

***P**roviding  
**A**lternative  
**R**esources  
**T**hrough  
**N**atural  
**E**xperiences  
*And*  
**R**ediscoveries  
*For*  
**S**tudents*



**Working together to build a strong  
partnership between family, school, and  
community.**

# **Look at who we have Partnered with over the years:**

**Amity Regional Schools**

**Area Cooperative Educational Services**

**Bethel Public Schools**

**Bridgeport Board of Education**

**Cheshire Public Schools**

**Clinton Public Schools**

**Cooperative Educational Services**

**Cromwell High School**

**Danbury High School**

**Easton/Redding Schools**

**Fairfield High School**

**Hamden Public Schools**

**Hartford High School**

**Joel Barlow High School**

**Monroe Public Schools**

**Milford Board of Education**

**New Britain High School**

**New Fairfield Public Schools**

**New Haven Board of Education**

**Norwalk Public Schools**

**Portland High School**

**Ridgefield Public Schools**

**Saint Catherine Academy**

**Sherman Public Schools**

**Shelton Public Schools**

**Stamford Board of Education**

**Staples High School**

**Stratford Board of Education**

**The Foundation School**

**Torrington Public Schools**

**Trumbull Board of Education**

**Watertown High School**

**Weston Public Schools**

**Wilton Board of Education**

*The Partners Program is a department within The Kennedy Center whose sole purpose is to help special needs students prepare for the adult world. Students who have autism, emotional disturbances, significant learning disabilities, physical challenges or social challenges, can all be served by our program. We assist students of all ages and in a variety of capacities to help him/her acquire those skills necessary to function as a contributing adult within his/her community. This catalogue highlights the many services that The Kennedy Center Partners Program has to offer. The Kennedy Center, Inc. has been offering services to individuals with special needs for over 55 years. Recognizing the importance of diverse and quality services, and early intervention, we offer this catalogue as an opportunity to be an extension of today's classrooms. By partnering with our local schools, we are able to offer an array of services that will allow students to go beyond the traditional development and venture into a world of success by offering person centered planning customized to each student's needs.*

*We hope you find this catalogue helpful, informative, and resourceful in aiding parents and families.*

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## Work Skills Development Services

Work Skills Development services are designed to prepare an individual for employment. Services are not job-task oriented, but instead focus on teaching the concepts of basic work behaviors, which may include compliance, attendance, task completion, problem solving and safety, with the goal of enhancing attention span and motor skills. Students are taught and assisted with developing their job seeking skills. This includes activities to teach resume writing, interviewing skills, networking, filling out applications, and employer communication.

Work Skill Development services are implemented in a variety of community based and in-house settings as appropriate for the student. Specific locations are based on the student's projected employment interests as it relates to the skills that are performed for a specific position, the employment expectations required of an employer, and the student's capacity for an integrated work setting.

### Target Population:

Students 16 years of age or older who present no significant behavioral challenges that would prevent community based integration.

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### **To make a Referral:**

To refer a student for this service, please complete a Referral for Services form found on page 21 of this catalogue. The Referral form and necessary documentation should then be forwarded to the contact listed below.

If you have questions or would like to receive more information, please contact:

**The Kennedy Center, Inc. ✧ 2440 Reservoir Avenue ✧ Trumbull, CT 06611**

**Intake & Transition Services Manager**

203-365-8522 x. 248

203-365-8588 Fax

[spurdy@kennedyctr.org](mailto:spurdy@kennedyctr.org)

or

**Supervisor of Career Development Services**

203-365-8522 x. 266

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[fjones@kennedyctr.org](mailto:fjones@kennedyctr.org)

## Vocational Skills Evaluation

A Vocational Skills Evaluation is an opportunity to assess a student's potential for competitive employment and to determine the skills and future training necessary to help prepare the student for the world of work. The evaluation is completed at a company within a radius of the student's local community that offers the type of duties a student is interested in performing. The tasks offered to a student are comprised of the tasks that would be expected of an employee performing in that particular position.

For example: a student interested in office work might work at a doctor's office filing patient charts, making copies of necessary forms, answering the phones, taking a message, and speaking with patients as they check in.

