



MEET JOHN

Pre-Reading Question

- *What sorts of supports and partnerships are the parents of students in your classroom typically interested in?*
- *How do you present the supports and partnerships in your community to families?*

John is a high school student with cerebral palsy. He has some communication deficits and currently reads at a third grade level and is on track to earn a special education diploma. His teacher has implemented use of a high-technology communication device, which he can type on and practice writing with a stylus. In addition, John receives accommodations for reading such as reading aloud with the help of his device and extra time on assessments. His teacher administered the Transition Planning Inventory to assess his interests and abilities related to post school outcomes. Results show that John wants to attend a regular four-year college to earn a bachelor's degree. Since he is not on track to earn the diploma that this degree requires, his teacher prepared a list of information about postsecondary education options for John at local universities. John decides on the program he wants and is accepted. Though this program is not residential, John's independent living goal is to live in a supported residential environment. John's family does not think they will be able to afford this, so they decide he should live at home. They also don't believe a supported housing will provide enough support for him. John's teacher changes his goal to living at home.

What's the Problem?

John's independent living goal is to live in a supported residential environment. John's teacher does not identify supported housing organizations that could better provide information on what supported living could look like or financial options.

What's the Solution?

After discussing this issue with a colleague, John's teacher is able to find information about supported living. She shares this with the family, and this alleviates some of their concerns about John's independent living skills. They begin the process of contacting and obtaining information from several supported housing organizations in their area. John decides that he would like to live in an apartment with one roommate.



Transition

T E N N E S S E E

Post-Reading Questions

- *Think about some of the agencies or organizations that are available in your own community. What are some ways you might build and maintain relationships with them?*
- *What teachers in your school could you collaborate with to find supports and partnerships in your community?*