# Meaningful Transitions For Low Incidence Populations





#### Presenters:

Anna Luongo, Special Education Teacher and Deborah Foushee, Speech Language Pathologist



April 16, 2015 3:00 PM EST



#### This Session is being Recorded

 You will be able to access the archive of this and other webinars at www.gatfl.gatech.edu





#### **Credits**

- CEUs are approved for .10 clock hours and are administered through Georgia Tech Professional Education
- CRCs are approved for 1.0 clock hours by the Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification
- To receive your verification form, send an e-mail with the webinar title and date to <u>Liz.Persaud@gatfl.gatech.edu</u>





#### **Webinar Evaluation**

At the end of today's webinar, we ask that you please take a moment to complete our survey:

https://www.research.net/s/TFLwebinar





#### Join us for Upcoming Events!

#### Get Ready, SETT, Go: Helping IEP Teams Focus on Students

April 30, 2015

Amanda Inman, Paulding County Schools

#### **Exploring College and Career Readiness through AT**

May 7, 2015

Carolyn Phillips and Liz Persaud, GATFL

#### **IDEAS** Conference

June 2-6, 2015

Epworth by the Sea, St. Simon's Island

Visit <u>www.qatfl.org</u> for the full schedule and to sign up on the TFL mailing list to receive our email announcements.







HOME ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TFL NETWORK CALENDAR OF EVENTS





C Search our Site

Go

TRAINING

**FUNDING** 

PUBLICATIONS

TFL WIKI

MEET THE TFL TEAM

MEET THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

DIRECTIONS/MAP

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

SCHEDULE A TOUR



#### Welcome to Tools for Life

Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work and play independently and with greater freedom in communities of their choice.

Tools for Life and the TFL Network work collaboratively together to accomplish our mission through:

#### 2014 GATE SEMINAR

DEC

Georgia Tech Student Center

#### WEBINARS

OCT

Using Visual Learning Software to Create Personalized Learning Environments

OCT

Exploring Transition Service Plan Technology Supports: A Unique Perspective

- Current Webinar Schedule
- Webinar Archives

#### TOOLS FOR LIFE APPFINDER



....for Living, Learning, Working, and Playing.

AT ONLINE EXCHANGE



AT FUNDING GUIDE

**DOLLARS & SENSE** 



#### **Tools for Life Network**

- AT Lending Library
- AT Evaluations & Training
- AT Demos
- Resource and Assistance
- AT Funding Assistance
- DME Reuse



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#### PRESENTER INFO



Deborah Foushee, M.S., CCC-SLP, Speech/Language Therapist

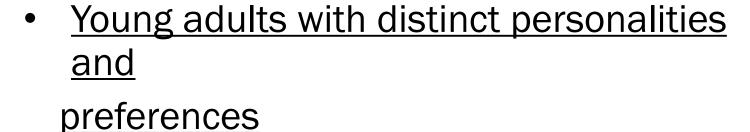
Anna Luongo, B.S.Ed., Special Education Teacher

#### OAKLAND MEADOW SCHOOL



#### A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR STUDENTS

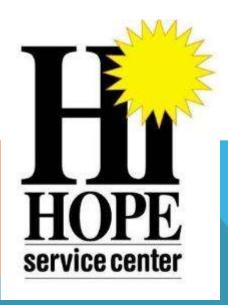
- AAC users
- AT users
- Mobility issues
- Face medical challenges





#### **AFTER GRADUATION...**

- Day habilitation programs
- Home
- Supported volunteer positions
- Combination







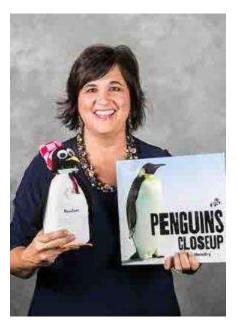
# What can we do as educators to prepare our students for adult life?

