

Transition Planning Resources



Kalamazoo
RESA
*Enhancing your
school and community*

October 2009

2-1-1/HELP-Line:

www.refersoftware.com/gryphonplace/ dial 2-1-1

The help-line specializes in linking people to appropriate community resources in Kalamazoo County.

Community Advocates for Persons with Developmental Disabilities:

www.communityadvocates.org (269) 342-9801

814 S. Westnedge Ave. Kalamazoo, MI. 49008

Community Advocates works to enable each person with a disability to participate fully in all aspects of community and to support the effort of each individual to determine his/her own future. This organization also provides information regarding guardianship and its alternatives.

Community Living Options (CLO):

www.communitylivingoptions.org/ (269) 343-6355

626 Reed Ave. Kalamazoo, MI. 49001

CLO provides a wide range of supports and services that will permit persons with a disability to live in the community as participating members. Services include specialized residential homes for adults, community living supports, and skill building at the Alcott Center.

Center for Disability Services (CDS):

<http://www.wmich.edu/hhs/cds/> (269) 387-7200

Western Michigan University, 1000 Oakland Dr. Kalamazoo, MI. 5361

CDS provides consumers with many service options that include physical therapy, occupational therapy, individual and group skill building through community inclusion activities, community living services, case management/ support coordination, respite services, and day services to adults with Alzheimer's or dementia.

Department of Human Services (DHS):

www.michigan.gov/dhs (269) 337-4900

322 E. Stockbridge Ave. Kalamazoo, MI. 49001

DHS is Michigan's public assistance, child, and family welfare agency. It provides cash assistance, food assistance, child support/child care services, and medical/emergency services to children, adults, and families.

Disability Network of Southwest Michigan:

www.dnswm.org (269) 345-1516

517 E. Crosstown Parkway Kalamazoo, MI. 49001

Disability Network is one of 14 Centers for Independent Living (CILs) in the state of Michigan. It is the first stop for people with disabilities and their families looking for disability-related information, assistance with accessing disability-related benefits, help problem solving when barriers in the community are encountered, and assistance understanding their rights and responsibilities under the law.

Education for Employment (EFE):

www.kresa.org/efe (269) 385-1519

EFE is a collaborative effort of Kalamazoo area school districts to provide occupational programs and training in local schools and worksites to all students.

Family and Children's Services (F&CS):

www.fcsource.org/ (269) 344-0202

1608 Lake St. Kalamazoo, MI. 49001

F&CS offers a variety of critical human services including foster care and adoption programs, counseling, respite and support services, parenting support, and home/community intervention.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA):

www.fafsa.ed.gov/

This website provides federal student aid information and an online application. It guides students and families by describing the steps, documentation, and deadlines necessary to apply for financial aid.

Goodwill Industries of Southwest Michigan:

www.goodwillswmi.org (269) 382-0490

420 E. Alcott Kalamazoo, MI. 49001

Goodwill Industries provides education, training and employment services to people who live with disabling conditions and other special needs to maximize their employment potential.

Housing Resources, Inc. (HRI):

www.housingresourcesinc.org/ (269) 382-0287

420 E. Alcott Suite 200 Kalamazoo, MI. 49001

HRI provides an array of emergency, transitional, and permanent housing services designed to stabilize homeless households and help those in jeopardy of losing their housing.

Kalamazoo Community Mental Health (CMH):

www.kazoocmh.org Access Center: (269) 373-6000

418 W. Kalamazoo Ave. Kalamazoo, MI. 49007

CMH provides supports and services to children and adults with developmental disabilities, mental illness, and substance abuse problems.

Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes (KLF):

www.kzoolf.org/ (269) 343-3663

913 E. Alcott St. Kalamazoo, MI. 49001

KLF is a food bank that collects and procures food, distributes it, and provides the service to hungry people in the Kalamazoo community. Through a pantry ordering system, KLF maintains pantry orders and distributes food to pantries and other meal support programs throughout the county.

KVCC Special Services Office:

www.kvcc.edu/services/learnctr/specialservices.htm (269) 488-4397

6767 West O Ave. Kalamazoo, MI. 49003-4070 (located in the learning center, room 2220)

The Special Services Office at Kalamazoo Community College provides disability support services and is designed to meet the individual needs of students with physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities. It is committed to removing barriers to help students not only reach their potential, but become academically competitive within their programs.

