

Tailoring Your Knowledge Translation Strategies for Your Intended Users

KTDRR's 2023 Virtual KT Conference

November 6, 8, and 9

Center on
**KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION FOR
DISABILITY & REHABILITATION RESEARCH**

Meaningful Engagement of End-Users in Knowledge Translation through Advisory Boards

Tracy Neville, Co-Facilitator of the Young Adult Advisory Board



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MEDICAL SCHOOL



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Introduction

- **The Silo Effect:** How do we prevent research from remaining in an isolated, academic “silo”?
- **Our approach:** Engagement of end-users through advisory boards
 - Young Adult Advisory Board
 - Family Advisory Board



Source: Image by [Old Photo Profile](#) on [Flickr](#).

YAB Mission Statement

“Provide our organization with input from young adults living with mental health conditions to improve the research, policies, and services designed to meet their needs.”

Source: [Toolkit for Creating and Sustaining Youth Advisory Boards](#) (forthcoming)



Source: Image by [Yvette W](#) from [Pixabay](#).

Advisory Board Logistics

- Meetings held virtually once per month
- Compensation
- Flexibility
- Periodic recruitment



Our Goals
Improve outcomes by effectively disseminating knowledge to key stakeholders.
Many of our tip sheets were developed & reviewed with input from young adults with serious mental health conditions.

Source: [Transitions ACR](#)

- ▲ Visit the [Transitions ACR website](#) for resources on how to establish an advisory board at your organization

Advisory Board Logistics, cont.

- Agendas
- Scheduling based on members' availability
- Preparing content
 - Outreach to presenters
 - Designing presentation slides



Source: Image by [OpenIcons](#) from [Pixabay](#).

Creating Community

- Icebreakers
 - “If you were to write a book, what would it be about?”
 - “Is a hot dog a sandwich?”
 - “What is a recent WIN in your life?”



Source: Image by [Naassom Azevedo](#) from [Pixabay](#).

Creating Community, cont.

- Comfort Clause
 - Confidentiality
 - Professionalism
 - Non-judgement
 - Respect for all perspectives



Source: Image by [Naassom Azevedo](#) from [Pixabay](#).

“
The YAB helped us think about what topics are really needed by supporters of [young adults] as they develop their careers. ... You always leave us thinking, inspired, and hopeful. Many thanks to the YAB!”

—DEBBIE NICOLELLIS

TRAINING DIRECTOR, HELPING YOUTH ON THE PATH TO EMPLOYMENT



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“

If you can include the community in creating, collecting, and disseminating research, the community will ensure it is relevant. Ask the questions to yourselves, ‘How can we include the community this affects (Ex: Youth) at each stage of this research? At what point does it make sense to include them?’”