# T.A.S.k Lab Beginnings

#### <u>Transition Adaptation and Skill-development Lab</u>



Amanda Buono, OT



Caroline Whitten, Mentor Teacher

#### TASK LAB

"The TASk Lab seeks to ease the transition of students into their homes and communities by expanding students' interests, roles, and identities"

#### TASK LAB DOMAINS/ACTIVITIES

- Vocational
- Rec/Leisure
- Communication
- Environmental Engineering











## T.A.S.k Lab Evolution

#### **CHANGES 2010-2013**

- Instructor: full-time TASk Lab paraprofessional
- Slight change in Oakland Meadow student population
- Switch in coordinator

### Where we are now

#### **CURRENT INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL**

- Instructor: Clovia Jackson
- Room shared with Art/Music Classes
- 12/12+ only
- 30 minutes per week



#### **COLLABORATIVE APPROACH**

- Began with collaboration: Caroline and Amanda
- Collaboration continues: Clovia Jackson, high school classroom teachers, SLPs, front office staff, other
- Communication with classroom teachers



#### **FOCUS ON SELF-ADVOCACY**

- MANY opportunities for choice
- Encouraging exploration
- Teaching students to direct the actions of others through AAC (see handout)
- Simulation of post graduation environments
- Self-directed participation

#### **ALIGNMENT WITH TRANSITION PLAN**

- Choose tasks based on IEP goals and transition goals
- Used to support short term and long term transition goals
- TASk Lab data used to document progress on IEP/transition goals

#### SAMPLE POST SECONDARY GOALS

#### **Education/Training:**

After leaving Gwinnett County Public Schools, John will receive training in library services with adult assistance within an adult day program setting.

#### **Employment:**

After leaving Gwinnett County Public Schools, John will volunteer in a library to provide recommendations for adolescent literature via yes/no signaling and AAC.

#### **Independent Living:**

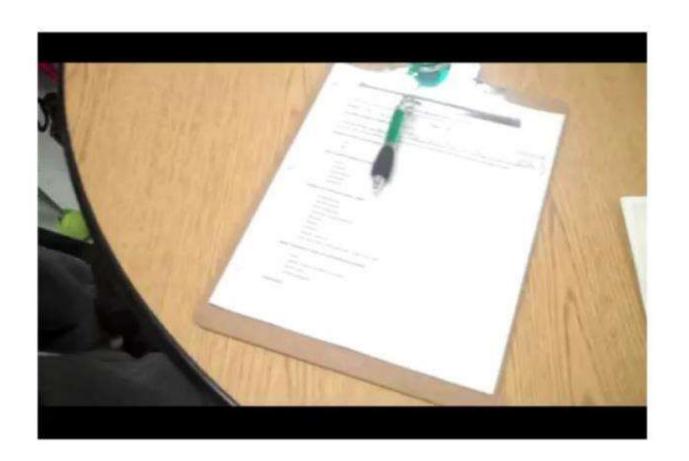
After leaving Gwinnett County Public Schools, John will continue to live at home with his family.

#### **EXPANDING SKILLS IN TASK LAB**

- Lunch Bunch
- Coffee Shop
- TASk Lab Push-in
- Photography
- Cosmetology

#### **LUNCH BUNCH - FOCUS ON SOCIAL SKILLS**

- Student guided opportunity to interact with same age peers outside of the classroom.
- Loosely structured: begin with sharing information and topics of interest, end with relevant videos/discussion
- Follows natural flow of "lunch" conversations: How was your weekend? Did you see the VMA's last night?
- Allows staff and students to interact with a variety of people outside their typical classroom environment



#### Lanch Bunch 2013-2014

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	(C) need show

#### **COFFEE SHOP - VOCATIONAL SKILLS**





#### TASK LAB PUSH-IN - LEISURE SKILLS



# Our hopes for the future

#### PARENT EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT

- Videos uploaded to school website on how to recreate TASk Lab activities in the home.
- Videos on how to use different types of AT
- Open house
- Home visits

#### COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT

- Creating relationships that may lead to supportive volunteer positions in the community
- Collaboration and information sharing between school, day habilitation programs, and other relevant organizations
- AT, including technology for the home and AAC for expanded communication and self-advocacy

#### FINAL THOUGHTS

- Presume competence
- Opportunities must be meaningful to the learner, be authentic and look and feel age appropriate
- Value and appreciate the journey along the way to the destination!



# Questions?

#### THANK YOU!

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Deborah Foushee: deborah\_foushee@gwinnett.k12.ga.us