

CTIC Meeting  
February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Minutes

Members Present: Mary K, Amy J, Vicki W, Jill M, Dawn G, Erin D, Jen L, Kayla C, Amie W, Justine S, Sean R, Shane O, Tara B, Lauren K, Jennifer K, Valerie L

The focus of our meeting today was Recreation/Leisure. We had a guest speaker from Unified Champion Schools, a program through Special Olympics.

(Emily Garness is a Sr Manager at Special Olympics MN. Emily has worked with community teams around the state (including this area) supporting them locally by working with them directly and running competitions. In the last 2 years, Emily transitioned to working with Unified Champion Schools in the East Metro to help bring and enhance inclusion in schools K-12 and colleges. With Emily's passion and expertise for inclusion from school to community, she has taken a focus on the transition between school to community for individuals with disabilities and building a bridge between the two. There has been great conversation and next steps happening as Special Olympics MN look at partnerships with Community Ed + Transition Programs statewide which is what Emily will be talking about today!)

Emily talked about how social circles shrink once students are done with school and that Special Olympics is looking at partnerships in the community to give young adults real world experience with non-disabled peers. Emily will be sending her power point that shows many opportunities that have been created. The program is fully funded at this point. Her email is [Emily.garness@somn.org](mailto:Emily.garness@somn.org) for anyone interested in further information.

- Please share my email with the group and have them reach out with follow up or questions!
  - This includes receiving transition packets to share with individuals looking for more opportunities post school!
- Here is our online form to inform us that people are also interested in learning more about opportunities with us! <https://schools.specialolympicsminnesota.org/are-you-graduating/graduate-interest-form/>

Our next meeting is on April 28<sup>th</sup> and the topic will be Transportation.