

Cardinal Cushing Centers, Inc.
405 Washington Street
Hanover, MA 02339
United States of America

Transition Planning &
Assessment Services



Cardinal Cushing Centers

Transition Planning & Assessment Services

Cardinal Cushing Centers experienced staff and administrators have been preparing students to become successful adults since 1947.

LET US HELP YOU

Special education students with complex needs require more than the traditional pen and pencil assessments. They require concrete and practical information that demonstrate their proficiencies to help families and districts put in place the instruction that will lead to achieve their **Post-Secondary Vision** for **employment, community experiences, adult living** and **self-advocacy**.

We assist the local IEP team in ensuring meaningful goals and progress by providing:

- ▼ Employment and Career Assessment
- ▼ Community Experiences and Post-High School Adult Living Assessment
- ▼ Self Advocacy and Family Strengths Assessment



Transition Planning Services

Do you need to answer these questions?

- ▼ Is there a course of study or specific courses needed that will help this student reach his/her post-secondary vision? What specific general education, special education or post-secondary education is needed?
- ▼ Are there employment opportunities or skills that will help your student reach his or her vision?
- ▼ Are there certain types of community and adult living experiences that will help your student achieve his or her post-secondary vision?

The transition from school to adult life for students with Autism, Asperger's, Down Syndrome and related disabilities is a challenging time for students, educators and families.

The Cardinal Cushing Centers, Inc., at our Hanover campus now offers the solutions to these and other questions:

- How can we prepare the student for work?
- What is the right job?
- Is post secondary education a possibility?
- What is the ideal adult living arrangement?
- What kind of instruction is needed?
- How can the family be better prepared?

We offer the following 3 assessments:

- Employment and Career Assessment
- Community Experiences and Post School Adult Living Assessment
- Family Strengths Assessment

Employment & Career Assessment

Cardinal Cushing Centers is alone in its ability to provide unique assessments to students by accessing a vast array of on-site businesses to sample. This supplements traditional interest inventories and check lists and provides the family and school district with information based on actual experience. We offer the following job sites at the following businesses, which are open 5-7 days a week, during our vocational assessment:

- **Cushing Trader** is an upscale boutique offering quality jewelry, painted furniture and stationary made by our art students.
- **Cushing Thrift Store** is an affordable alternative to high priced clothing and house ware stores.
- **Cushing Container Redemption** is a one stop redemption center that complies with Massachusetts container laws
- **Central Supply** provides and delivers the supplies necessary to operating our Hanover campus.
- **Cushing Hospitality Program** is a comprehensive program consisting of the following businesses:
 - ❖ **Bass Café**-a coffee shop and eat in and take out bakery
 - ❖ **Culinary Arts**-this consists of our on-site dining rooms (2), private catering, food delivery to the residential units and The Sister's Inn, and baking and delivery to local retail establishments.
 - ❖ **The Sister's Inn**-a six room historic private bed and breakfast available to Cushing guests and families.
 - ❖ **The Greenhouse and Potting Shed**-a full service nursery.
- **South Shore Industries** is located on our Braintree campus and offers the student an opportunity to be assessed at a traditional sheltered employment site.

In addition to our job assessment, we believe that a complete assessment on what makes up a meaningful day contains elements other than paid work. Our assessments can also include:

- **Volunteer Exploration** will provide the student the opportunity to volunteer with seniors at our 150 unit elderly housing program, **Cushing Residence**, or with students with disabilities at our **Braintree St. Coletta Day School**.
- **Life Opportunities Unlimited** is our unique community-based day habilitation program, in Braintree, that focuses on emotional well being, healthy lifestyles and acquiring the daily living skills for independence.

Community Experiences & Post High School Adult Living Assessment

Our Community Experiences and Post-High School Adult Living Assessment occurs in the natural environment of one of our comfortable and air-conditioned campus homes and in the community. Each home has a fully equipped kitchen, private bedrooms and shared bathroom in addition to large and comfortable common areas. Our campus also includes an outdoor pool, gymnasium, recreation and fitness centers, climbing walls, a certified ropes course and ball fields. Our campus provides rich opportunities for a complete assessment of community living.



Using our campus and the local Hanover community, we will assess a student's ability to participate in community-based experiences, independently access community resources, build social relationships, manage money, understand health care needs, utilize transportation options and organizational skills.



Family & Community Strengths Assessment

The transition from school to adult life is one of the most difficult times in the life of a family with a child with a disability. The current fiscal situation makes an already stressful time more confusing to families and to students. Our President and CEO, Jo Ann Simons, is a nationally known expert in the area of transition. She has just finished writing a book on transition for Woodbine House. She has advised hundreds of families and lectures worldwide. A parent herself, she is available to meet with families to help them design a personal transition plan. This plan provides a road map for families and will provide families with personal information on benefits, available funding, community resources, housing and how to create a meaningful day.



Staffing

The Assessment will be conducted by a team consisting of:



- ✓ Special Education Teacher;
- ✓ Vocational Instructor;
- ✓ Occupational Therapist;
- ✓ Social Worker; and
- ✓ Residential Life Skills Instructors



Menu of Services

The assessments can be purchased as a group or a la carte. While we believe that a complete vocational and/or community living assessment takes 2 weeks, a one week program is available. In this case, the funder will direct Cardinal Cushing Centers on what day and employment experiences are desired.

✚ 2 week vocational & community living assessment (14 days): in this option a private 90-minute Family and Community Strengths Assessment is complimentary.

✚ 1 week vocational & community living assessment (5 days)

✚ 2 week vocational assessment (10 days)

✚ 1 week vocational assessment (5 days)

✚ Family & Community Strengths Assessment

The end product is a written assessment that provides families, districts and adult service agencies information that is concrete and practical for planning a successful transition to adult life.

Pricing & Registration Contact

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