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**TPSID-CC: THINK COLLEGE, AT THE INSTITUTE FOR
COMMUNITY INCLUSION, UNIVERSITY OF
MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON**

CITY/STATE:

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

PROJECT DIRECTOR:

DR. MEG GRIGAL

PROJECT TITLE:

**THINK COLLEGE, AT THE INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY
INCLUSION, UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Think College, at the Institute for Community Inclusion, University of Massachusetts Boston, in Boston, MA, will lead the TPSID Coordinating Center (CC) to serve as the technical assistance entity for all comprehensive transition and postsecondary (CTP) programs in the United States. Think College's experienced history, deep knowledge of research and practice, and staff's unique expertise will ensure CC services are responsive to national, regional, and state level issues. In partnership with the Association of Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD), Inclusive Postsecondary Education (IPSE) Association, Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education at Syracuse University, University of Rochester, and in collaboration with the Inclusive Higher Education Accreditation Council (IHEAC), the CC will achieve these goals: 1). Provide national technical assistance (TA) to TPSID and non-TPSID inclusive postsecondary education (IPSE) programs for students with intellectual disability (ID), on program development, evaluation, and continuous improvement, including meaningful credentials. Using a data-driven TA approach to inform continuous quality improvement, the CC will provide TPSIDs with peer-to-peer learning, mentorship, and training, through quarterly and annual meetings and on-demand support via our Help Desk. Target audiences (IPSE programs, K-12 and higher education professionals, families, students) will receive TA via our Help Desk and web-based trainings and resources to improve services and outcomes of IPSE. 2). Develop knowledge and conduct evaluation via data-driven TA and data collection from TPSIDs to develop knowledge aimed at identifying effective practices and enhancing program operations. The CC will collect and report longitudinal data on TPSID practices and outcomes via an evaluation protocol; analyze and report qualitative and quantitative data via an optimized QuickBase platform; and use these data to support data-driven TA provided to each TPSID site annually. Knowledge gathered from advisors and TPSIDs will be summarized in reports and used to guide a responsive resource development and dissemination process, ensuring ongoing needs of target audiences are identified and met by the CC. 3). Translate and disseminate knowledge about the availability and impact of IPSE via our comprehensive communication structures and broad dissemination network. The CC will

respond to identified needs, developing responsive critical resources, such as webinars, digital and print resources (e.g., Reports, Fast Facts, Insight Briefs, or How to Guides), and website content, as well as innovative TA and dissemination strategies. Think College online courses on accreditation readiness, program development, and CTP program approval will be used to promote improved practices with all IPSE professionals. 4). Provide coordination for accountability, quality, and sustainability for IPSE programs. Partnering with the University of Rochester and IHEAC, the CC will convene a workgroup to support implementation of a program accreditation for IPSE programs. Training to support IPSE programs to prepare for and seek accreditation will be provided to bolster accountability, quality, and sustainability of programs. The CC will host the TPSID project directors' meeting at the State-of-the-Art Conference on Inclusive Higher Education, in partnership with Syracuse University Taishoff Center and the IPSE Association to strengthen connections between TPSID and non-TPSID professionals and related target audiences. The CC will work with its project partners and advisors to expand outreach and use of CC materials on best practices for improving postsecondary education for students with ID to all IHEs.