The student is evaluated on the ability to perform the tasks presented, amount of training required to meet employer's standard, information retention, customer service skills, interaction with coworkers, accessibility within the environment, accommodations/adaptations required for success, amount of support needed on the job, etc. and overall general work behaviors. Students are paid minimum wage for any work performed on the job.

Should an assessment site be needed, a school system may purchase Site Development only and then provide their own evaluators to perform the evaluation.

### Target Population:

Students 16 years of age or older who present no significant behavioral challenges that would prevent community based integration.

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## Career Planning & Placement

For students who are ready to jump into the world of work, we offer an opportunity for Career Planning & Placement. Students meet with a career counselor who helps identify opportunities of interest and sets a plan for locating employment. Such preferences as work schedule, environment, transportation options, community setting, and employer specifics are reviewed. Our job developers then go out and speak with potential employers to help create a job match. As employment opportunities are being developed, students continue to brush up on their interview skills and presentation.

Career Planning & Placement is a three-phase process. Initial intake where students do their plan, job placement where the student is hired by the employer, and job retention where the student has remained on the job for 90 days. Students must have their own means of transportation or be willing to be travel trained to and from prospective job site.

### Target Population:

Students 18 years of age or older who present no significant behavioral challenges that would prevent community based integration and are deemed "Employment Ready."

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## Job Training & Coaching

Students who are ready to work and are beginning employment and/or students, who may already have a present job but are struggling to succeed, can benefit from Job Training and Coaching Services. Students can receive support from a trainer who will teach him/her how to learn the specific requirements of a position, how to be more effective at the job site, how to acclimate with the work environment, how to be more productive, how to handle situations that arise, managing schedules and duties, and improving organizational skills. The trainer teaches the student at his/her level to ensure the best learning is occurring. Strategies are often developed to aid the student in his/her success. The trainer also works closely with the employer to better identify expectations and to establish a mechanism for reviewing the student's progress. Our supports are unintrusive for we work as a team with the student rather than as a supervisor. We measure our success based on the student's success.

### Target Population:

Students 16 years of age or older who present no significant behavioral challenges, are capable of working independently, and who require short-term assistance to succeed on the job.

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## Community Independence Training

An intricate part of preparing for adult life is being able to navigate within the community in which one lives. Community Independence Training prepares students for the adult world. Training is offered in areas of banking and budgeting, shopping for every day essentials, selecting appropriate recreational activities, medication management, socialization, mobility and communication, managing time, and organizing one's life.

All supports are provided in the community. Community Independence Training is often paired with Independent Living skills training to provide a comprehensive blend of training that better meets the student's needs for preparing for life after high school.

### Target Population:

Students 14 years of age or older who

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## Independent Living Skills Training (ILST)

To help prepare a student for entering the adult world, we offer training that focuses on the individual. ILST provides direct training in self-care/personal maintenance, medication management, communication and interpersonal skills, problem solving, money management & budgeting, home management, meal planning, selection, and preparation, sensory/motor skill development. Examples of specific activities include: planning out a meal, shopping for the items needed, and preparing the meal for the family; sorting laundry and doing the separate loads; setting up a calendar of weekly and monthly activities; teaching the student to prepare medication into daily doses and learning what medications are for; etc. The training focuses on those specific skills the student will need to be as independent as possible once he/she leaves high school.

The training is provided directly in the student's home so that the learning is specific to the student and requires less generalization skills to transfer from location to location.

This service is often paired with other services such as Community Integration Training to offer the most comprehensive training possible.

### Target Population:

Students 14 years of age or older.

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## Memory Building & Organization Training

Memory Building & Organization Training, also known as compensatory strategy development, are services to help enhance a student's performance within his/her home, community, and/or work environment. The service looks at developing the compensatory strategies to help a student compensate for a weaker area or an area of limitation. Assistive aides and devices may be used to offer alternative means for overcoming the barrier. Memory building activities involve such strategies as task analysis, pictorial instruction development, tape instructions for students who use auditory processing, and so on. Organization training focuses on the utilization of tools to help organize one's life such as the use of labels to identify where material belongs, schedules and timelines for the completion of tasks/activities and/or the rearrangement of an environment that will allow for the natural flow of activity. Strategies are developed using the concept the more simple it is the better.

### Target Population:

Students 14 years of age or older.

