# Collaboration in Special Education Partnerships



Presented November 17, 2021

Community Advisory Committee(CAC)

In Partnership with:

East San Gabriel Valley SELPA - Executive Director - Dr. Scott Turner Azusa Unified School District - Special Education Director - Erin Kremer East San Gabriel Valley SELPA CAC- President Tavia L. Lawson West Covina Parent Liaison - Parent: Julie Lopez Elizabeth Cuevas, Rowland SELPA CAC Chair Isabelle Huber, West Covina Job Developer Pretti Subramaniam, Claremont HS Graduate & <u>Regional Center Board Member</u>



#### **Special Education Local Plan Area**

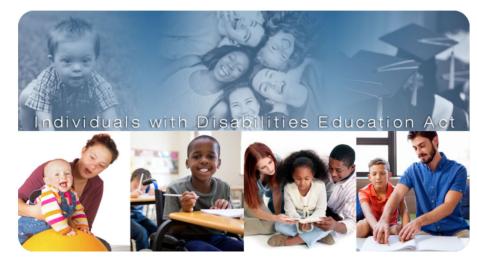
#### (SELPA)

Mission: The East San Gabriel Valley SELPA is a large multi-LEA (district) consortium that works collaboratively to provide a vast array of high quality services and support for students with special needs, from birth to 22, to promote success and well-being as each student prepares for their unique future.

# Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

#### IDEA

- Ensure availability of Free Appropriate Public Education in Least Restrictive Environment.
- Meet students' unique needs
- Prepare students for future
  - $\circ$  Education
  - Employment
  - Independent Living



### Participation in the Individual Education Plan

- When: Yearly, at least once a year
- Team: Parent, Administrator, Teacher(s), Service Providers
- Common Parts:
  - Student Strengths
  - Parent Concerns
  - Present Levels
  - $\circ$  Goals
  - Special Factors
  - State Assessment
  - FAPE



### Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE & LRE)

#### How is it developed?

Should be developed with:

- Data
- Assessment
- Observation
- Information from all stakeholders





### Parent Participation in the IEP

- Be prepared to talk about your child's strengths (Giving Input)
- Asking questions
- What are the goals for my child?
- What standard or skill will this goal focus on for instruction?
- How are the goals measured?
- How can I assist my child outside of the school day? (In distance learning parents are taking on new roles in their children's education)
- Ask the experts you know- Your child's teacher!

Impact of Distance Learning and a Restorative Restart

- Learning acceleration
- High impact instruction



### Parents-Schools Partnerships

- Positive partnerships are critical to student success
- Two-way communication allows everyone to be on the same page
- Participate in school events
- Link to the community supports





#### The purpose of the <u>CAC</u> shall be:

- To provide information and resources to families of children with special needs including available services in their district, and additional services outside the district such as regional centers, disability information groups for parents, and other community activities
- To collect and provide information regarding parent support groups meeting in the community
- To build parenting and educational skills in working with students with special needs
- To promote positive educational system change and improvement

### How does CAC help students, families, educators?

- Monthly <u>newsletters</u> to update on activities, information, and events
- Live Streamed <u>Business Meetings</u>
- Trainings virtually with our partners/community
- Virtual Events including activities, presentations, and events
- Review of State and Federal Legislation
- CAC resources available at <u>https://www.esgvselpa.org/Page/1</u>
- View our trainings: <u>https://www.esgvselpa.org/domain/22</u>
- Social Media: <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Instagram</u>

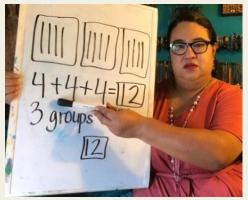
#### Subscribe to the **SELPA/CAC Newsletter** (cacselpa@gmail.com)

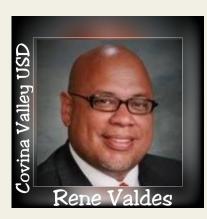
















#### Subscribe to the <u>SELPA/CAC Newsletter</u> (cacselpa@gmail.com)













#### Autism Awareness



Acceptance Month





# **CAC Virtual <u>Business Meetings</u>**



#### **Parent In-Service & Training**

#### Example: Strategies to Support New Learning Routines and Positive Behaviors

#### Strategies to Support New Learning Routines and Positive Behaviors

Presenters: Daniela Santana, BCBA, San Gabriel Pomona Regional Center Patricia Gordon, SLP David Andrecht, Education Specialist Jerry Rivard, Education Specialist Dr. Jennifer Shubin, Lead SLP, Rowland USD Jennifer Wolfe, ESGV SELPA ASD/ASDI Program Coordinator Tavia Lawson, ESGV SELPA CAC Chair/Family Support Specialist Dr. Scott Turner, ESGV SELPA Director

