



Sibling Transition

October 20, 2021

About Us



Michigan Supporting and Including Brothers and Sisters (MI SIBS) exists to provide adult siblings of individuals with disabilities with the information, resources and support to advocate with and/or for their brothers and sisters and to promote leadership roles of siblings within the disability community.

Member of **Sibling Leadership Network**



Purpose: To promote a broad network of siblings who share the experience of disability and people concerned with sibling issues by connecting them to social, emotional, governmental, and provisional supports across the lifespan enabling them to be effective advocates with their brother and sister, and to serve as change agents for themselves and their families.

Mission: To provide siblings of individuals with disabilities the information, support, and tools to advocate with their brothers and sisters and to promote the issues important to them and their entire families.

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Presentation: Tracy's Transition
3. Michigan Developmental Disabilities Institute Needs Assessment
4. Open Discussion
5. Future Virtual Meetings

Facilitators: Amelia Allen, Angela Martin, Amy Peckinpaugh

Presenters: Jennifer Mcfarlane and Nickey Hosler

Please Share in the Chat...

- Your name
- Where you live
- Your sibling/family



Tracy's Transition

Our experience with our sister during the pandemic and her move out of our parent's home.





**The
Labadie
Family**

Looking Back

2 Years Ago

- Tracy was living at home with our parents
- Had a routine, participated in activities outside the home, and visited family often

1½ Years Ago

- Tracy has been seizure free since 2001, so she was weaned off a medication she had been on for nearly 30 years
- Started having changes in mood, exhibited aggressive behaviors, and was no longer redirectable

August 2021

- Made the transition to her new home and started her journey outside our parents' home for the first time in her life

Pandemic Pandemonium

- Changes Tracy experienced almost overnight due to the COVID-19 Pandemic:
 - No day program
 - Which meant no respite care for our parents
 - A lack of routine
 - Substantially less family support for safety reasons
 - No means for motivation of good behavior – i.e., bowling, trips to the store
- All these changes while also dealing with an adjustment in her long-time medication

Rock Bottom

- Tracy's behavior escalated to the point where it was no longer safe for her to be at home. Our parents felt their only option was to take her to the Emergency Department.
- There was a tentative plan to transfer Tracy to an Inpatient Mental Health Facility
- This event led to a series of family meetings led by Tracy's new case worker
- Ultimately the decision was made that it was time for a permanent change

The Move



HOUSING
WITH PEERS



LOGISTICS



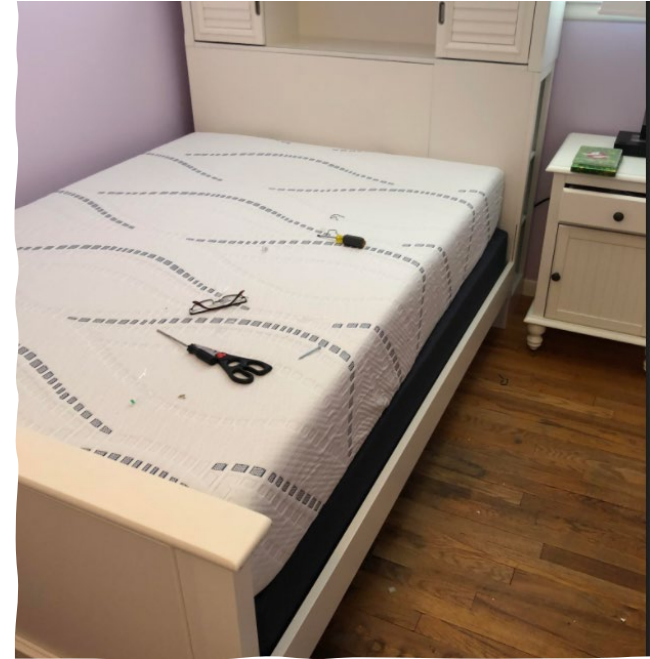
MAKING IT
“HOME”



MOVE IN DAY

Making it Home

- Painting the walls Tracy's favorite color
- Gifts for her "new room" to make it exciting
- Pictures of all her favorite people
- Including her "essentials"



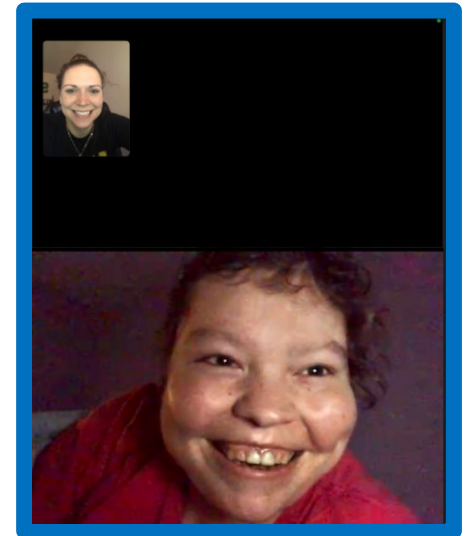
Move In Day

- Tracy wasn't overly excited to have her belongings moving
- There were not 2 staff present as requested
- Lots of emotions from our parents
- Uncertainty



Today

- Tracy has amazed us all and is doing wonderful!
- Tracy refers to her house as her home
- We utilize FaceTime to communicate regularly →
- She loves visitors, and doesn't even ask to leave when her guests leave



MI-DDI Needs Assessment Survey

Take the 2021 MI-DDI Needs Assessment Survey by October 31!

We want to know what is most important to Michigan's intellectual and developmental disability community.

This survey will help us to plan our work for the next five years.

This plan will be used to apply for federal funding to maintain [Michigan Developmental Disabilities Institute](#) (MI-DDI) as Michigan's [University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities](#) (UCEDD).

Take the survey online or over the phone.



MI SIBS Planning for 2022

Dates: February, April, June, and October of 2022 @ 6:00 PM

Topics:

- Supported Decision Making
- Person-Centered Planning
- Panel of Siblings with Disabilities
- Mindfulness



Open Discussion



Thank you for Joining Us



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