

# Building Bridges: Creating Transitional Learning Environments for Students to Young Adults

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#### **Learning Objective 1:**

Understand the **importance of young adult transitional services** for students with special needs.

#### **Learning Objective 2:**

Discover how **community partnerships** can expand learning opportunities beyond a traditional school environment.

#### **Learning Objective 3:**

Explore how specialized learning environments and pedagogies can cultivate student growth and success.

#### **Learning Objective 4:**

Learn about an **innovative educational facility** for students aged 18-21 with special needs.





#### Poll



PATRICKCALLA532
to
22333
to join



# How many Children, 18 years old and younger, in the United States have a disability?

Top



## How Many adults, 18 and over, in the Unites States have a disability?

5-20 million

20-35 million

35-50 million

over 50 million



# In 2020-2021, what percentage of all public school students (ages 3-21) received special education services in the United States?

0-5% (0 - 2,830,000 students)

6-10% (2,830,000 - 5,232,000 students)

11-15% (5,232,000 - 7,632,000 students)

16-20% (7,632,000 - 9,600,000 students)



#### Where will I live?

How do I host family & friends at my apartment?

How will I get to work?

Where will I get therapy if needed?

What will I do in my free time?

Where will I work?

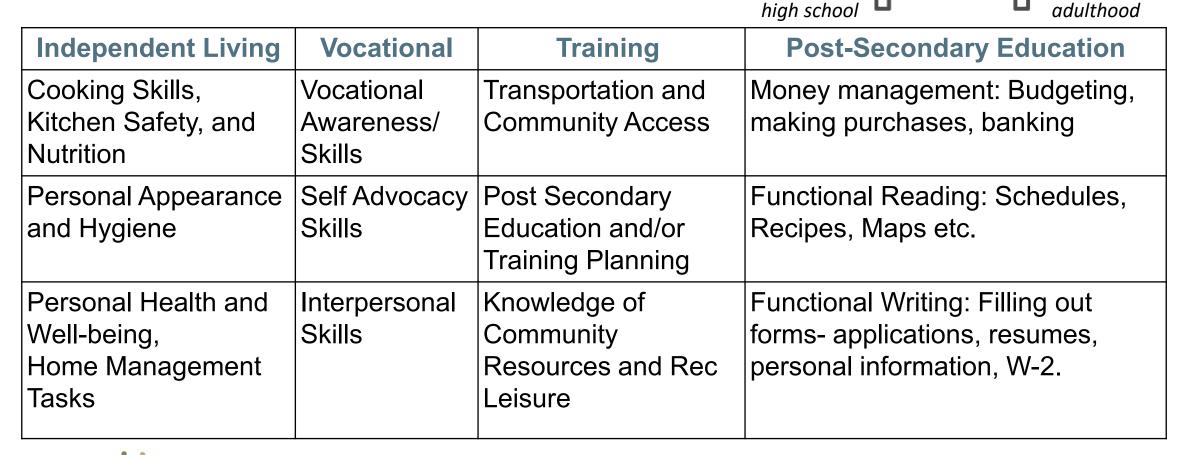
How will I pay my bills?

Who will I live with?

How will I cook for myself?



#### **Areas of Transition Learning**



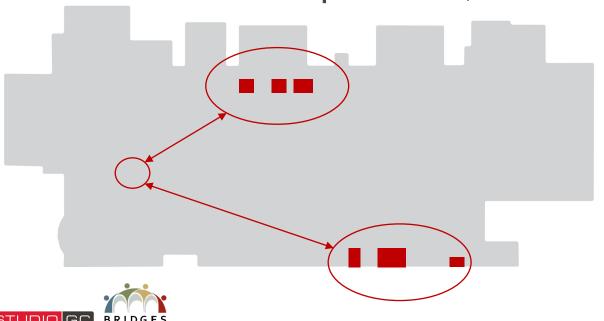
18-21 years old



#### **Barriers & Challenges**

#### **High School Setting**

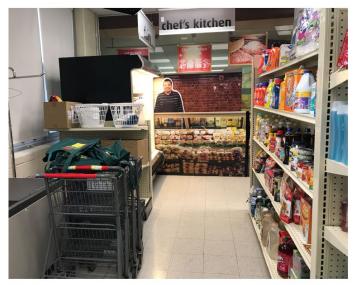
- Graduated Seniors
- Bell Schedule
- Crowds
- Cafeteria/Lunch
- Allocated space 3,639 SF





#### **Site Visits**

#### Dream big













#### **Programming Studies**

Support the student experience









### Program Development Opportunities & limitations

Existing – 3,639 SF



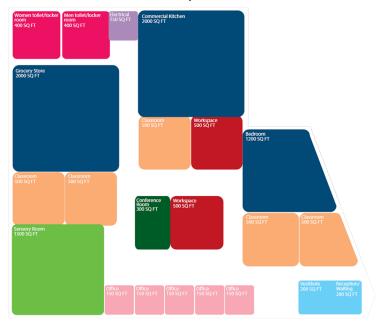
Optimized (initial present-day) – 35,000 SF





