



## DORS Level Up 2016 **Free** Summer Activities Save the Dates!!!

### **Assistive Technology (AT) Camp at Camp Hemlocks**      **Dates: August 7 -12**

The Department of Rehabilitation Services (DORS), in partnership with the New England Assistive Technology Center (NEAT), is excited to offer a summer overnight camp experience to transition-age youth and young adults with disabilities in the state of CT. **AT Camp** promotes transitional success for students in school as well as individuals entering college, employment or community programs. A positive future is encouraged through meaningful camp activities and learning opportunities, while inspiring independence, leadership and team building skills.

Campers will be introduced to AT and will use it throughout the week to create an AT Transition Portfolio. This portfolio will capture their personal strengths, learning style and goals for transition and will help campers identify AT supports that can increase their independence and promote productivity. Resume building, job shadowing, mock interviews and public speaking opportunities will be explored by each camper in a fun and engaging forum. During **AT Camp**, campers will build crucial self-esteem and self-advocacy skills that they can use for life!

Contact: [Arlene.Lugo@ct.gov](mailto:Arlene.Lugo@ct.gov)

Camp Hemlocks application and Physical Examination will be required.

### **Using Mobile Tech as Assistive Technology (AT)**

#### **Hosted by NEAT**

**Dates: July 25, August 29 & September 19**

Accommodations and supportive technology tools can be extremely valuable for students who are in the classroom, beginning their journey to college or entering/re-entering the workforce. This introduction to assistive technology will lay the foundation for implementing technology supports with individuals you serve in the home, school, workplace and/or community settings.

In this workshop, educators, community rehabilitation providers (CRPs) and vocational rehabilitation (VR) counselors who work with **DORS Level Up Job Seekers** will discover the possibilities the iPad provides to individuals with disabilities by exploring built-in features, accessibility options and accessories. Topics will include executive functioning, reading, writing, organization, communication and self-management. Participants will also explore other AT tools including low- to high-tech and mobile devices including tablets, Chromebooks, and *Livescribe Smart Pens*, etc. Demonstrations of software, apps and resources that can increase productivity and enable independence will also be provided. The same training will be offered in each region of the state (locations to be announced).

Contact: [Arlene.Lugo@ct.gov](mailto:Arlene.Lugo@ct.gov)

### **Deaf Self-Advocacy**

**Dates: July 19-21 & August 16-18**

The Youth Deaf Self-Advocacy project has dual components. The first component is a Train-the-Trainer workshop that will take place on **July 19, 20, and 21<sup>st</sup>** which provides instruction to Deaf professionals on how to teach Deaf students to self-advocate for effective interpreting services. The second component is a Youth Deaf Self-Advocacy workshop for Deaf youths fluent in American Sign Language that will take place on **August 16, 17, and 18<sup>th</sup>**. Both workshops include concepts of self-esteem and self-determination, a review of interpreting laws, ethics of working with interpreters, video relay interpreting, preparing for self-advocacy and accessibility to community resources for effective communication.

Contact: [Heidi.Henaire@ct.gov](mailto:Heidi.Henaire@ct.gov)

### **FYI...**

#### **Youth Leadership Forum**

##### **Summer Leadership @UCONN, Storrs, CT**

**Dates: July 24-28**

High school students with disabilities from across Connecticut identify common public service projects to impact people with disabilities in their communities. Students sleep away at the UConn Campus in Storrs, CT for five days to develop their own leadership skills, establish meaningful relationships with peers and be mentored by staff with disabilities. Registration is closed for this year, but 16 and 17 year olds may apply for the summer 2017 session in the next few months. Go online to view the video: <https://youtu.be/AIDvtpaxuaM> for highlights from this annual summer leadership experience.

For General Information and Updates on any of these activities please contact: [Myra.Scott@ct.gov](mailto:Myra.Scott@ct.gov)