levels
- Holistic, person-driven planning for students and youth with disabilities
- Collaborative partnerships and service delivery for ongoing recovery and retention
- Provision of career and technical education, career pathways, and paid work-based learning experiences for *all* students and youth with disabilities

Key:

- green font = student, youth, parent, and family voices/ content
- blue font = holistic, person-driven planning/ provision of vocational rehabilitation, secondary education, and dropout services
- purple font = collaborative service delivery including recovery and retention
- orange font = CTE, career pathways, and provision of work-based learning experiences for *all* students with disabilities
- black font = multiple themes

Monday, May 5, 2025 • 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. ET

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Registration Open** • Midway

Tuesday, May 6, 2025 • 11:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. ET

7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Registration Open** • Midway

7:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Facilitator Preparation** • Lakeview

8:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. **Informal networking & state team prep meetings (optional/ non-facilitated)** • Various locations as available

8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **Quality Indicators for Professional Development Meeting with Piloting States [AR, GA, KS, MD, UT]** • Lakeshore 4

8:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. **Focus Groups by Invitation** • Burnham, Olmstead, or Keynes

Tuesday, 5/6: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **General Session & Working Brunch**	**General Session Description and Objectives**
Rooted in Leadership: Cultivating Youth Engagement for Thriving Communities **Melissa Diehl**, Co-Director, NTACT:C and Technical Assistance Specialist, VRTAC-QM/ The George Washington University, Center for Rehabilitation Counseling Research and Education **Catherine Fowler**, Co-Director, NTACT:C/ University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Cato College of Education **Michael Stoehr**, Knowledge Development and Technical Assistance Specialist, NTACT:C/ University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Cato College of Education **Deanne Unruh**, Co-Director, NTACT:C/ University of Oregon, College of Education, Secondary Special Education & Transition	Kick off the 2025 NTACT:C Capacity Building Institute with an energizing working meeting and brunch focused on youth leadership as the foundation for thriving communities. NTACT:C management will share key highlights for the 2025 CBI, setting the stage for impactful learning and collaboration. The session will feature dialogue between members of the Youth Engagement Transition Initiative (YETI) and state team representatives, exploring how to integrate youth voices in transition efforts at the state and local levels. **Participants will identify strategies and practices to engage youth as partners in state and local secondary transition planning.**

Tuesday, 5/6: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **General Session & Working Brunch**	**General Session Description and Objectives**
NTACT:C YETI Members: Erin Black, Holden Boully, Alexis Capps, Everett Deibler, Johan Mora Valverde, Mike Novitski, Billy Pickens, Quinna Phillips, Cadence Russell, Michael Scanlon, Jake Shumbo, Hunter Steinitz, Elizabeth Stout, Michael Uher, Amanda Waldron State Team Representatives University Ballroom A-E	

12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **BREAK**

Tuesday, 5/6: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions (8) – Round 1**	**Concurrent Session Description and Objectives**
Round 1 • Concurrent Session 1: *Growing Connections: Resource Mapping for Collaborative Service Delivery* **Matthew Flanagan**, Statewide Data Scientist and Educational Consultant, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, PaTTAN **Hillary A. Mangis**, Educational Consultant, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network, PaTTAN **Libby Stone-Sterling, Director**, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Maine Department of Labor Lakeview	Effective transition planning requires collaboration across agencies, schools, and community organizations to ensure seamless support for youth with disabilities. This session will explore how resource mapping, a strategic process of identifying and coordinating available services, can enhance collaborative service delivery. Presenters will share real-world examples from ME and PA, highlighting successful models that connect students and families to education, workforce, and community services. **Participants will gain insight into building coordinated transition systems and learn actionable steps to implement resource mapping, strengthen cross-agency collaboration, and maximize supports.**
Round 1 • Concurrent Session 2: *Wisconsin's Transition Improvement Grant (TIG): Improving Graduation Outcomes*	The Transition Improvement Grant (TIG) is a Wisconsin-based project that provides direct support to school districts in installing and implementing evidence-based strategies to improve graduation rates for students with IEPs. This presentation will offer participants an overview of the Graduation Rate Improvement

