

## **Mapping Transitions to Your Child's Future**

**Presenter:** Keri Bowers

**Intended Audience:** All Audiences

### **Session Description**

Keri Bowers, first a mother, advocate and film director, is very excited to discuss her new workbook "Mapping Transitions To Your Child's Future" a long overdue resource for parents of children with autism and other special needs. Keri was inspired to create this magnificent fifty page hands on workbook for families after being asked on numerous occasions "But How did you get from Here to There, Keri? Your son doesn't even seem like he has autism!" Keri will tell you how to structure your special needs child's life through a team approach including the siblings, moms, dads, teachers, aides and even the grandparents.

She will walk you through planning summer camps, art expression, and even take you on a discovery interview process with the significant people in your child's life in which you will learn things about your child you would otherwise never have known. Be sure to come prepared to work in order to design the road map to achieve best possible future for your child forever. You will walk away thinking "Oh My Gosh! I can now put this in place for my child the minute I arrive home from the conference with the new, possibilities and opportunities for your child and family. Keri demonstrates that truly, amazing things are possible from all people and you have to give them the right tools.

Benefits for professionals/educators/parents:

Learn hands-on tools for building life and social skills. Based on strategies and tools used for years in my work, you will gain essential tools you can use tomorrow to help build upon the plan. "outside the box" thinking, things you never thought of. Get ideas and strategies for using the arts and other alternative tolls to build cognitive, social, and life skills, improve language, self-esteem, and self awareness. Watch a 15 minute short of Normal People Scare Me to set a tone for important points of discussion.

Top Things People Will Learn From This Presentation:

- Strategies for improved communication and collaboration
- Tools for social and life skill development
- Rapid Fire Improvisation: improving speech, language and understanding
- Tools in the arts for improved in-service and educational options
- Communication techniques; from professionals to parents and parents to professionals
- Mapping processes (action oriented process) to a future you want for your child and family
- Parent, advocate perspective you can relate to
- What are future options for employment for people with disabilities?
- Micro Enterprise and the Future of the Lanterman Act in the State of California