

## CARE SUMMARY: TRANSITIONS—LOOKING AHEAD

Your child and family will experience many transitions, small and large, over the years. Three predictable transitions occur: when your child reaches school age, when he or she approaches adolescence, and when your child moves from adolescence into adulthood. Other transitions may involve moving into new programs, working with new agencies and care providers, or making new friends. Transition involves change: adding new expectations, responsibilities, or resources, and letting go of others.

It's not always easy to think about the future. There may be many things, including what has to be done today, that keep you from looking ahead. It may be helpful to take some time to jot down a few ideas about your child's and family's future. You might start by thinking about your child's and family's strengths. How can these strengths help you plan for "what's next" and for reaching long-term goals? What are your dreams and your fears about your child's and family's future?



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