Tuesday, 5/6: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions (8) – Round 1**	**Concurrent Session Description and Objectives**
Jennifer Hilgendorf, Statewide Implementation and Improvement Project Coordinator, WI Transition Improvement Grant **Pam Jensen**, Statewide Technical Assistance Project Coordinator, WI Transition Improvement Grant Glenwaters	Planning tool, the coaching and technical assistance structure TIG provides, and the positive outcome changes seen in districts actively engaging in this work. **Participants will apply TIG's evidence-based practices to their own initiatives, refine planning processes, and gain actionable strategies for customizing coaching and TA in their context.**
Round 1 • Concurrent Session 3*: Reframing Data Sharing: Making Education and VR Data Available* **Charlotte Alverson**, Technical Assistance Specialist, NTACT:C/ University of Oregon, College of Education, Secondary Special Education & Transition **Melissa Diehl**, Co-Director & Technical Assistance Specialist, NTACT:C & VRTAC-QM/ The George Washington University, Center for Rehabilitation Counseling Research and Education Lakeshore 1	Filling and maintaining staff positions at all levels challenges capacity building. Join this session to learn from other state vocational rehabilitation (VR) agencies' efforts to recruit, care for, and retain personnel AND maintain focus on sustaining a culture of improved employment outcomes for students and youth. **Participants will increase knowledge of creative staffing solutions in VR and understand organizational and cultural impact on staff recruitment and retention (VR, education, or other).**
Round 1 • Concurrent Session 4: *Virginia's Collaborative Path to Secondary-Transition Success* **Rebecca Ceja**, Transition Specialist, Virginia Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Instructional Services **Matt Luther**, Transition and Education Services Manager, Virginia Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services **Patricia Morgan**, Coordinator of Transition & Planning Services, Virginia Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Instructional Services **Kendel St. John**, Transition Training Associate, Center on Transition Innovations, Virginia Commonwealth University Lakeshore 2	Discover how Virginia is building collaborative pathways to secondary-transition success through the efforts of DARS, the Department of Special Education and Instructional Services, and VCU's State Transition Leadership Academy. This engaging session will share local strategies that enhance special education transition outcomes and coordination around Pre-ETS. **Participants will leave with actionable ideas to strengthen partnerships in their own communities.**

Tuesday, 5/6: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions (8) – Round 1**	**Concurrent Session Description and Objectives**
Round 1 • Concurrent Session 5: *Cultivating Success: Back to Basics for Thriving Transitions* **Sandi Miller**, Senior Technical Assistance & Research Analyst, NTACT:C/ The George Washington University, Center for Rehabilitation Counseling Research and Education **Stephanie Oyler**, Technical Assistance Specialist & Project Coordinator, NTACT:C/ Portland State University **Michael Stoehr**, Knowledge Development and Technical Assistance Specialist, NTACT:C/ University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Cato College of Education Lakeshore 3	Like a well-tended garden, successful transition requires strong roots, careful cultivation, and the right tools. This session will take a "back to basics" approach to foundational resources supporting students with disabilities transitioning to higher education, competitive integrated employment, and independent, civically engaged lives. We'll explore resources, strengthen collaboration, and foster long-term success. **Participants will leave with tools to help every student grow and thrive.**
Round 1 • Concurrent Session 6: *AI and Ethics: Navigating the Spectrum of the Good, Bad, and Beyond* **Nichole Tichy,** Senior Technical Assistance and Research Analyst, NTACT:C/ The George Washington University, Center for Rehabilitation Counseling Research and Education Lakeshore 4	This presentation will explore what is commonly thought of as AI, the benefits AI can have in transition services, and potential risks or consequences transition professionals should consider when using AI. Accessibility considerations will be reviewed, as will applications of the CRCC Code of Ethics for decision-making pertaining to AI. Finally, AI platforms and key reasons for professional responsibility when using AI will be discussed. **Participants will understand ethical principles in AI for Vocational Rehabilitation and Special Education; evaluate the impact of AI on counselor/ teacher-client Relationships; and apply ethical decision-making frameworks to AI integration.**
Round 1 • Concurrent Session 7: *Youth Engagement Now: Fresh Tools & Strategies to Power Meaningful Connections* **NTACT:C YETI Members**: Erin Black, Holden Boully, Alexis Capps, Johan Mora Valverde, Mike Novitski, Billy Pickens, Quinna Phillips, Cadence Russell, Michael Scanlon, Jake	Join YETI members for a dynamic session featuring new tools now available on the Youth Engagement Now website. Explore fresh resources to help youth, families, and professionals find and engage youth, build community, support leadership, and sustain meaningful engagement at local, state, and community levels. Walk away with tips, strategies, and real-world examples to power youth voice and drive lasting change.