Slides Courtesy of ECHO AUTISM & UC Davis MIND Institute



#### Involvement in your child's school

- Back to School Nights
- School Activities
- School Site Council
- Parent Teacher Association
- School Board Meetings



### **Rowland SELPA CAC Perspective**

Rowland SELPA Community Advisory The Committee has afforded my son Christian Cuevas and I with opportunities to learn about ways to advocate for my son. I have been able to work with other local Community Advisory Committees, as well as my own. As a result, I have met other parents on similar journeys as myself. Have been able to advocate for my son's needs through the partnership between the SELPAs, Community Advisory Committees, schools, and through our local Family Resource and Empowerment Center. As a senior, Christian enjoys participating in senior activities at school in person this year. He is looking forward to the prom and Best Buddies social events. He will be attending the Adult Transition Program and possibly the Mt. San Antonio College IMPACT program. He enjoys going out and listening to music. His favorite place to visit is Universal Studios and he likes all kinds of music from Top 40 to rock n roll and rap.

Elizabeth Cuevas serves as the Rowland SELPA CAC Chair and is on the Board at Parents' Place Family Resource and Empowerment Center.





ROWLAND



### Rowland CAC Member

I attended my first CAC meeting with the Hacienda La Puente SELPA CAC in February 2019. I knew that day forward, I had found my tribe of support with families in special education. At my first meeting, I sat next to a knowledgeable parent who wrote down a list of resources to visit and attend their parent training meetings. She also directed me to visit my local Family Resource and Empowerment Center and various autism organizations. Not only have I found my tribe, but a mission of being Anthony's advocate. Anthony is in sixth grade and loves gaming, especially Roblox. His career goal is to work for Nintendo. Anthony's favorite video game character is Toon Link from the Legend of Zelda series. For this year, he will be dressed as his character for Halloween. Other areas of interests includes: • Collecting Nerf guns • board games • Legos • Playing the violin • Has taken up soccer, karate and swimming.- Elynour Quan, Rowland SELPA CAC Member





UNIFIED for EXCELLENCE



### **Rowland SELPA CAC Collaboration**

Information sharing with all CACs

Getting to know the special education staff

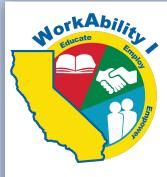
Educate each other

Supported

**Rowland SELPA CAC Newsletter** 







#### What is WorkAbility I?

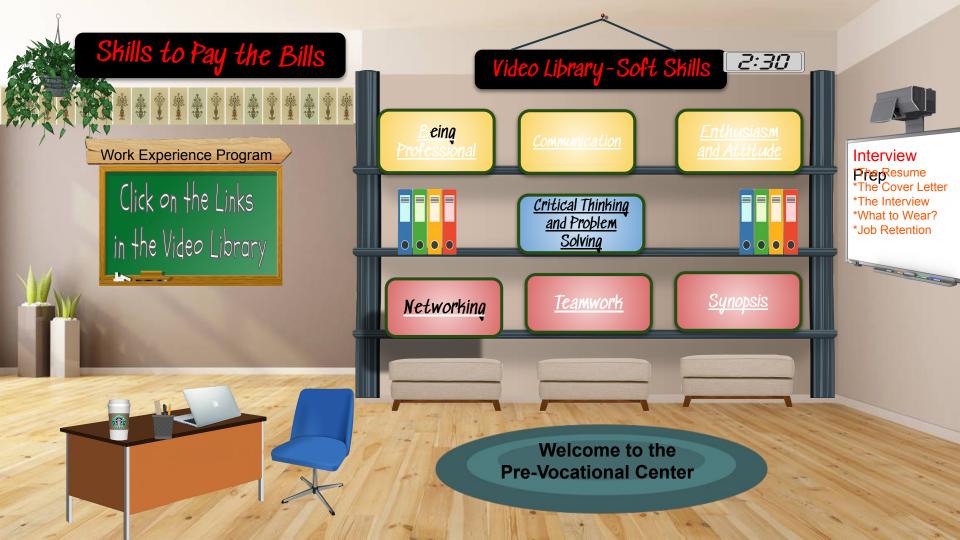
- WAI is funded by the California Department of Education.
- Provides comprehensive pre-employment skills training, employment placement and follow-up for high school and adult transition students in special education.
- Program services are appropriate to individual student needs, abilities and interests.
- Post-Secondary exploration & planning.



