



Transition to Independence Program Fact Sheet

Program Definition

TTIP is designed to serve the transition needs of young people who require continued and specialized support in order to successfully move from a high school setting to the adult world. The program is part of Serendipity's Therapeutic School Program, because its model is an integration of special education and clinical case management.

Program Description:

- The hours of TTIP are those of Serendipity's other school programs (Monday through Thursday, 8:15 to 2:15 and Fridays 8:15 to 12:15). TTIP follows the Serendipity school calendar over a ten-month period.
- TTIP students spend time in the community gaining skills, confidence, and experiences that will enable them to be independent at self-care. Travel training is emphasized. Classroom time is devoted to addressing vocational topics in the morning and life skill competencies in the afternoon. Fridays are devoted to projects such as food preparation, basic sewing, etc, and/or speakers from the community.
- Each TTIP student is guided by an individual transition plan, which may entail job shadows, volunteer placements, and/or paid employment as readiness permits. Serendipity uses the CIS Assessments and Education Plans and Profiles.
- TTIP students participate in the free and reduced meals program. Breakfast and lunch are prepared and served on campus.
- TTIP students and families have access to Serendipity's 24-hour emergency answering service. The clinical staff and the Management Team are available through this service.
- On-campus work experience is offered in food services, janitorial, tutoring, landscaping, and other vocational skill areas.

Program Staffing:

TTIP is staffed by a full-time Special Education teacher and a Program Assistant. Behavioral Specialists are available to TTIP as well. Master's level clinicians conduct mental health assessments, monitor treatment goals, coordinate other service providers, and respond to crises as necessary. Serendipity's consulting psychiatrist is available to TTIP students. Medication is administered by

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TTIP students gain work experience in Serendipity's Food Services program.



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Being prepared for independence includes practicing life skills and self-care.

a Certified Medication Assistant. Serendipity's Instructional Coordinators assist with IEP development and assessment.

Curriculum:

TTIP curriculum prioritizes employment, workplace skills (job search, career exploration, human relations on the job), and life skills (relationships, accessing health care, housing, money management, nutrition and food preparation, etc.). TTIP curriculum is intended to align with the curriculum of programs into which our students may transition (voc rehab,

job corps, etc.). Serendipity uses the LCCE curriculum as a foundation for assessing and mastering essential skills. Each TTIP student maintains a Transition Portfolio, documenting achievements within a range of competencies.

TTIP Population:

Many TTIP students will have completed their modified high school diplomas. Others will be older high school students for whom a more traditional academic setting is no longer productive. Many, but not all, TTIP students may be challenged by developmental delays. Because of the highly individual nature of the planning and content of TTIP, a variety of student profiles and needs can be addressed.



When ready, TTIP students such as Jeremiah are able to volunteer and even secure paid employment in the community.

For more information, please contact:

Tiffany Smith, Serendipity Principal
503-761-7139
ext. 141 tiffanys@serendipitycenter.org

Jackie Trussell, Treatment Director,
503-761-7139
ext. 135 jackiet@serendipitycenter.org

Kristin Harquail, Intake Coordinator
503-761-7139
ext. 146 kristinh@serendipitycenter.org