



Helping You Put the Pieces Together!

# Transition Connections

HELPING YOUNG ADULTS & THEIR FAMILIES  
IN TRANSITIONING FROM SCHOOL



## SAVE THE DATE! 2nd ANNUAL YOUTH TRANSITION CONFERENCE



Please join us on Thursday, October 28, 2010 for the  
2nd Annual Youth Transition Conference!

We had such a wonderful turn out last year when this conference was held at the Sleep Inn/29 Pines. In October, we will be holding the conference again and this year will be even bigger than last! The conference will be held at The Plaza Hotel in Eau Claire. Last year, we had nearly 200 in attendance and we are expecting even more this fall. Please watch for registration materials in early September! Students, teachers, parents– there will be something for everyone!

Interested in helping plan the conference? We would love to hear from you! If you are interested in helping plan this year's conference or have any suggestions you would like to make, please contact us at  
(715) 839-4735 or toll free 1-888-338-4636.  
TTY Users please use Wisconsin Relay (7-1-1)

# ATTENTION ALL IRIS PARTICIPANTS AND COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS

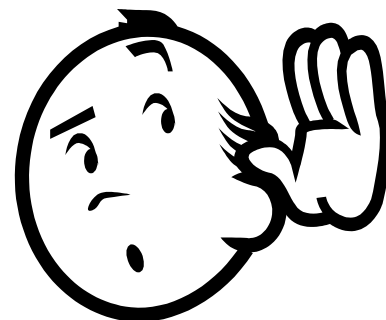
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- Do you need help understanding your Community Health Partnership or IRIS services or benefits?
- Are you confused about your rights under Community Health Partnership or IRIS?
- Are you satisfied with your care plan or services?
- Are you receiving services that meet your needs and support your outcomes?

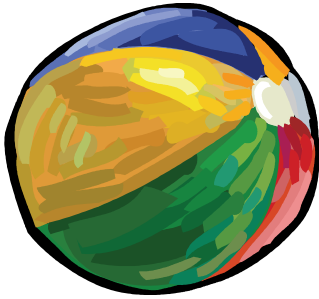
If you feel you need help with any of these things, then Disability Rights Wisconsin is here to help you be heard! An Ombudsman is an advocate— someone that can help make sure your rights are being upheld and that your voice is being heard. If you are applying for or receiving services through Community Health Partnership or IRIS , you are eligible for Disability Rights Wisconsin's Ombudsman services. They can assist you whether you are living in your own home, a supported apartment or another residential setting. The Ombudsman program offers many services including:

- Investigating complaints about CHP or IRIS
- Resolving & mediating issues
- Providing information & education on consumer rights
- Assisting in negotiating care plans
- Appealing denials of services or changes in services that you don't agree with
- Working with enforcement & regulatory agencies

If you are age 18-59, are applying for or are enrolled in Community Health Partnership or IRIS and have a question or concern, you can contact the Ombudsman at (715) 736-1232 or toll free at 1-877-338-3724.



## SUMMER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER! ACTIVITY IDEAS & TIPS TO STAY BUSY



Everyone looks forward to summer and it will be here before we know it! Even if you plan on working throughout the summer, it is still important to have a hobby that you enjoy and that will keep you busy! Having fun things to do with your friends and on your own is important. Having hobbies is important throughout all of your life, so if you don't already have one here are some ideas!

How about **photography**? Do you enjoy taking pictures? Photography is something that not only you can enjoy but friends & family will also enjoy! Cameras are small enough that you can bring them with you wherever you go so you don't miss out on any great photo opportunities! If you enjoy sharing pictures, be careful when sharing pictures via the internet!

If you enjoy taking pictures, why not start **scrapbooking**? Scrapbooking can be a very fun and creative way to showcase all of the beautiful photographs you have taken. It can be a very fun way to share your memories with family & friends! You can scrapbook by yourself or with other people which gives you something to do no matter who you are with.



Do you enjoy listening to **music**? If you do, did you know that there is free, live music every Thursday during the summer in Eau Claire? If you enjoy listening to music, you can go to Phoenix Park or Owen Park in Eau Claire every Thursday during the summer at 7:30 p.m. to hear local musicians play. The best part is– it doesn't cost anything!



Go on a **picnic** with your family or friends! Everyone has to eat lunch, right?!? Why not pack your lunch up and meet your friends for a picnic? This gives you a chance to get outside and it costs you little money to do. You don't have to go to a park to have a picnic– you could picnic right in your own backyard if you want to. This is a fun way to enjoy a meal!

If you are an **animal** lover, contact the Humane Association to see if you could volunteer to help take care of the animals! Not only is this a fun thing to do, you are also helping out the community. If you don't want to volunteer, you could always go and see the animals at Irvine Park in Chippewa Falls!



Even though it is summer, **reading** books for fun is a great life long hobby to have! You can read books at home, outside, at the library– basically wherever you are! They are a great way to pass the time and help keep your mind sharp. If you don't enjoy reading, **word puzzles** can be a fun thing to do to pass the time as well! Word puzzles books are reasonably priced and will last you for quite awhile.





## Grandparents and Others as Parents Support Group

You don't have to do it alone! The monthly support groups are held the third Tuesday of each month at the Family Resource Center, 2105 Heights Drive, Eau Claire. Meetings are free and open to all and run from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. No-cost childcare is also provided. For more information, contact Barb Manzo at (715) 835-1944 or Rae Tipler at (715) 225-0404 or visit the new website at [www.gap-ec.org](http://www.gap-ec.org).



We are located in the Eau Claire County courthouse at 721 Oxford Avenue in Eau Claire. Feel free to stop in! We are open Monday thru Friday from 8am-5pm. Find us anytime on the web by visiting: [www.co.eau-claire.wi.us/ADRC](http://www.co.eau-claire.wi.us/ADRC)  
Phone Number : 715-839-4735, toll free 1-888-338-4636, TTY use Relay 711  
Email: [adrc@co.eau-claire.wi.us](mailto:adrc@co.eau-claire.wi.us)

**JOIN US ON FACEBOOK! Just search 'Aging & Disability Resource Center'**



## CONGRATULATIONS CHAI XIONG!

Chai is the winner of our dream job essay contest. Thank you to Chai for sharing and we hope you enjoyed your prize!!

There are many different types of jobs in our community. I have had the opportunity to work and volunteer in several different positions such as food service and retail. None of these jobs were what I was looking for because my dream job is to work as an auto mechanic. Once I graduate from high school I would like to be hired as a mechanic that changes oil, replacing tires and ordering parts for the vehicle. I am interested in this type of work because I sometimes get to help my parents with their cars. The family cars aren't running perfectly all the time. I am very interested in how mechanics diagnosis cars that have problems and then fix them. This type of work is an important job for our community.

Job experience would be important for me to reach my dream job. I will be starting a job experience at Rick's Auto with DVR support. I'm excited to get started and begin learning. What I'm most excited about is working with the machines and helping out the employees. I think I can be a big help to Rick's Auto.

*~ Chai Xiong is a senior at North High School*

*\*\*Thank you to Pathways to Independence for providing the prize for this contest!\*\**