Metro Transit:

www.kalamazoocity.org/portal/metro.php (269) 337-8222

530 N. Rose St. Kalamazoo, MI. 49007

Metro Transit provides the citizens of the Kalamazoo metropolitan area with public transportation services. Fixed-route Metro Transit buses travel throughout the Kalamazoo urbanized area, while Metro Van service is a federally-mandated, curb-to-curb, ADA/Paratransit service. It is available for those who are unable, because of a physical or cognitive disability, to use regular fixed-route bus service. Care-A-Van service travels throughout all of Kalamazoo County and is open to all citizens in the county with priority for people with disabilities and seniors.

Michigan Career and Technical Institute (MCTI):

www.michigan.gov/mcti (269) 664-4461

11611 W. Pine Lake Rd. Plainwell, MI. 49080

MCTI is administered by Michigan Rehabilitation Services and provides vocational and technical training programs for eligible adults with disabilities.

Michigan Commission for the Blind (MCB):

www.michigan.gov/mcb (269) 337-3875

1541 Oakland Dr. Kalamazoo, MI. 49008

MCB provides opportunities to individuals who are blind or visually impaired to achieve employability and/or function independently in society.

Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS):

www.michigan.gov/mrs (269) 337-3700

4210 S. Westnedge Ave. Kalamazoo, MI 49008

MRS partners with individuals and employers to achieve quality employment outcomes and independence for persons with disabilities.

MRC Industries:

www.mrcindustries.org/ (269) 343-0747

1310 Bank St. Kalamazoo, MI. 49001

MRC provides support and encouragement to individuals living with a disability to achieve their fullest potential through employment, skill building, and active community involvement. It is a multi-functional agency administering four different programs to meet the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities, emotional disorders, and mental illness.

Office of Homeless Services:

www.kalamazoopublicschools.com/education/components/docmgr/default.php?sectiondetailid=19721&fileitem=4434&catfilter=ALL (269) 337-0063

714 S. Westnedge Ave. Room 203 Kalamazoo, MI. 49007

The Office of Homeless Services assists all KRESA school districts in helping homeless students and their families.

Residential Opportunities, Inc. (ROI):

www.residentialopportunities.org (269) 343-3731

1100 S. Rose St. Kalamazoo, MI. 49001

ROI provides residential and support services for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Salvation Army:

www.usc.salvationarmy.org/kalamazoo (269) 344-6119

1700 S. Burdick St. Kalamazoo, MI. 49001

The Salvation Army Kalamazoo Social Services Department serves the local community with a variety of services such as utility assistance, pantry assistance, disaster relief, and holiday assistance.

Social Security Administration (SSA):

www.ssa.gov/ssi (269) 381-2313

317 S. Drake Rd. Kalamazoo, MI. 49009

Through the SSA, individuals can request a new or replacement social security card or apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). The SSI program pays benefits to adults and children with disabilities who have limited income and resources.

Special Education Vocational Education (SEVE):

Donna Sturdevant, Coordinator sturdevantd@comstockps.org

(269) 388-9468

SEVE provides specifically designed vocational education and training for students with disabilities who benefit from a supportive environment.

Volunteer Center of Greater Kalamazoo:

www.volunteerkalamazoo.org (269) 382-8350

709 S. Westnedge Ave. #A, Kalamazoo, MI. 49007

The Volunteer Center maintains and publishes a comprehensive, up-to-date list of nonprofit volunteer needs that local organizations and individuals can easily search to find volunteer opportunities that match their skills and interests, including the VolunTEEN program for teens/students ages 13-19.

WMU Office of Disabled Student Resources and Services (DSRS):

www.dsrs.wmich.edu (269) 387-2116

Western Michigan University 2210 Wilbur Ave. Kalamazoo, MI. 49008-5277

The Office of Disabled Student Resources and Services provides accommodations and access for students with documented disabilities. Their services encourage students with disabilities develop self-advocacy skills and confidence.

Young Adult Program (YAP):

www.kresa.org/yap (269) 488-9601

422 E. South St. Kalamazoo, MI. 49007

The Young Adult Program is a post secondary special education program providing a range of transition services to young people with disabilities, ages 17 - 26. Family participation, involvement of community resources, and student-directed goal setting are emphasized.

Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU):

www.kresa.org/you (269) 349-9676

422 E. South St. Kalamazoo, MI. 49007

YOU serves at-risk youth, dropouts, and other community members who need assistance in order to improve their lives through completing their education, finding employment, and becoming contributing members of the community.



Kalamazoo County Transition Contacts

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