Tuesday, 5/6: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Concurrent Sessions (8) – Round 1**	**Concurrent Session Description and Objectives**
Shumbo, Hunter Steinitz, Elizabeth Stout, Michael Uher, Amanda Waldron University A/B	**Participants will explore new resources on the Youth Engagement Now website to enhance youth engagement strategies and support sustained leadership at local, state, and community levels.**
Round 1 • Concurrent Session 8: *Growing Opportunities for Centers for Independent Living* **Makenzie Allison**, Faculty Specialist, University of Maryland **Everett Deibler**, Director of Strategy and Engagement, J. Badger Consulting, Inc. **Megan Kuhlwein**, Executive Director, Kentucky Statewide Independent Living Council (Kentucky SILC) **Charlie Walters**, Assistant Research Professor, University of Maryland University D/E	Centers for Independent Living (CILs) play an important role in the interagency collaboratives supporting transition-age youth with disabilities though engagement is noticeably varied across states and local areas. In this session, we'll cover foundational information relative to CILs and Statewide Independent Living Councils (SILCs), discuss barriers and facilitators to CIL involvement in transition service delivery, and share free resources to maximize CIL support at state and local levels. **Learn foundational information on the CIL and SILC role in supporting youth with disabilities, discuss barriers and facilitators to CIL involvement, and review recommendations for CIL collaboration.**

2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	**BREAK**
2:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	**Interagency State Team Strategic Planning I** • Visit Registration or connect with your state designees for team planning room locations
3:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	**BREAK**
4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	**Facilitator Debrief** • Lakeview
4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	**Garden Party**

Tuesday, 5/6: 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **Garden Party**	**Content Resources / Collaborating Partners: Hosted Tables**
1. American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Training and Technical Assistance Center (AIVRTTAC) / Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina VR 2. Center on Youth Voice Youth Choice (CYVYC) 3. Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT) 4. IDEA Data Center 5. National Deaf Center 6. National Technical Assistance Center on Transition: The Collaborative (NTACT:C) 7. University of Oregon Secondary Special Education and Transition 8. Parent Training and Information Centers and Regional Parent Technical Assistance Centers 9. Think College 10. TransCen 11. Transition Coalition 12. Vocational Rehabilitation Technical Assistance Center for Quality Employment (VRTAC-QE) Gallery and Lakeshore Rooms / University Hallways	
13. *Practical Strategies: Coordinating Adult Ed. and SPED Services in Utah* **Lavinia Gripentrog**, Secondary Transition Specialist, Utah State Board of Education **Deanna Taylor**, Secondary Transition Specialist, Utah State Board of Education Lakeshore 4	This session provides a hands-on look at how Utah effectively coordinates adult and special education. Learn actionable steps for building collaborative teams, identifying students with disabilities, and putting specialized services into practice within adult education settings. **Participants will learn about Utah's process of collaboration between Adult Ed and Special Ed. to improve student services and outcomes and have access to Utah's Technical Assistance document.**
14. *Collaborative Connections: Engaging Partners for Positive Futures* **Bonnie Boaz**, Coordinator, Arkansas Transition Services	Visit Arkansas' showcase of initiatives creating positive change for students with disabilities, families, and communities. Explore CIRCLES, the Self-Determined Learning Model/Goal Setting App, the Self-Determined Career Design Model, Career Councils in rural communities, and a five-university doctoral consortium,