#### **Conceptual Program Test-Fits**

Minimum – 17,000 SF





Optimized (initial present-day) – 35,000 SF





#### **Conceptual Program Test-Fits**

Optimized (future planning) – 50,000 SF



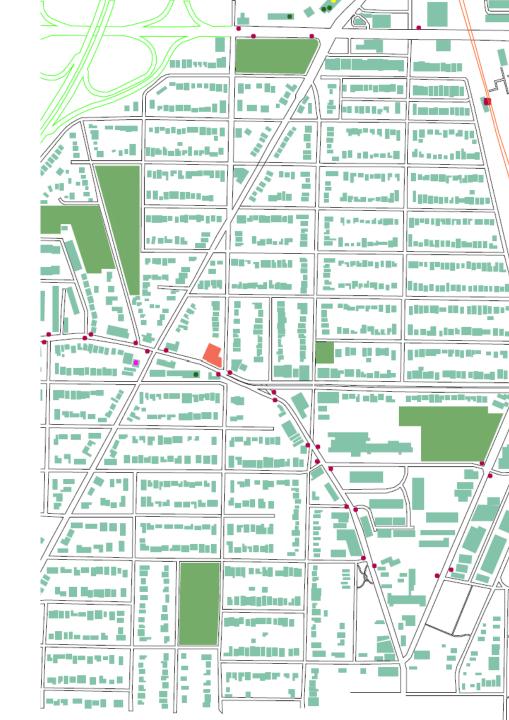




#### Site & Location Studies

#### Property search

- Access to Public Transportation
- Access to Community Partners
- 5 buildings toured over 14 months

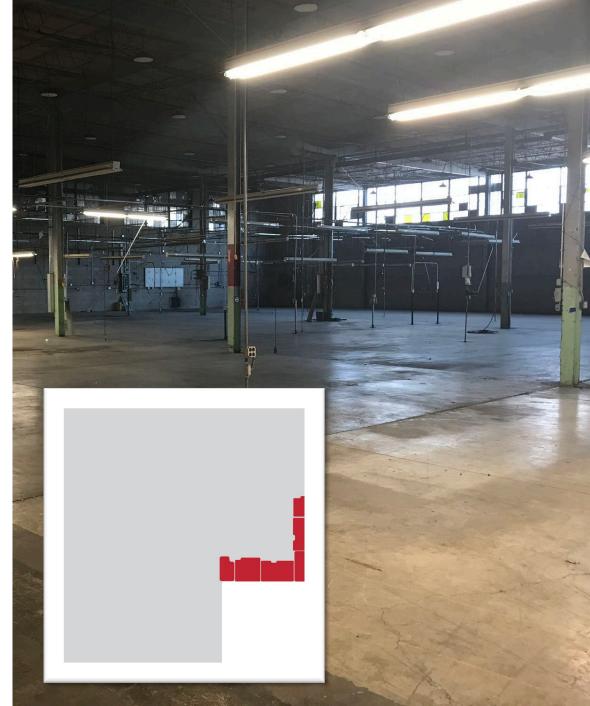




#### **A New Beginning**

Manufacturing warehouse & office building 50,000 sq. ft. existing







#### Parent & Student Engagement

- Village Special Use public meeting support
- On-site tours of existing building
- Still image renderings





#### Parent & Student Engagement

Immersive virtual reality

Rendered design

walkthroughs

Virtual orientations to prep students



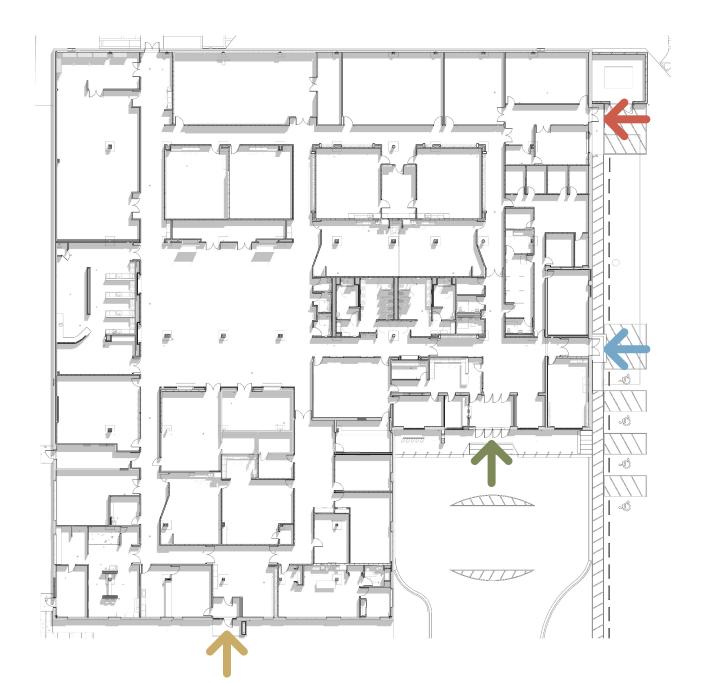




Student Community & Internship Access

Staff

Deliveries & Building Support





- Instructional Lab 5,820 SF
- Simulation Labs 9,800 SF
- Common Areas 9,750 SF
- Staff & Support 7,250 SF
- Toilet/Mech/ Circulation 15,954 SF