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### To make a Referral:

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## Supported Employment Training Services

Some students require more intensive supervision than a competitive position would offer. Supported Employment Training offers students the opportunity to experience a work option by working at one of The Kennedy Center's supported employment sites. The sites range in ratio size and level of difficulty. Students get the opportunity to experience such work tasks as assembly, picking/packing, sorting, collating, folding & stuffing envelopes, manual labor duties, janitorial duties, landscaping duties, food preparation & service duties, and warehouse duties. Sites are located in Monroe, Stratford, Milford, Norwalk, Southport, Bridgeport and other towns as accessed by the mobile work crews.

Prior to a student entering into a supported employment program, he/she should first participate in an assessment (usually consisting of a 40 hour period of time such as eight 5-hour days) to identify appropriate program and transition needs. Once the assessment is completed and the team determines the student is capable of transitioning into the group site without any support, the student is then assigned to the group. Should a student require more intensive training, extra support through a job coach may be purchased.

In addition to these services **NURSING SERVICES** are available. These services are in addition to the emergent care that may be needed during a transition program. These Nursing services can include Medication administration, glucose monitoring as well as educational services. These services are all based on the individual's needs.

### Target Population:

Students 16 years of age or older.

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### To make a Referral:

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## Family Support Training

Parenting can be difficult and for some parents with children with special needs, it can seem overwhelming. Family support training offers parents an opportunity to receive hands on training within their home on how to best assist their child in his/her overall development. In the early years, parenting topics can focus on such things as setting limits, doing homework with your child in a way he/she learns, how to communicate with your child and get feedback. As your child grows older, training focuses on how to engage your child in activities, how to establish rules and expectations, how to set consequences for actions, how to teach your child responsibility and how to know when you are asking too much or not enough. Family support training also offers the parents the opportunity to talk with someone who is more objective regarding his/her child.

### Target Population:

Open to all age groups

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### To make a Referral:

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## Service Coordination/Case Management Services

Understanding the complexity of services for an individual with special needs can be a daunting task. Case Managers can assist individuals and their families with the navigation and acquisition of services and funding. Case Managers are available to provide vocational/disability counseling, crisis intervention, and advocacy. Additionally, Case Managers coordinate services and provide comprehensive documentation of progress and recommendations for future needs.

### Target Population:

Students 16 years of age or older who present no significant behavioral challenges that would prevent community based integration.

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### To make a Referral:

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**[fjones@kennedyctr.org](mailto:fjones@kennedyctr.org)**

## Social/Leisure Planning & Support

Fun time is an intricate part of any child's life. But as we become adults, we often lose connections to those activities that we enjoy. Once a student leaves high school, he/she is often alone and doesn't know where to go to meet and socialize with others. Our social/leisure planning allows a student to meet with a Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (TRS) who will do a brief inventory of the student's interests and functioning level to determine the best recreational opportunities available for that student in his/her local community, or through Kennedy Center sponsored classes, groups, or activities.

The general procedure includes a student meeting with the TRS to complete a therapeutic recreation intake. Areas of interest are identified. The TRS researches locations that meet expressed interests and evaluates appropriateness for the student. Dates, times, cost and locations are gathered and an individualized therapeutic leisure plan is developed for the student and presented. An additional mileage fee would be added if a student requires staff transportation to and from his home as well as one-to-one accompaniment at an activity. All costs for activities are the responsibility of the student/family. Activity expenses that exceed more than \$10.00 per activity for the coach will incur an additional charge to the family for the difference.

### Target Population:

Open to all students.

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To make a Referral:

To refer a student for this service, please contact:

**Kathie Cepetelli, M.S., CTRS** ✧ Therapeutic Leisure Manager  
**The Kennedy Center, Inc.** ✧ 39 Lindeman Drive ✧ Trumbull, CT 06611  
203-332-4535 x. 208 ✧ 203-332-4545 Fax  
email: [lifeskills@kennedyctr.org](mailto:lifeskills@kennedyctr.org)

## Travel Training

As students get older and become more interested in navigating their community, they are often limited by the barriers to accessing public transportation. Travel training offers students the opportunity to learn how to use the public transportation system, which includes buses and trains. Our Mobility Trainers begin by assessing a student's potential to use public transportation safely and independently. Once a student is deemed able to learn how to use such a system while being safe, the trainers provide individual, structured, sequential learning to the student and slowly fade away until the student is able to successfully complete the trip independently.

