

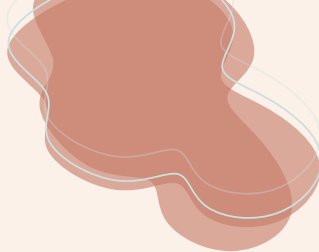
# Independence, Inc. Kansas Youth Transition Program Wyandotte County, Kansas

Innovation at work...

As we developed our KYTN program here at Independence, Inc., the focus was on innovation and reaching youth in new, creative ways. We expanded our services into Wyandotte County for this program and joined the Wyandotte County Community Team - an established council working towards these same educational and vocational goals for youth with disabilities in Wyandotte County schools.



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Visit our "Kansas City Office - Youth  
Transition Services" page



Equipping Youth to Build Their Tomorrow



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KYTN Website Page

# What is the Kansas Youth Transition Network?

## It started with a grant...

In 2023, the Federal Department of Education created the Pathways to Partnership Program - funded by the Disability Innovation Fund (DIF) - to support innovative activities aimed at increasing competitive integrated employment (CIE) for youth and other individuals with disabilities.

The Pathways to Partnership innovative model demonstration project fosters collaborative partnerships between state vocational rehabilitation agencies, state and local educational agencies, and federally funded centers for independent living (that's us!). The grant funding was distributed to state departments of education and the Kansas Youth Transition Network (KYTN) was created under the Kansas Department of Education.

As a network, our common goal is to help individuals with disabilities seamlessly transition to life after high school, preparing them for independent living, further education or technical training, employment and community integration.



## Who do we serve?

Through our Kansas Youth Transition Network Program, Independence, Inc. serves youth and young adults with disabilities ages 10-21 in Wyandotte County.

We work within Wyandotte County public schools and the Wyandotte County community as a whole to serve:

- grade school students
- middle school students
- high school students
- virtual school students
- homeschool students and co-ops
- youth within the juvenile correction system
- students in alternative education programs
- recently graduated youth and young adults
- students who have received their GED
- youth experiencing truancy

We offer one-on-one transition training and support for students, IEP or 504 advocacy and support, group training, classroom training and workshops and support for parents, families, caregivers and teachers.

## What can we do for YOU?



## What types of assistance and support do we offer?

At Independence, Inc. we understand that your plan for transition into post-high school life doesn't just start when you're a junior or senior. We work with youth ages 10 and up to:

help students identify areas of personal

- strengths and interests
- hopes for the future
- ideas and goals
- barriers to any of these goals

encourage and help shape

- community involvement and engagement
- school involvement
- healthy relationships and peer support
- self-determination and self-advocacy
- communication skills
- healthy living

help identify and present opportunities to

- volunteer or intern
- find community activities
- engage in clubs/extracurricular activities
- create hobbies
- find and apply for job opportunities
- identify peer support opportunities

teach vocational, educational and life skills including

- study skills and note taking
- resume writing and interviewing
- networking
- understanding body language/eye contact
- budgeting/money management
- conflict resolution
- self-advocacy
- cleaning, organizing
- time management
- and more!