MA Commission for the Blind

**VISIONS OF COLLABORATION**

*Navigating the Road to Pre-Employment Transition Services for Students with Visual Impairments*

March 22, 2018

Holiday Inn and Suites of Marlborough

265 Lakeside Ave, Marlborough, MA

7:30 - 8:00 **Registration**

8:00 - 9:00 **Networking and Continental Breakfast**

**Regional Collaboration**

Seating suggested by Regional location.

Each table will have a **Question Box**: Participants can submit questions to be addressed by end of the day.

9:00 - 9:30 **Welcome** and Around the room introductions  
MA Commission for the Blind (MCB)

Casey Hall, Director of Training

**Opening Remarks**

MCB Commissioner Paul Saner

9:30 – 9:45 **MCB: Overview of Programs and Services**

John Oliveira, Deputy Commissioner

9:45-10:30 **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE): The Secondary Transition Planning Process**

*Moderator:* Martha Daigle, Education Specialist and Family Engagement Coordinator in the Special Educations Planning and Policy Office, DESE

*Presenter:* Amanda Greene, Education Specialist and Secondary Transition Coordinator in the Special Educations Planning and Policy Office, DESE

10:30 - 10:45 Break

10:45 - 11:45 **Panel Presentation:** **Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) for Students with Visual Impairments**

MCB Pre-ETS Program Providers

Six Program Providers

*Moderator:* Casey Hall, Director of Training

(5 minutes to present, 5 minutes for Q & A)

1. Carroll Center for the Blind
2. Lowell Association for the Blind
3. Our Space, Our Place
4. Partners for Youth with Disabilities
5. Perkins School for the Blind
6. The POLUS Center

11:45 - 1:00 **Working Lunch**

*Moderator:* Casey Hall, Director of Training

**Networking & Opportunity to visit the Exhibitor Tables** of the Pre-Employment Service Program Providers and MCB Program Staff. *Remind Participants about the Question Boxes on their tables.*

12:10 – 12:20 **Braille Literacy Advisory Council Update**

*Presenter:* Eileen Curran, TVI, Boston Public Schools

1:00 – 1:45 **Panel Presentation:** **Parents Post-Secondary Transition Services, Life’s Lessons**

*Moderator:* Mayanne McDonald-Briggs, MCB Transition Counselor

Special Education from a parent’s perspective.

1:45 – 2: 30 **Panel Presentation:** **Students Post-Secondary Transition Services, Life’s Lessons**

*Moderator:* Alan White, MCB Greater Boston Regional Director

Special Education from a High School/College student’s perspective.

2:00 Cookies and drinks

2:30 – 3:00 **MCB Panel for Question Box Q & A**

*Moderator:* Billy O’Neill, Transition Counselor

MCB Panel:

James Badger, Rehabilitation Teaching

Lesli Baker, Supervisor Deaf-Blind Extended Supports Unit (DBES)

Dahalia Jackson, Children’s Social Workers

Dahlia James, Transition Counselor

Alexander Pooler, Director of Assistive Technology

Meg Robertson, Director of O & M

Alan White, Regional Director, VR Services

3:00 - 3:15 **Closing**

Program Evaluation and CEU distribution

Casey Hall, MCB Director of Training

**In-Room Exhibitor Tables:**

Pre-Employment Transition Service Providers

MCB Program Staff

**CEUs**

CRC

ACVREP

Certificate of Completion for Professional Credits