Maryanne Caldwell, Transition Manager, Arkansas Rehabilitation Services **Valerie Mazzotti**, Principal Investigator, Project Director, Roy A. Roberts Distinguished Professor of Special Education, University of Kansas/ NTACT:C **Sheida Raley**, Assistant Professor of Special Education, University of Arkansas **Lindsay Rentschler**, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Kansas University Center on Disabilities Lakeshore 3	ELEVATE, that will help empower scholars to break down barriers students with disabilities and their families frequently encounter as they work to transition to positive outcomes. **Participants will learn and be able to discuss how the AR team became engaged in these collaborative efforts and how we align our work for to ensure seamless and positive transition for students.**
The YETI Greenhouse: Cultivating Connections in Youth Leadership 1. PEAK Parent Center (CO PTI) – Quinna Phillips 2. Families Together, Inc. (KS PTI) – Brad Girard, Leia Holley 3. ECAC (NC PTI) – Aimee Combs, Beth Voll 4. SPAN Parent Advocacy Network (NJ/ CPIR) – Dawn Monaco, Johan Mora Valverde 5. MPACT (MO PTI) – Zach McCall 6. RIPIN (RI PTI) – Anne Fartura 7. Pathfinder Services of North Dakota – Holden Boully, Mistie Boully 8. Disability Rights of the Virgin Islands – Alexis Capps 9. Success, Engagement, Education, Determination (SEED) – Everett Deibler 10. Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities – Lisa Hickman, Michael Uher 11. The Pennsylvania Youth Leadership Network (PYLN) – Erin Black Lakeshore 1 & 2	Step into The Greenhouse, a vibrant space where seeds of youth leadership, engagement, and mentoring are being nurtured and grown! This interactive resource-sharing session is blooming with effective practices, inspiring stories, and tools that support the flourishing of young leaders with disabilities. Explore fresh ideas and time-tested strategies shared by YETI and PTIs dedicated to empowering youth and families.

Dinner on your own

5:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. Focus Group by Invitation • Burnham

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Registration Open** • Midway

Wednesday, 5/7 • 8:30 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. ET

Wednesday, 5/7: 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **General Session**	**General Session Description and Objectives**
Morning Bloom: Reflections, Raffles and What's Ahead **Kelli Crane**, Co-Director, NTACT:C/ University of Maryland Center for Transition and Career Innovation, College of Education **NTACT:C YETI Members**: Erin Black, Holden Boully, Alexis Capps, Everett Deibler, Johan Mora Valverde, Mike Novitski, Billy Pickens, Quinna Phillips, Cadence Russell, Michael Scanlon, Jake Shumbo, Hunter Steinitz, Elizabeth Stout, Michael Uher, Amanda Waldron University Ballroom A-E	Kick off Day Two with fresh energy as NTACT:C's YETI leads us through a vibrant recap of Day One, a sneak peek at what's sprouting on today's agenda, and a fun raffle featuring state-donated gifts! This 30-minute session is designed to root us in shared purpose, spotlight key takeaways, and get us all ready to grow forward—together. **Participants will reflect on key takeaways from Day One, gain an overview of Day Two activities, and engage in continued community-building.**

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. **BREAK**

Wednesday, 5/8: 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions (8) – Round 2**	**Concurrent Session Description and Objectives**
Round 2 • Concurrent Session 1: *Family-School Partnerships Equal Better Outcomes for Youth* **Rene Averitt-Sanzone**, Executive Director, The Parents' Place of Maryland **Sean Roy**, Chief Innovation and Training Officer, TransCen Lakeview	Join us for a discussion on how SEAs can increase authentic family partnerships that align with state goals to improve youth outcomes. Grounding in agreed-upon definitions of family partnership, we explore aligning state team planning with actionable family partnerships. A discussion will identify impacts for teachers, families, and youth and how these partnerships can improve outcomes. We will explore challenges in establishing partnerships and learn from each other about successful strategies. **Participants will gain insight on aligning family partnerships with state goals to improve youth outcomes; discuss potential changes for families, teachers, and youth; and explore strategies for overcoming challenges.**