#### What is We Can Work?

Employment, Independence & Equality

- Work-based learning
- Job Exploration & Post-Secondary Counseling
- Ages 16-22 & enrolled in high school
- Self Advocacy





## **Post Secondary Education**

Mt. Sac Community College Mt. SAC Campus Tour on Vimeo

Access- Accessibility Resource Center for Students https://www.mtsac.edu/access/

**Citrus Community College** 

https://www.citruscollege.edu/welcomecenter/Pages/default.aspx

#### DSPS at Citrus College

https://www.citruscollege.edu/stdntsrv/dsps/Pages/default.aspx

#### **College Connect**

https://www.collegeconnectsupport.com/

#### Virtually Tour a college campus

https://www.youvisit.com/collegesearch/

Southern California

https://www.laborerstrainingschool.com/

Glendale City College Computer Numerical Control Academy

https://www.glendalelearns.org/cncacademy

Skill Cat Online free HVAC Training

# Support Services and

**Transition CA** 

# **Resources**

Transition CA | Thompson Policy institute

Department of Rehabilitation <u>https://www.dor.ca.gov/</u>

Employment Development Department https://edd.ca.gov/

Department of Developmental Services https://www.dds.ca.gov/ https://www.pathpoint.org/

East San Gabriel Valley SELPA https://www.esgvselpa.org/ http://www.caljobs.ca.gov

Pride Industries (800) 550-6005 https://prideindustries.com/

Service Center for Independent Living <a href="http://www.scil-ilc.org/">http://www.scil-ilc.org/</a>

San Gabriel Pomona Regional Center <a href="https://www.sqprc.org/">https://www.sqprc.org/</a>

Parents Place http://www.parentsplacefrc.com/

TASK https://taskca.org/

### **Transition Resources**

Transition Planning: <u>https://tacanow.org/family-resources/iep-transition-planning/</u>

Social Security Benefits for Children with <u>https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10026.pdf</u> Disabilities: <u>https://tacanow.org/family-resources/able-accounts/</u>

ABLE Accounts

IHSS <u>https://www.cdss.ca.gov/in-home-supportive-services</u>

Nuts & Bolts of IHSS Document <u>https://www.disabilityrightsca.org/publications/in-home-supportive-services-ihss-advocates-manual</u>

Social Skills <u>https://tacanow.org/family-resources/social-skills/</u>

https://tacanow.org/family-resources/mentor-program/

Parent Mentor Program

Preparing for Adulthood

https://tacanow.org/family-resources/preparing-for-adulthood/

LAC Development Authority

https://wwwa.lacda.org/

**Project Independence** 

http://www.proindependence.org/

#### Winning Wednesday with Preeti at Parents' Place Taken July 2017



### My Name is Preeti Subramaniam



#### **MY EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY** -

#### MY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

"Once you choose hope, anything is possible" Christopher Reeve



My Success and Happiness lies in me. Helen Keller

Although going to school wasn't easy, I have a great support system in my family, they helped me get through school & college.

I am a quadriplegic with cerebral palsy who uses an Electric wheelchair to get around . When in high school I took wood shop class where I almost lost my right hand. Luckily, I didn't lose my hand after that experience. I told my parents to tie my hand down to the wheelchair. I then had a student aid in that class with me. I also went to Disneyland with my High School class. My school neglected to arrange for a bus with wheelchair access, which we found out the day of the field trip. We didn't give up. My mom decided to take me in our car. We had the best time at the park. My brother advised us to do so.

As you can see, it is up to us to make any challenge an opportunity to overcome and make it a memorable experience.

My family has taught me this valuable lesson.





"I don't need easy. I just need possible" Bethany Hamilton

I was the first special needs student to require special accommodations within the classroom setting. I took a biology class in which my parents had to talk to the head of the Biology department at Citrus college to make the necessary accommodations like a CCTV so I could see the specimens.

The professors allowed me to enter the classroom from a side door using a dumb waiter that took me straight into the lecture hall. I was part of the DSP&S (Disabled Students Program & Services) which allowed me to take tests with double time and a scribe who would read the questions, including multiple choice, and write down my answers.

I hope all the professors and department heads now know how to assist other special needs students like me in their journey at citrus college.







#### What Questions Do You Have?

