



Arizona Community of Practice on Transition (AZCoPT)
December 7, 2017 Communiqué

We want to hear from you!

- **Your input is valuable and necessary to guide us in the transition work we do.**
- **Please send your comments or questions to azcopt1@gmail.com**
- We look forward to hearing from the community at large, Key Advisors and Extended Partners on our work to date and future agenda items
- To request a Partner's Presentation in your area, please be sure to give us your contact information in the inbox you see above.

Want to know more about our work? Check out our [webpage!](http://bit.ly/azcopt_partners)

http://bit.ly/azcopt_partners

Core Team Attendees: Jennifer Kelley, Abel Young, Melissa Ann Santora, Margaret Corcoran., Melinda Rafanan, Andi Asel, Susan Voirol, Bob Crouse., Becky Raabe, Carol Sue Morgan, Kathy Levandowsky, Chris Tiffany

Meeting Location: 701 E. Jefferson St., Phoenix, AZ 85034, Aspen Room

Meeting Time: 9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m.

AZCoPT Leadership Team:

- Chair: Robert Crouse
- Vice Chair: Melissa Ann Santora.
- Recorder: Melinda Rafanan
- Alternate 1: Aanya Carrillo
- Alternate 2: Margaret Corcoran/Carol Sue Morgan

Discussion Items

- Slide Guide: Betty/Abel- Has not been able to connect with his printing team about making slide guide accessible (electronic) yet. VR has ordered a batch to be printed, it is in queue at this time. They were having trouble getting the printer to understand the needed format changes. Melinda will contact Abel and Betty to see where they are in the printing process to collaborate with them. ADE has started looking at edits of the current format and is checking on website updates.
 - Kathy has more to give out, please request more from her. They are being handed out at all Regional Trainings, Partner Presentations, and other events or booths.

- o Ability 360 has a survival guide book, and they want to use the resources from the slide guide to update their book. They were asking permission to use the info. AZCoPT was happy to share, the team requested that they add an acknowledgements and a AZCoPT logo.
 - o Note: For revisions on the Slide Guide, for Ability 360's resource book, and future AZCoPT publications, DDD can't hand out anything that is at higher than a 6th grade reading level per their regulative guidelines. Having the AZCoPT name on the publication also helps with getting permission to hand it out.
- Core Team for New Orientation Subcommittee: Chris, Melissa, Jay, Aanya
 - o Update-Info Graphic is complete and in the drive, wanted to create team building time a couple times in the year, want to create a more formal mentoring process for ambassadors. AZCoPT decided to leave this item as a standing item on the Agenda so that updates can be discussed at each meeting.
- Sample Comprehensive Transition Guides: Discussion-Blue Pages gone, no formal complete resource book in AZ to help navigate the whole process, 211 has replaced it. It could be easily done online. Some people will still want a book. Do we want to have a sub-com to create it? DDD needs it to be at the 6th grade level for them to be able to use. Carol Sue Morgan said she heard about a website devoted to transition created by parents. It is easy to navigate. She will find out what it is. Legal Options Manual is another place to use as a resource. Susan sent in documents/example books from other states to review and as an example. Team decided to do some more research and discuss and decide if we will create a subcommittee on it.
- NTACT CBI update:
 - o Data sharing agreement update-we need a common language to understand each other's data and see where we fit together and where we are different. It impacts 2 out of 3 goals in the NTACT TA. Based on the feedback from the RTs there is still a need for TA on Transition plans for students with ID who may not go into competitive employment. Abel, Margaret and Jay met to put together a doc to add to the NTACT TA.
 - o Jay reports that Mohave county had a joint meeting with VR/DDD and PSO to look at how to plan together for the future. He has interest in various other locations to do the same thing (Pima, Grande Grande Union, Pinal, Sunnyside). Andi Asel, reports that this meets the criteria of #2 goal on the NTACT Plan.
 - o NTACT- Charlotte has created an easier to read format spreadsheet to track the TA Goal Progress.
 - o One subcommittee for this next year's AZCoPT is for the ppt for Low Incidence disability Regional Training for ADE, to be done jointly with the Partner Agencies. A meeting will be sent up again for this subcommittee to go over the training and complete it.
- Sue Kay Knefel (VR) is interested in presenting info to AZCoPT. Susan recommended creating their own CoPT on Deaf/Hard/Blind of Hearing and pull us in as needed.
 - o Jay reports that there is a Dec 20th meeting **Engage for Change Arizona** to discuss the issue of non-engagement in the population and what will be the next steps. Jay is going over the PSO data for that population and write down the barriers to engagement for that population. The Engage for Change Arizona team wants to do similar meetings like that in different regions and see if the lack of engagement for the population is the same everywhere in the state or if it is a regional issue only. They are reaching out to other LCoPT to see if they are doing anything on this topic. Susan asked if they have parent represented in the conversation? Melissa can potentially find a parent and some young adult to attend or contribute a voice. Jay will send out info to the team. If you wish to attend: Please RSVP to Sue Kay Knefel (skneifel@azdes.gov) and Jay Johnson (Jay.Johnson@azed.gov).
- Partner Presentations update:

- Dysart- District followed up by sending staff to RT and has requested video links to hand out to parents, training went well.
- EVCoPT- Went well is asking for the ppt that was used and Susan will add the link to ADE for AZCoPT mini videos <http://www.azed.gov/specialeducation/transition/azcopt/>
- Peoria-Andi will email presentation it to Linda Rudd and she will have it set up and ready for the presentation (Bob, Melissa, Margaret, Aanya, Betty) 90 min with Glendale/Deer Valley present
- NCoPT- Dec 18th 12-1:30 pm: Andi will email ppt. Please send Ana feedback **Dec 13th** end of business, soliciting others present with her so that they are available to answer questions at the National level. .
 - Joan Custer lead of NCoPT asked AZ to present at NCoPT
- **Melissa** to explore possible new youth/young adult AZCoPT members.