Wednesday, 5/8: 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions (8) – Round 2**	**Concurrent Session Description and Objectives**
Round 2 • Concurrent Session 2: *Tribal VR: Transition Services and Collaboration Between Schools* **Jamie Emanuel,** VR Coordinator, Northern Arizona University/American Indian VR Training and Technical Assistance Center (AIVRTTAC) **Celeste Hunt**, Director, Lumbee Tribe Vocational Rehabilitation Services Project Lakeshore 1	Navigating American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Services (AIVRS) and State VR agency collaboration can be overwhelming. We will explore differences between Transition Services and Pre-ETS for students with disabilities, highlighting the unique contributions of both AIVRS and State VR. We will discuss developing effective partnerships with strategies for both in-person and remote service delivery and examine real-world examples of collaboration in serving Native students with disabilities. **Participants will identify benefits and barriers to collaboration and transition strategies for Tribal youth with disabilities and differentiate between roles and capabilities of AIVRS projects and State VR agencies.**
Round 2 • Concurrent Session 3: *Giving Supported Decision-Making Roots in Collaboration* **Makenzie Allison**, Faculty Specialist, University of Maryland **Charlie Walters**, Assistant Research Professor, University of Maryland Glenwaters	Building capacity for supported decision-making (SDM) at the state and local level requires collaboration, and it is a goal that any interagency team can take on. In this session, we've got something for everyone, regardless of your level of previous exposure to the topic. We'll provide a primer on SDM, facilitate an interactive walkthrough of some of our favorite (free) SDM resources, and engage in a group discussion of lessons learned in collaborative SDM efforts. **Participants will learn foundational content on supported decision-making, engage in an interactive walkthrough of free tools for building state and local capacity, and share lessons learned in SDM collaboration.**
Round 2 • Concurrent Session 4: *Connecting Secondary to Postsecondary through Career and Technical Education* **Sonja Wright-McMurray**, Assistant Director of Operations, Arkansas Department of Education, Division of Career and Technical Education **Christian Zimmerman**, Technical Assistance Coordinator, Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities Lakeshore 2	This session will provide information and examples on how CTE courses at the secondary and postsecondary levels can lead to competitive integrated employment for persons with an intellectual disability. The presenters will provide tangible examples from Arkansas and Florida, where students with an intellectual disability are excelling in CTE courses. Attendees will be able to take home innovative ideas on CTE activities that they can implement immediately to improve student outcomes. **Participants will learn how secondary CTE pathways lead to increased success in postsecondary CTE and about industry certifications earned by students with disabilities leading to competitive integrated employment.**

Round 2 • Concurrent Session 5: *Growing Transition Expertise: Collaborative Approaches to Preparation* **Stacie Dojonovic**, Executive Director and Associate Professor, DCDT and University of Kansas **Heather Lindsey**, Deputy Director, Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation **Valerie Mazzotti**, Professor of Special Education, NTACT:C/ Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities **Mary Morningstar**, Professor & Co-Director, NTACT:C/ Portland State University Lakeshore 3	This session will explore how collaborative strategies enhance secondary transition professional development and personnel preparation. We will discuss EBPs, state-level initiatives, and national competencies that equip transition specialists to fulfill their roles effectively. We will share state examples of collaboration in training, professional development, and certification efforts. Participants will gain actionable strategies for growing transition expertise to cultivate student outcomes. **Participants will understand EBPs and state-level initiatives, learn about national competencies for transition specialists, and share examples of statewide transition PD networks.**
Round 2 • Concurrent Session 6*: SSA Benefits and Work Incentives for Students/Youth with disabilities* **DJ Ralston**, Senior Technical Assistance and Research Analyst, NTACT:C/ The George Washington University Lakeshore 4	This session will provide an overview of the different Social Security Administration (SSA) benefits available to individuals with disabilities including those specific to youth as well as work incentives available to students and youth that enable them to work without fear of losing their benefits. We will also discuss the safety nets available should a student/youth lose their benefits and provide participants with strategies for supporting improved financial capacity for students and youth. **Participants will gain knowledge of SSA benefits available to individuals with disabilities, work incentives that allow youth to preserve benefits, and strategies for improved financial capacity.**
Round 2 • Concurrent Session 7: *Collaborating for Change: WiCoT, CCoT, and CTIP in Action* **Pam Jensen**, Statewide Technical Assistance Project Coordinator, WI Transition Improvement Grant **Jennifer Hilgendorf**, Statewide Implementation and Improvement Project Coordinator, WI Transition Improvement Grant University A/B	Join us as we explore how the Wisconsin Community on Transition is driving transformation at both the local and statewide levels! By leveraging data-driven decisions, incorporating evidence-based practices, and developing actionable plans, we're strengthening transition partnerships through an innovative online tool. Come discover how our process and this transformative tool are creating meaningful change across Wisconsin. **Participants will learn how the WI Community on Transition leverages data-driven decisions, EBPs, and action planning to strengthen transition efforts and learn about the Community Transition Innovation Plan (CTIP).**