— YAB MEMBER

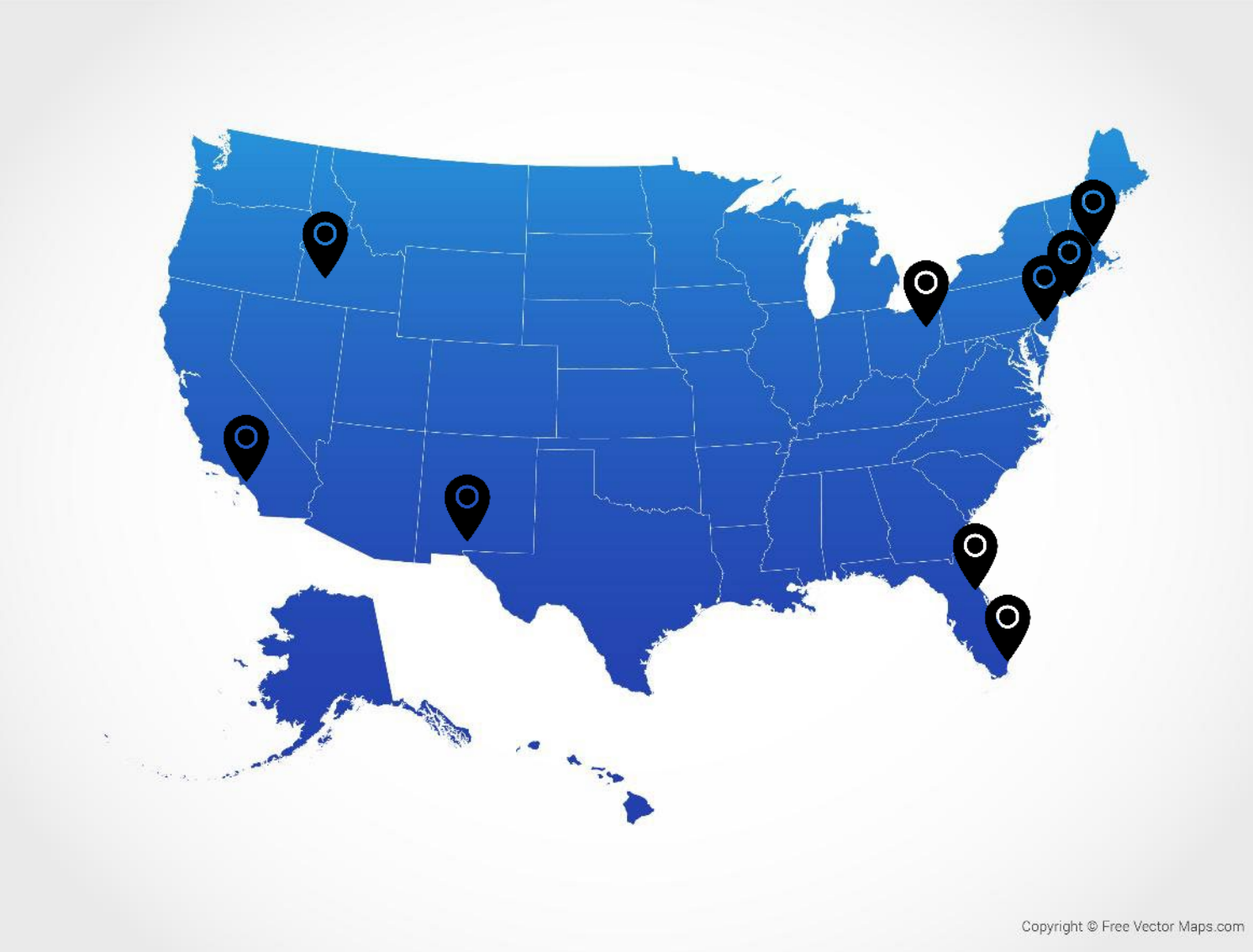


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Informing our Knowledge Translation

Diversity of members



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Informing our Knowledge Translation, cont.

We work with our advisory boards to:

- Develop topics for tip sheets and briefs
- Design visuals for recruitment materials
- Guide the direction of grant applications and the design of research projects
- Determine KT strategies
- And more!



Source: [Transitions ACR](#)

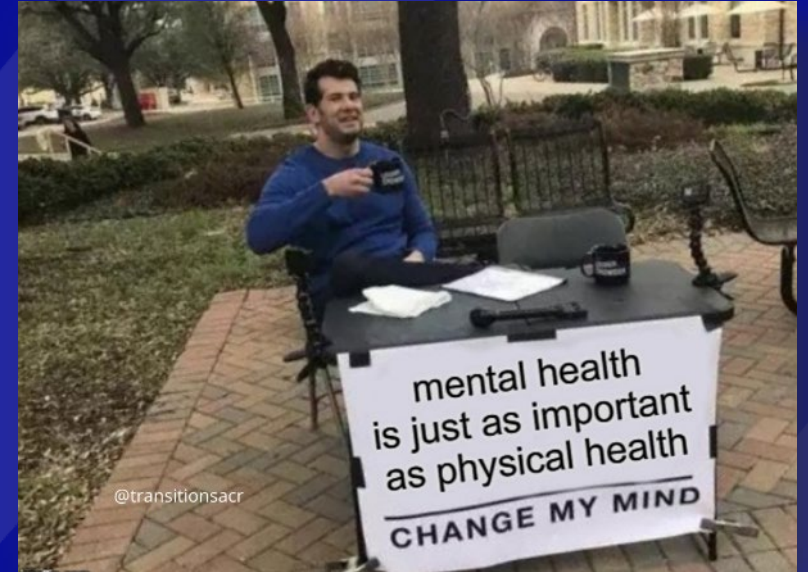


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Design and Execution of KT Projects

- The YAB Meme Project
- The YAB conceptualized and executed a series of young adult-friendly memes
- Produced 70 memes, surpassing project goal of 60



Sources: [Transitions ACR](#), [Imgflip](#)

Design and Execution of KT Projects, cont.

- ABLE Tip Sheet
 - Conceptualized topic
 - Provided feedback on content, images, language used, end-product, final pass
- Disclosure Tip Sheet
 - Modified to help determine the salient issues for young adults that are not realized by researchers

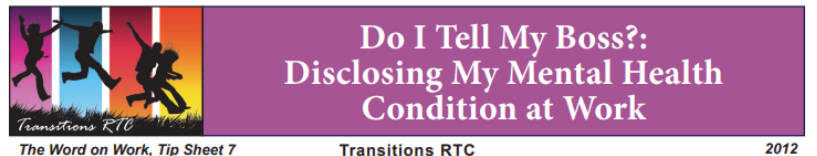


The "Achieving a Better Life Experience" Act, or ABLE Act, is a federal law that was passed in 2014. It gives people who have a disability a way to save money. This landmark legislation offers people living with disabilities, including those with serious mental health conditions, a chance to pursue their hopes and dreams in a realistic way without as many financial obstacles.

Why is ABLE a big deal for me?

The ABLE Act is important for young adults living with mental health conditions because it allows them to save money for "qualifying expenses" such as a car, college, training, healthcare, prevention and wellness, and other eligible expenses without being taxed by the government. Such opportunities can allow you to have more independence and a better quality of life. An ABLE account is an easier way to access your savings compared to other types of savings accounts.

- You can put up to \$14,000 a year into your ABLE account.
- If you are a Supplemental Security Income (SSI)



What Should I Say About My Mental Health Condition at Work?

Every young adult with a mental health condition will face the decision of whether or not to tell others about, or "disclose" their condition at work. Typically the reason for disclosure is to ask for an accommodation in order to perform better at your present job. An accommodation is modifying a job, the job site, or the way things are done in order to enable a qualified individual with a disability to have an equal opportunity for employment.¹ The following information can provide some guidance in helping you make an informed decision.



Source: Transitions ACR, <https://bit.ly/3EtlN5P>, <https://bit.ly/45HAy8c>

Your Next Steps

- There is no “one size fits all” solution for community engagement in different organizations.
- Engagement is continuous and involves lots of trial and error.
- Visit our [Toolkit for Creating and Sustaining Youth Advisory Boards](#) to learn more.

Additional Resources

- Tip Sheets: Tips and Tricks to Starting a Young Adult Council, [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#) (Spanish and English Versions)
- Webinar: [Adding Family Voice: Tips and Tricks to Developing and Sustaining a Family Advisory Board](#)
- Webinar: [Tips and Tricks to Starting a Young Adult Council](#)

Up Next

- Podcast: STAY Tuned
- Comic Project



Source: [Transitions ACR](#)



Q&A

 www.ktdrr.org

 ktdrr@air.org

 800.266.1832

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