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For Immediate Release
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DAWN Center for Independent Living

Offers youth programs for students and recent graduates

DAWN Center for Independent Living (DAWN) is accepting registrations for 2 exciting programs that will assist youth with disabilities in their transition from school to adult life:

SAIL: (Self Advocacy Institute for Leadership)

SAIL, an after school program, provides self-advocacy training in an interactive group setting that incorporates peer support for youth with disabilities ages 13-21. Utilizing hands-on activities, participants engage in self-awareness, goal setting and confidence building projects. Students develop a personalized goal and monitor progress towards that goal over a two month time period. The program is open to students that either have an IEP or a 504 plan. SAIL runs for 9 weeks with weekly 2 hour sessions. This program, funded by United Way of Morris County is open to Morris County residents only.

Career Gateway:

Career Gateway provides the structure recent graduates, who are not working, require to become self-sufficient. Participants will learn numerous life-skills such as resume writing, budgeting, mastering transportation, interviewing skills and social interaction. Career Gateway also gives students the chance to check out a variety of job experiences to help them decide what they want to do with the next step of in their lives. Participants will start out by attending an eight week life skills and job preparedness training with other recent high school graduates followed by a series of internships, or job sampling that will allow them to learn at three different locations.

DAWN is a Center for Independent Living serving people with disabilities and their families in Morris, Sussex, and Warren counties. The agency's goal is to help individuals with disabilities to maintain their independence in the community. Services that are available include information and referral, peer support, independent living skills training, advocacy, and recreational activities.

If you or someone you know is interested in the either of these DAWN programs or other DAWN services, please contact Helen Bradfield at 973-625-1940 or TTD 973-625-1932 or via email at hbradfield@dawncil.org