Round 2 • Concurrent Session 8: *The Power of Community: Leveraging Community Strengths to Support Resilience* **Marcus Poppen**, Associate Professor, Washington State University **Anya Sheftel**, Assistant Research Professor, Washington State University University D/E	This presentation will share effective strategies to counteract negative impacts of chronic loneliness on mental health and feelings of belonging. Presenters will engage participants in hands-on activities and discussions aimed to identifying effective strategies to support connectedness and resilience among students and colleagues. **Participants will gain knowledge of strategies to increase feelings of social safety, practice these strategies during the session, and identify how they can use these strategies in work settings.**

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **BREAK**

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Interagency State Team Strategic Planning II**

Wednesday, 5/7: 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **General Session & Working Lunch**	**General Session Description and Objectives**
Cultivating Success: Growing Pathways to Graduation and Career Readiness **Holden Boully**, NTACT:C YETI Member **Katherine Bradley-Black**, Special Education Policy & Practice, WestED/ NCSI **Catherine Fowler**, Co-Director, NTACT:C/ University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Cato College of Education **Laura Moran**, Educational Consultant, Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN) **Jenifer Updike**, Special Education Regional Coordinator, North Dakota Department of Public Instruction University Ballroom A-E	This session will explore how states can boost graduation rates, prevent dropout, and cultivate college, career, and community readiness. Representatives from two states will share successful strategies, while a recent graduate offers firsthand insight into the impact of college and career pathways. A national perspective will highlight systemic improvements for long-term success. Join us to explore innovative approaches, foster collaboration, and prepare a stronger future! **Participants will** Identify strategies to boost graduation rates, reduce dropout rates to improve individual student outcomes within a long-range systems-thinking approach.