Local Communities of Practice Updates

- Standing Item: To post on ADE/AZCoPT website, Ambassadors need to communicate with LCoPTs the following:
 - I. Communiques should be sent to azcopt1@gmail.com
 - II. Communiques should be sent by LCoPT leader, recorder or appointed person
 - III. Communiques will need to be developed in an accessible format
- LCoPT Updates:
 - None at this time

Partner Updates

- **IHE/UCEDD – Employment First:** Governor Ducey signed an Executive Order on 11/16/17 declaring AZ an Employment First State. As we continue with implementation will keep folks informed on how this will affect state agencies and others providing services to individuals who have disabilities. AZ also now has an AZ Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) Chapter in development. As the Chapter develops will report out on how professionals/families can benefit from what Chapter will offer to community. EF also secured funding to “reset” the EF website; work will begin on the website in 2018.
- **AHCCCS/DHCM:**
- **ADCS:**
- **ADHS/OCSHCN:**
- **DDD:**
- **DDPC:**
- **RSA/VR:** Also, RSA will be participating in a training provided by the Y-TAC in the next few months. It is the Youth Service Professionals, Knowledge Skills and Abilities training modules that were developed by NCWD. **We are open to having folks from our partner agencies attend these trainings so if you would be interested in attending or sending people please let me know. The first round of trainings will be 2 day trainings in Phoenix, Tucson and Flagstaff with space for 30 people per training.**
- **Raising Special Kids:** Self-Advocacy course to be provided in Flagstaff specifically designed for DD population (DD only, Targeted and ALTCS), but open to public. 3 sessions - 3 hours each. Curriculum adapted from RSA Shift Project. Raising Special Kids has the curriculum and trainer, but needs assistance with promotion and partnership in providing agency specific information from DDD, VR, IL and possibly One Stops/workforce centers. Looking to work with 6 - 10 youth/young adult and parent teams of 2.
- **SILC/Youth Initiatives transitioning to Diverse Ability Incorporated:** New Website: www.diverseabilityincorporated.org The Independent Living Section Website will be live January 2018!
- **ADE/ESS:** Secondary Transition Regional Training. Please go to <https://ems.azed.gov/Home/Calendar> and search “Secondary Transition” for dates and locations.

Accomplishments

- Two Partner Presentations went well
- Executive Order Signed: Employment First
- Progress made on NTACT TA Goal #2

Next Steps

Updates on:

- Outreach efforts to fill open Leadership Team member Positions (Bob, Chris, Melissa, Susan)
- Comprehensive Transition Guides-Research on parent website for Transition as a resource option-Carol Sue Mogan
- Engage for Change Arizona-Jay
- NTACT TA-Goal Progress- Andi
- Slide Guide and electronic version, new print through VR-Abel/Betty
- Low Incidence RT-Melinda
- New Orientation Subcommittee-Melissa/Jay
- 2018 New Subcommittee work

Tabled Items

- **PD Subcommittee** to determine whether or not Professional Development Training needs to be developed after the ISA is complete and finalized.

LOCAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE UPDATES

LOCATION	AMBASSADOR
Future LCOP: Mohave County	
Pima County CoPT	Jay Johnson
Pima County Consortium	Jay Johnson
Pinal County Transition Consortium	Jay Johnson
Peoria	Andi Asel
Flagstaff	Becky Raabe
Gilbert CoPT	Betty Schoen
Yuma CoP	Chris Tiffany
Yavapai CoPT	Bob C/Chris
Verde Valley CoPT	Bob C/Chris
CCCoPT (Cochise County)	Jay Johnson
East Valley CoPT	Susan Voirol & Betty Schoen

***Ambassadors remember to send Meeting notes to AZCopT gmail and Andi Asel is posting onto ADE under the AZCopT**

Upcoming Partners in Transition Presentations (101 or 102)

Location	Presentation	Sponsor	Date
Peoria	101	Linda Rudd/Andi	Dec 12th
Online NCoPT	State of the State	Ana	Dec 18th

Next Meeting

- Date: **Thursday, Jan 4th 2018**
- Time: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Aspen Rm
- Location: AHCCCS, 701 E. Jefferson St., Phoenix, AZ

AZCoPT Mission

The mission of the Arizona Community of Practice on Transition (AZCoPT) is to improve life-long outcomes for youth and young adults with disabilities.

Leadership Team

Arizona Department of Child Safety (ADCS)
Vacant

Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC)
Paul Johnson, Special Education Administrator

Arizona Department of Economic Security
Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)
Margaret Corcoran, Employment Services Manager
Carol Sue Morgan, *Employment Services Specialist*

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)
Abel Young, Statewide Transition Coordinator
Betty Schoen, Region 1 Transition Specialist

Arizona Department of Education
Exceptional Student Services (ESS)
Ana Núñez, Transition Specialist
Andi Asel, Transition Specialist
Melinda Rafanan, Transition Specialist
Jay Johnson, PSO Specialist
Becky Raabe, Family Engagement Specialist

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System
Division of Health Care Management
Robert Crouse, Implementation Manager, Children's System of Care
Adam Robson, Employment Administrator

Arizona Department of Health Services
Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs (OCSHCN)

Katharine Levandowsky, Administrator

Arizona Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

Diverse Ability Incorporated

Melissa Ann Santora

Institutes of Higher Education

Sonoran UCEDD

Susan Voirol, Phoenix Program Manager

Office of Special Education & Rehabilitation (OSERS)

Navajo Nation

Vacant

Raising Special Kids

Christopher Tiffany, Director of Family Support and Education

Youth/Young Adult Advisor

Anya Carrillo