Total = 48,574 SF









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Staff & Support

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Current Enrollment – 690 SF/student Max Enrollment – 540 SF/student





# What design elements do you see in these spaces for students with special needs?





#### **Bridges Concept Development**

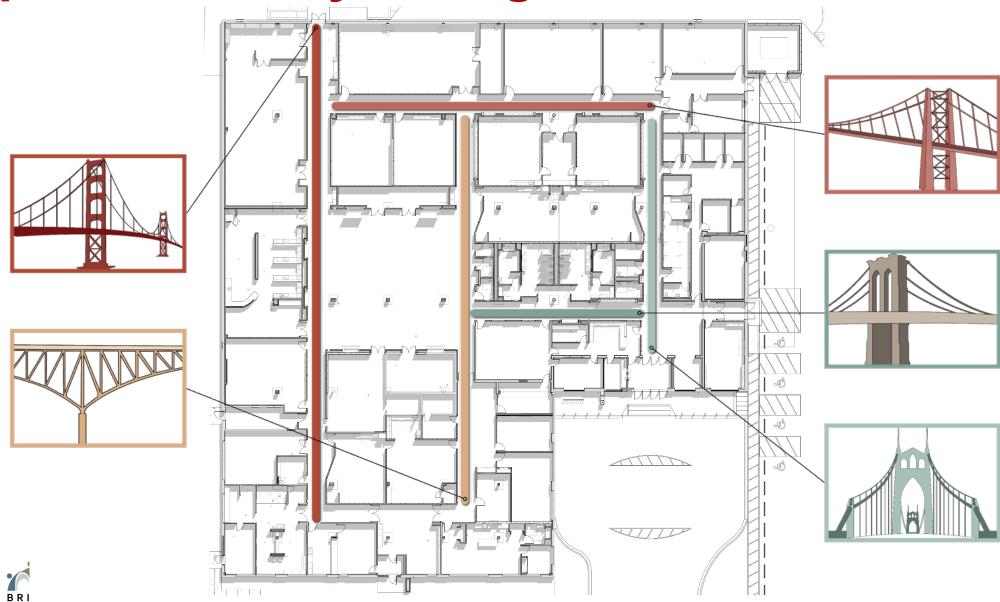






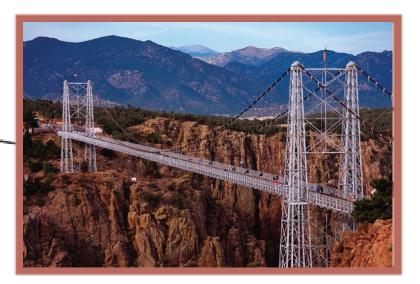


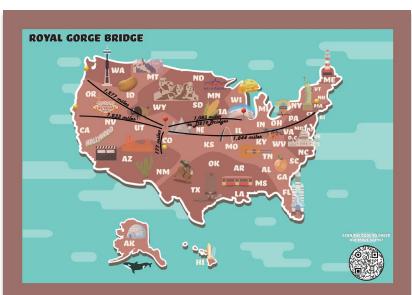
**Experiential Wayfinding** 



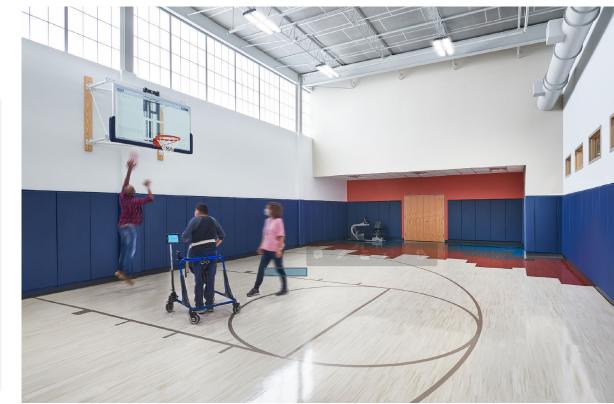


#### Experiential Wayfinding















































## Why do Transition Programs matter?

Why do they need intentionally designed and purpose-built spaces?



(1in 4)

of adults in the United States have some type of disability



## Percentage of adults with functional disability types

**13.7% 10.8% 6.8%** 

5.9%

MOBILITY

Serious difficult

COGNITION

Serious difficulty concentrating. remembering, or making decisions

INDEPENDENT LIVING

Difficulty doing errands alone

HEARING

Deafness or serious difficulty hearing

VISION

Blindness or serious difficulty seeing



Difficulty dressing or bathing

SELF-CARE











National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## Employees with disabilities have a 48% lower turnover rate than non-disabled employees.

92% of Americans view companies that hire employees with disabilities more favorably than those who don't.

19.1% of adults with disabilities are currently employed.

17% of adults with disabilities live independently.





