



**College Matters
FLORIDA**



ThinkCollege
CHANGING EXPECTATIONS. INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES.

Presentation to
Employment First FL
February 8, 2022

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Welcome & Introductions

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Today's Agenda

- Orientation to postsecondary education in Florida
- Introduce the College Matters Florida Project
- Review of our resources
- Overview of current educational awareness campaign
- How to join us!

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PSE in Florida: 2020-2021

- 19 Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Programs (FPCTPs) for students with IDD
- Combination of Universities, State Colleges, and Technical Colleges
- The Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities (FCSUA) at the University of Central Florida manages these programs
- FCSUA offers program support and administers student scholarships (\$7000 per student)
- Central dissemination entity related to PSE for youth with IDD
- Key collaborator in the College Matters Florida efforts

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What is College Matters Florida?

- Staffed by members of ThinkCollege at ICI and consultant from USF St Pete campus
- Funded by the Florida DD Council
- Broad goal of expanding postsecondary options for youth with IDD throughout the state
- Building both supply (expand the number of programs) and demand (more stakeholders see PSE as viable)
- Work closely with FCSUA



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Years 1-3

- Creation of a statewide coalition and statewide needs assessment (1)
- Development of two online training modules* designed for primary stakeholders (2)
- Translation of content from the modules into five-part speaker series (3)
- Development of promising practices catalogue (3)

<https://thinkcollege.net/think-college-news/college-matters-florida-launches-an-educational-awareness-campaign>

https://fcsua.org/K_College_Matters.php



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Year 4: Educational Awareness Campaign!

GOALS:

- Builds on the work of years 1-3
- Focus on expansion, while previous years focused on capacity building
- Grow the number of college options for students with IDD across the state, as well as the number of youth with IDD accessing those options
- Implement a robust marketing and dissemination plan relevant to a range of stakeholders



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Year 4: Educational Awareness Campaign, continued

- Create a team of invested dissemination partners
- Identify and leverage existing information pathways of these partners
- Curate and repurpose existing resources
- Create targeted outreach materials to IHE Administrators
- Develop a replication toolkit
- Evaluate



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Our Campaign

- Relevant to broad target audience
- Emphasis on PSE as viable and transformative
- Use of simple, engaging formats
- Multi-media
- 6-month campaign
- 2 outputs per month



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Who are our Dissemination Partners?

- Disability-specific organizations
- Employment-focused entities (APD/VR)
- Families and family organizations
- Department of Education
- Current and former FPCTPs
- Anyone with an interest in Promoting PSE for youth with IDD in Florida!

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Would you like to join our dissemination team?

- Newsletter
- Facebook
- Blog
- Instagram
- Website
- Other



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https://umassboston.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2uawNw9OQjnK75A
(PROFESSIONALS)

https://umassboston.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bqFuPLHKqldfpKS
(YOUTH, FAMILY, FRIENDS)



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REACH OUT TO US!



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