

Youth Vibrations

NEED

- Information for youth on transitioning to post-secondary
- Social skills, life skills, positive self-image and self-esteem for youth and interaction with other hard of hearing youth

PROGRAM / ACTIVITY

- A workshop for hard of hearing high school students from across Newfoundland and Labrador

AUDIENCE

- Hard of hearing and Deaf high school students (ages 15-18)

AUDIENCE CHARACTERISTICS

- Many uncertain about post-secondary and career options
- Some lack confidence and social skills

CONNECTING WITH AUDIENCE

- Through itinerant teachers for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Parents support group
- Post information on youth blog

LOGISTICS OF PROVIDING A SIMILAR PROGRAM

- Coordinator (volunteer or paid) to plan workshop, coordinate tours of post-secondary, promote and keep in contact with itinerant teachers, supervise overall event.
- Joint funding between CHHA-NL (hearing accessibility: FM systems and Captioning) and the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Education (for overnight accommodation, meals, and student transportation to & from workshop)
- Students travel with, and are supervised by, their itinerant teacher for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

CHALLENGES

- Determining best time of school year to hold workshop (September or October may be best)
- Getting students to attend – unsure, do not want to identify with their disability, missing time from school and/or other school related activities

SUCCESS STORY

- “Youth Vibrations” - a two day workshop for hard of hearing high school students highlighting options for post-secondary and promoting interaction, life skills and building self-esteem

Highlights:

- Tours of 3 local University and College campuses (1 day)

Workshop sessions

- Transitioning to post-secondary
- Provincial government employment program
- Hearing assistive technology for home and school
- Careers in the oil and gas industry for students with disabilities
- Empowerment workshop lead by hard of hearing post-secondary students
- Motivational Speaker: Achieving Dreams, Overcoming Challenges

Group Activities

- Interactive magician show
- Group teambuilding games
- Photo scavenger hunt – results made into a collage for each student to take home

