



The Career Transition Program of St. Luke's House is participating in the Youth Transition Demonstration. This is a nationwide study of youth who are transitioning to adulthood. The Career Transition Program's participation in this study will allow it to serve 400 youth in Montgomery County in 2008-2011, which is three times more than it otherwise would have been able to serve.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is the Career Transition Program (CTP)?

CTP helps high school juniors and seniors with mental health concerns make a successful transition to college, vocational training, the workforce or other post-secondary goals. This program combines the expertise of St. Luke's House and the Transition Unit of the Montgomery County Public Schools. It offers a unique combination of mental health and career/vocational resources to assist students and their families in identifying and obtaining necessary resources to achieve a successful transition.

## What types of services does CTP provide?

CTP transition specialists and students work together to establish individualized goals reflecting the students' transition needs. Students may access one or more of these services:

- Individual assistance in identifying transition, career and/or educational goals
- Career education and career development
- College or vocational education development and placement
- Job development and job placement
- Family support services
- Identification and linkage with community resources

## What is the Youth Transition Demonstration (YTD)?

YTD is a research study about transition services for youth with mental health concerns as well as other disabilities. The purpose of the study is to learn how these youth can improve their education and employment outcomes and become independent adults. The information gained from this study may help others in the future. Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., is conducting the study with funding from the Social Security Administration.

## How do I apply for CTP services?

A youth who wishes to receive CTP services must sign a consent form agreeing to participate in the YTD research study and complete an application interview by telephone. The application interview is made up of questions necessary for the study. Mathematica will pick applicants at random to participate in CTP. Picking at random is like a lottery or tossing a coin. It is a way to make sure that everyone who wants the extra support has a fair chance to receive services in this program.

## Will participation affect my disability benefits?

Youth selected to participate in CTP services who happen to be receiving Social Security disability benefits may be eligible for special rules covering those benefits. These rules make it possible to work and earn money while keeping more of the benefits than would be possible under regular Social Security rules. If you apply but are not selected to receive CTP services, or if you are selected but choose not to participate in CTP, your benefits will not change. A benefits planner will be available to all youth selected for CTP services. The benefits planner will help youth learn how they can earn money and keep their Social Security benefits.

For more information and/or  
program application, please call  
**(301) 493-4200 ext. 303**  
or email: [ctpinfo@stlukeshouse.com](mailto:ctpinfo@stlukeshouse.com)