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CENTER FOR DISABILITIES AND DEVELOPMENT

# Possibilities in Education and Training

*A quarterly publication of the Center for Disabilities and Development, Iowa's University Center for Excellence on Disabilities at University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1011*

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## *It Starts with a Dream*

*Mike Hoenig, Director, Conner Training Connection*



Twenty-two-year-old Angelo Gilliam dreams of being a mechanic, working on airplanes, and owning a Ford Excursion. He's doing whatever he can to turn those dreams into reality.

"Angelo has a lot going on," explains SueAnn Morrow, Employment Services Manager with Iowa's Money Follows the Person Program – a Medicaid program which provides one year of Federal funding to support transition of select individuals from congregate to community-based settings.

“He’s been accepted into Des Moines Area Community College. He’s been referred to a LINK Associates job shadowing program called LEAP, and the Children and Families of Iowa Connect to Career Program. Thanks to funding from the Conner Training Connection, he is enrolled in a program called “Drive with Cops” which will prepare him to test for his driver’s license.”

To those who know and work with Angelo, he appears poised for takeoff. All, including Angelo, would say the trip down the runway has been anything but smooth. He lived at Wyalusing Academy in Wisconsin for several years until that facility closed. He was then transferred to the Woodward Resource Center where he began working with MFP Transition Specialist Jo Schumacher.

“Jo helped me move into a house last summer,” explains Angelo. “When that didn’t work out, we found another one. It’s working out a lot better. Two of my really good friends live there.”

REM Iowa Community Services Inc. provides Angelo’s residential services and supports. House supervisor Tanner Carr is one of Angelo’s biggest fans. “Angelo’s work ethic is amazing, and he’s doing a much better job of managing his anger,” Tanner says.

Angelo loves living in the community. “It’s better than being locked up,” he tells me with a note of excitement in his voice. “I have more freedom. I can make my own decisions. I can eat what I want. I get to go to school, work, and learn to drive!”

Angelo has some great advice for his peers who want to move to the community. “Live your life like you’re supposed to. Stay out of trouble. Advocate for yourself and ask for things.”

As I prepared to wrap up our time together, Angelo insisted on telling me one more thing. “I have a motto,” he said. “Let your dreams motivate and drive you. Learn from your mistakes. Change is a big thing – a good thing.”

Though he still has a lot of work to do to accomplish his dreams, I’m confident that his track record, drive, and motto will see him through.

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## ***What's New in the DRL***

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### ***Freeing Your Child from Anxiety, Revised and Updated Edition: Practical Strategies to Overcome Fears, Worries, and Phobias and Be Prepared for Life--from Toddlers to Teens***

by Tamar Chansky

We are happy to announce that *Freeing Your Child from Anxiety* is back in circulation at the DRL!

Too many children are stressed-out and exhibiting symptoms of anxiety. In *Freeing Your Child from Anxiety*, childhood anxiety expert Dr. Tamar Chansky shares a proven approach for helping children build emotional resilience for a happier and healthier life.

### ***To Loose the Bonds of Injustice: The Plight of the Mentally Ill and What the Church Can Do***

by Marcia Murphy

“Marcia Murphy presents an insightful examination of the societal roots of injustices experienced by persons with mental illness. She gives an inside view of the effect that they, along with mental health policies and services, have on their daily lives. Thankfully, she is able to provide a light in this darkness. With her faith and faith community playing integral roles, she found a model of care that restores dignity and human rights to persons who experience mental illness, which she offers to us all.” – Del D. Miller, MD, University of Iowa, Carver College of Medicine

### ***Your Complete Guide to Transition Planning and Services***

by Mary E. Morningstar and Elizabeth Clavenna-Deane

If you're a special educator or transition coordinator for high school students with disabilities, you play a critical role in empowering young people to achieve their goals and dreams. It's a complex and challenging job—and this introductory guide will help you every step of the way as you support students' successful transition to college, work, and community life.

### ***Zuckerman Parker Handbook of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics for Primary Care Fourth Edition*** by Marilyn Augustyn and Barry Zuckerman

This substantially updated edition is clear and concise, packed with precisely written summaries of developmental and behavioral issues for all pediatric clinicians and other healthcare professionals. In a succinct, heavily bulleted style, the authors offer practical guidance on addressing important questions many parents ask about their children's development and behavior. Ideal for the busy clinician to quickly and efficiently access helpful clinical information on the fly.

**In Honor of National LGBT Pride Month, the Disability Library would also like to recognize the following book from our collection:**

### ***The Transgender Child: A Handbook for Families and Professionals***

by Stephanie A. Brill and Rachel Pepper

This comprehensive, first-of-its-kind guidebook explores the unique challenges that thousands of families face every day raising their children in every city and state. Through extensive research and interviews, as well as years of experience working in the field, the authors cover gender variance from birth through college.

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You can't be afraid to fail. It's the only way you succeed -  
you're not gonna succeed all the time, and I know that.

*LeBron James*

***How to get in touch with POSSIBILITIES:***

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