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **BREAK**

Wednesday, 5/7: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Topically-Focused Table Talks • State Networking**	**Table Talk Description and Objectives**
1. *Piloting a Universal Referral Form to Improve Interagency Collaboration,* **Crystal Emery**, Utah State Board of Education • University D/E	The *Piloting a Universal Referral Form to Improve Interagency Collaboration* table talk will present information on the pilot of a Universal Referral Form implemented in Utah to streamline the interagency referral process for educators and families. We will discuss the development of the form with multiple agencies and feedback from educators who have been piloting the form this school year. We will brainstorm ideas on how to improve this process as we roll out the universal referral form widely. **Participants will discuss the benefits and pitfalls of implementing a universal referral form with multiple agencies and gain insight into lessons learned in Utah's pilot phase of this effort.**
2. *DIF Pathways to Partnerships – Lessons Learned*, NTACT:C: **Kelli Crane**, **Ruth Allison** • University A/B 3. *AI and Ethics*, NTACT:C: **Nichole Tichy** • Lakeshore 3 4. *YETI and YEN – Youth Engagement & Leadership*, **Everett Diebler**; NTACT:C: **Michael Stoehr** & **YETI** • Lakeshore 2 5. *Parent & Family Engagement*, **Sean Roy**, TransCen, Inc. & **Rene Averitt-Sanzone**, The Parents Place of Maryland • Lakeshore 1 6. *Sustaining Efforts to Improve Outcomes*, NTACT:C: **Catherine Fowler**, **Dawn Rowe** & IDC/NCSI: **Mary Watson** • Lakeview 7. *Data-Based Decision Making for Continuous Improvement*, NTACT:C: **Charlotte Alverson**, **Melissa Diehl** • Lakeshore 4 8. *Topic TBD*, NTACT:C: **Dana Lattin** • Glenwaters 9. *Topic TBD,* NTACT:C: **Bettie Ray Butler** • Walden	2. – 9. Join us for a topically focused, interactive networking session with facilitated peer-to-peer learning. This session may extend content shared during a previous concurrent session or other networking opportunity or extend learning on an important topic which is not specifically addressed in the agenda elsewhere. Learn about new or existing resources from state and national colleagues and consider how a resource, process, or effort may be applicable to your entity's strategic planning process. **Participants will engage in facilitated discussions and networking regarding data use and analyses, lessons learned, and successes achieved on statewide initiatives or state-to-local efforts.**

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. **BREAK**

3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. **Interagency State Team Strategic Planning III**

5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **Facilitator Debrief** • Lakeview

Dinner on your own

Thursday, May 8, 2025 • 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. ET

Breakfast on your own

Thursday, 5/9: 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **General Session**	**Concurrent Session Description and Objectives**
Harvesting our Impact: Celebrating Growth and Seeding the Future **Catherine Fowler**, Co-Director, NTACT:C/ University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Cato College of Education **Mary Morningstar**, Professor & Co-Director, NTACT:C/ Portland State University **NTACT:C YETI Members**: Erin Black, Holden Boully, Alexis Capps, Everett Deibler, Johan Mora Valverde, Mike Novitski, Billy Pickens, Quinna Phillips, Cadence Russell, Michael Scanlon, Jake Shumbo, Hunter Steinitz, Elizabeth Stout, Michael Uher, Amanda Waldron University Ballroom A-E	Begin the final day of the NTACT:C 2025 Capacity Building Institute by reflecting on our progress and preparing to carry that momentum forward. NTACT:C management and YETI members will share highlights, spotlighting insights, connections, and commitments. YETI will emphasize expanding youth leadership, while NTACT:C staff will focus on effective practices like interagency collaboration for sustained growth. State teams will reflect on their goals and next steps for lasting change. Let's celebrate our growth and plant seeds for the future! **Participants will identify strategies to implement state team goals, expand youth engagement, and strengthen interagency collaboration to sustain effective secondary transition practices.**

9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. **BREAK**

Thursday, 5/8: 9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions (6) – Round 3**	**Concurrent Session Description and Objectives**
Round 3 • Concurrent Session 1: *Creative Connections: Engaging Families in Different Ways* **Frank Horiuchi**, Special Education Director, Republic of the Marshall Islands **Dawn A. Rowe**, Quillen Chair of Excellence in Teaching and Learning, NTACT:C/ East Tennessee State University Lakeshore 1	This session explores creative, community-centered, and non-traditional approaches to engaging families in secondary transition. Learn practical strategies that leverage family and community strengths to foster meaningful collaboration. **Participants will gain insight into innovative ways to engage families in transition planning beyond traditional methods.**