### Target Population:

Students 16 years of age or older who present no significant behavioral challenges that would prevent community based integration.

### Rates for Services:

This is a free service to students requiring only the cost of each fare while training.

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### To make a Referral:

To refer a student for this service, please complete a Referral for Services form found on page 23 of this catalogue. The Referral form and necessary documentation should then be forwarded to the contact listed below.

If you have questions or would like to receive more information, please contact:

**Jonathon Rubell** ✧ **Mobility Services Manager**  
**The Kennedy Center, Inc.** ✧ **2440 Reservoir Avenue** ✧ **Trumbull, CT 06611**  
**203-365-8522 x. 265** ✧ **203-365-8533 Fax** ✧ **email: [jrubell@kennedyctr.org](mailto:jrubell@kennedyctr.org)**

## Behavioral Services

The Kennedy Center recognizes the importance of maintaining the integrity of the educational setting for all students. Simultaneously we believe that individual students within a classroom milieu may have idiosyncratic and/or divergent needs that could manifest as “acting-out & challenging behaviors” if ignored, misunderstood, or responded to incorrectly.

Working in collaboration with the PPT (and complimenting diagnostic findings and ongoing initiatives & supports) the Behavioral Services Department is able to offer innovative and individualized solutions to many types of behavioral challenges.

The team’s flexible scheduling makes it available to consult with families, schools and agencies quickly; as well as be available for Emergency and Crisis support.

### **Individuals May Be Supported Via**

**Formal Behavior Plans**

**Informal Behavior Planning & Baseline Data Collection**

**Site and Classroom Observations and Feedback Sessions**

**Individualized Staff Training**

**Crisis Prevention and Intervention Training**

**Custom Trainings based on the needs of the individual and/or the supporting team.**

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To access these services, please contact:

**Rich Peksa** ✧ **Supervisor of Behavioral & Community Programs**  
**The Kennedy Center, Inc.** ✧ **39 Lindeman Drive** ✧ **Trumbull, CT 06611**  
**203-332-4535 x. 285** ✧ **203-332-4545 Fax** email: [rpeksa@kennedyctr.org](mailto:rpeksa@kennedyctr.org)

## Community Experience and Inclusion

The Community Experience Programs provide opportunities for students to explore their communities and develop some specialized personal skills. These programs are functionally based programs for individuals who do not have the imminent desire to work and/or only want to work on a part time basis. The individualized services are provided to meet each student's needs during the transitional year(s) of school.

The Kennedy Center has 3 programs that have been designed for the younger adult, in their 20's. These programs are designed to promote inclusion and personal development in an age cohesive environment. The focus is for the students to develop these skills while being involved in a supportive team environment.

There are 16 other programs located throughout Fairfield and New Haven Counties that have been designed to promote learning within the individual's community. The individuals volunteer, recreate and socialize within the communities near to where they live.

All of the Community Experience Programs are designed to promote individualized choice making and skill development in an inclusive environment.

In addition to these services **NURSING SERVICES** are available. These services are in addition to the emergent care that may be needed during a transition program. These Nursing services can include Medication administration, glucose monitoring as well as educational services. These services are all based on the individual's needs.

### Target Population:

Students 18 years of age or older who wish to learn functional skills in the community. Although some of the sites provide work experience, the focus of Community Experience programs emphasizes participation in inclusive community-based activities.

### To make a Referral:

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## School Enrichment and Family Support

Children with special needs often require additional services and supports to succeed educationally, recreationally, and socially. As more and more demands are made on parents, caregivers, and educators, it can be a challenge providing those services and supports for a child. As a community partner, The Kennedy Center can develop and provide creative, inclusive, and nurturing options to families and educators with these needs. Services are community-based, flexible, and individualized. Our services include the following:

- Trained staff to support children requiring individualized programs, during or after school, contracted through School Boards and other special education initiatives.
- Volunteer support for children with special needs to participate in recreational, social, and educational programs in their community.
- Individualized support for children with special needs to attend and be included in after school and summer programming.
- Therapeutic swim program for children with special needs ages 3-5.
- Younger and older Teen Activity Sessions designed to promote the development of positive social skills.
- Creative Mentoring and Respite options for children with special needs.
- Autism Services for children and their families that includes: transitioning from Birth to Three to public schools; providing support in community activities; assisting families financially for services and products; and providing information, referral, and support.
- Information, resource, and referral for parents and educators in their community.
- Volunteer supervision and training.
- Training and In-services for after-school or summer camp staff on special education and positive discipline techniques.
- Community education, technical assistance, and consultation on special education topics.

