

## I. INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

Connecticut has received a technical assistance grant from the National Governor's Association to conduct an analysis of resources available to youth with disabilities who are transitioning into employment. Connecticut is pursuing a multi-agency, multi-discipline approach by reviewing the services provided by each agency. This method will help determine where transition services are provided, the type of services provided, overlap and gaps in services provision.

The Connecticut NGA project contracted with Public Consulting Group, Inc. to map the resources available from several agencies. The project was divided into two phases. During the first phase of the project, PCG examined the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS), the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), the Department of Mental Retardation (DMR), the State Department of Education (SDE), and the Board of Education and Services for the Blind (BESB). During the second phase of the project PCG examined the Department of Social Services (DSS), the Department of Labor (DOL), Capital Workforce Partners (CWP), the Department of Correction, (DOC), the Department of Children and Families (DCF), and Court Supported Services Division (CSSD).

The goal of the project was to identify state agency resources associated with transitioning youth with disabilities to employment. The target population for this review included individuals age 14-30, with an identified disability. Identified disability included substance abuse, as well as all students with an IEP and "504" students.

PCG met with each identified agency to learn about the state agency resources. We collected a great deal of information from the agencies through staff conversations, online sources and printed materials. PCG focused on the services provided and the data systems used to maintain information about these services.