Thursday, 5/8: 9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. **Concurrent Sessions (6) – Round 3**	**Concurrent Session Description and Objectives**
Round 3 • Concurrent Session 2: *Partnering for Impact: Engaging Stakeholders in Secondary Transition* **Evan Dean**, Associate Director of Community Services, Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities **Jade Gingerich**, Director of Employment Policy, Maryland Department of Disabilities **Brad Girard**, Program Director, Chase Program, Kansas **Leia Holley**, Program Director, Families Together, Inc., Kansas **Lisa Holt**, State Trainer, TASN Autism and Tertiary Behavior Supports, Kansas **Stacie Martin**, Coordinator, Special Education and Title Services, Kansas State Department of Education **Traci Stauffer**, Secondary Transition Coordinator, Maryland State Department of Education Lakeshore 2	In this engaging presentation, members from the Maryland and Kansas state teams will share local and state initiatives to build capacity and align efforts that enhance transition outcomes for youth with disabilities. Presenters will highlight strategies to engage families, educators, and employment support providers, while fostering cross-system collaboration. Examples will showcase how stakeholder engagement drives meaningful improvements in secondary transition planning and services. **Participants will gain insight on stakeholder engagement strategies and cross-system collaboration to improve secondary transition outcomes for youth with disabilities.**
Round 3 • Concurrent Session 3: *Quality Indicators for State Systems of PD: A Starting Point for Growth* **Kelli Crane**, Co-Director, NTACT:C/ University of Maryland Center for Transition and Career Innovation, College of Education **Dana Lattin**, Co-Director, NTACT:C/ University of Kansas Center on Disabilities **Mary Morningstar**, Professor & Co-Director, NTACT:C/ Portland State University Lakeshore 3	Learn more about the *NTACT:C Quality Indicators of State Systems of Professional Development Tool* (QI for PD) and receive a printed copy of the tool. Structured around five key elements of PD, the tool can help state transition teams identify areas to develop or improve a statewide system of PD. Information from a current pilot in which five states are using the QI for State Systems PD tool and using the information to inform their statewide transition planning efforts will be addressed. **Participants will learn about a tool for cross-agency implementation of a statewide system of professional development, obtain a copy of the QI for PD tool, and discuss key elements of statewide systems of PD.**

Round 3 • Concurrent Session 4: *Improving Interagency Collaboration: Kentucky's Story* **Allison Johnson**, Assistant Program Administrator, Kentucky Department of Education **Jason Wheatley**, Program Administrator, Kentucky Department of Education **Jonathan White**, Assistant Director of Field Services, Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Lakeshore 4	Learn how Kentucky's Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and Department of Education continue to intentionally build deep connections and collaborate at the state and local levels to improve outcomes for youth with disabilities. Kentucky will share how these agencies have moved from "checking the box" collaboration towards integrated and systematic collaboration through intentional planning and data-based decision making. **Participants will increase knowledge of strategies to increase collaboration at the state and local levels and approaches to sharing and analyzing state-level data for data-based decision-making.**
Round 3 • Concurrent Session 5: *Are We There Yet? Evaluating Five Years of Post-School Outcomes (PSO)* **Crystal Emery**, SSIP and Secondary Transition Specialist, Utah State Board of Education **Lavinia Gripentrog**, Secondary Transition Specialist, Utah State Board of Education **Deanna Taylor**, Secondary Transition Specialist, Utah State Board of Education Glenwaters	This session will present a mixed methods study conducted in Utah analyzing five years of the post school outcomes survey results. We will discuss the study's innovative methodology and results that will inform transition supports and services in the future. Finally, we will facilitate a discussion of the implications for these findings for Utah and the field at large. We will discuss positive outcomes and areas for improvement. **Participants will gain insight on in-school experiences that students report having a positive impact on their post school success as well as experiences that may interfere with positive post school outcomes.**

Round 3 • Concurrent Session 6: *New Jersey's Dare to Dream Student Leadership Conferences* **Bill Freeman**, State Coordinator of Secondary Transition, New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Special Education Lakeview	For more than 25 years, the NJ DOE has sponsored regional Dare to Dream student leadership conferences for students with disabilities, parents, and educators. These events, typically held on college campuses throughout NJ, feature student keynote speakers and breakout sessions run by students that focus on self-advocacy and student leadership. This session will feature information about the production of the Dare to Dream conferences and video of student keynote speeches from prior conferences. **Participants will learn how to replicate these successful events in their own State and will be inspired by viewing the students' speeches from prior *Dare to Dream* conferences. Special Education E-Learning Opportunities**

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	**BREAK**
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	**Interagency State Team Strategic Planning IV**
12:30 p.m.	**ADJOURN**