### Target Population:

Children age birth to twenty-one.

### Rates for Services:

Fees are determined on a case-by-case basis.

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If you have questions or would like to receive more information, please contact:

**Karen Cubbellotti** ✧ **Children's Services Director**  
**The Kennedy Center, Inc.** ✧ **39 Lindeman Drive** ✧ **Trumbull, CT 06611**  
**203-332-4535 x. 337** ✧ **203-332-4545 Fax**  
**email: [kcubbellotti@kennedyctr.org](mailto:kcubbellotti@kennedyctr.org)**



**The Kennedy Center, Inc.**  
**PARTNERS SERVICES**  
**Rates effective July 2009-June 2010**

SERVICE	PRICE
Work Skills Development	\$58.00 per hour
Vocational Skills Evaluation	\$75.00 per hour
Vocational Skills Evaluation w/o Site Dev.	\$70.00 per hour
Career Planning & Placement	\$1,485.00 per placement
Job Training & Coaching	\$58.00 per hour
Community Independence Training	\$58.00 per hour
Family Support Training	\$75.00 per hour
Memory Building & Organization Training	\$75.00 per hour
Independent Living Skills Training	\$58.00 per hour
Supported Employment Training with KC Group Transportation	\$137.50 per day
Supported Employment Training without Transportation	\$110.00 per day
Service Coordination/Case Management	\$35.00 per hour
Social/Leisure Planning & Support	\$50.00 per hour
Planning Package:	
Intake of interests & 5 hours of research & scheduling	\$250.00 Does not include cost of activities.
Behavioral Services	\$85.00 per hour
Community Experience & Inclusion with KC Group Transportation	\$165.00 per day
Community Experience & Inclusion without Transportation	\$137.50 per day
Nursing Services	\$70.00 per hour \$17.50 per 15 minutes
Mobility Services/Travel Training	Grant Funded
Individual Transportation	Negotiable based on distance

For any assistance regarding any services within this catalogue or to customize services and supports for your specific school or students, please contact either individual below who will assist you in your planning endeavor.

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**THE KENNEDY CENTER, INC.**

2440 Reservoir Avenue  
Trumbull, CT 06611  
203-365-8522 203-365-8533 fax

Please send a copy of most recent historical documents: IEP's, Psychological, Medical Reports, and any other pertinent information for intake meeting.

**Referral for Services**

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Soc. Sec. #: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Diagnosis: Primary: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Medical Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

Medications: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DDS Case Manager and phone number, (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

BRS Case Manager and phone number, (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Referral Source: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency/School \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Service(s) requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Hours/ Days requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Expectations and Goals: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Specific Questions to be Answered:

- 1.)
- 2.)
- 3.)
- 4.)

**Family Data/Emergency Contact:**

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

**Behaviors in school/at home (if applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Health & Safety Risks (if applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Interests, hobbies, other:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Information/Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TRAVEL TRAINING REFERRAL

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF TRAINEE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

POINTS OF TRAVEL (*Destination*): \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_

*(IF APPLICABLE)*

REFERRAL MADE BY: \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIONSHIP TO TRAINEE: \_\_\_\_\_

AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

AGENCY PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: **Jonathon Rubell**  
The Kennedy Center 2440 Reservoir Ave Trumbull, CT 06611  
Fax: 203 365-8533

For office use only: Date: Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Contact: \_\_\_\_\_



## Purpose

**“The Kennedy Center, Inc., a private community-based rehabilitation organization, actively responds to people with disabilities or special needs by offering innovative, comprehensive community services.”**

## Mission Statement

**“Our mission promotes the empowerment of consumers with diverse abilities, disabilities, and experiences toward optimal participation and inclusion in the community.”**



[www.thekennedycenterinc.org](http://www.thekennedycenterinc.org)