



Department of Human Services

Christie Administration Announces Online Career Program for People with Disabilities *New Jersey Career Transitional Education Program (NJCTEP)*

TRENTON – Department of Human Services (DHS) Acting Commissioner Elizabeth Connolly today announced the New Jersey Career Transitional Education Program (NJCTEP), an online career program for people with disabilities who are transitioning out of a nursing facility, or institution, and are seeking new or upgraded skills in order to obtain employment.

“This educational program is part of a larger effort in our state to assist people with disabilities who are ready to leave a nursing home or institution and reintegrate into community life,” said Acting Commissioner Connolly. “NJCTEP supports people with disabilities who have been living in a facility for a number of years, by updating their technical and personal skills to prepare for employment.”

NJCTEP is administered by the DHS’ Division of Disability Services (DDS), in partnership with Enable Career Prep, the program’s developer.

“The available funding will allow up to 20 individuals with disabilities who are living in a nursing facility or institution with funds to cover the cost of tuition, as well as loan them laptop computers to take the courses,” said DDS Director Joseph Amoroso.

The Division of Disability Services (DDS) received permission from the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to utilize what are known as “rebalancing funds” from the “I Choose Home - New Jersey” federal grant for this employment-related educational purpose.

I Choose Home – New Jersey (also known as Money Follows the Person) is a federal program with two main goals: to move people out of nursing homes and institutions back into the community; and re-invest these Medicaid dollars into much needed home and community-based services to grow the New Jersey service system for people with disabilities.

Residents who are eligible for Medicaid and have been living in an institutional setting for more than 90 days may be able to move to an independent community setting with supports and services. For the first year that a transitioned individual returns to live in the community, New Jersey receives an enhanced federal Medicaid match. Those extra funds are then reinvested to create more possibilities for others to remain in their homes with the services they need.

Information is available about NJCTEP and I Choose Home – New Jersey by calling DDS at 1-888-285-3036 or online at www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dds/home/.