

Overview of the PATH Process



Phase I: PLANNING

Select a positive meeting place where the PATHfinder feels comfortable, invite team members, iron out PATH meeting details (many PATHfinders like to provide their favorite snacks or drinks during the PATH meeting)



Phase II: CREATING

The PATHfinder and their team, along with the process and graphic facilitators, come together for a 2-3 hour meeting where they collaboratively produce an approximately eight by four foot visual representation of the PATHfinder's hopes and dreams



Phase III: EXECUTING

The facilitators write up everything discussed in the PATH meeting and share it with the team members, then over the next year(s) the team members work together to support the PATHfinder in achieving his or her goals

PATH Facts



PATH stands for Planning for Alternative Tomorrows with Hope



The PATH process empowers an individual to articulate their hopes and dreams, then incorporates team input into a collaborative plan with concrete steps that lead toward positive and possible goals



For a person with a disability, the PATH process encourages collaboration between families and professionals, and it complements the IEP process. PATHs foster meaningful transition planning with an emphasis on student and family input



A PATH can be helpful for life or career planning as well as conflict resolution. The PATH process was developed by Jack Pearpoint, John O'Brien, and Marsha Forrest

PATH Team Members

PATHfinder

The person who, with the help of their team, hopes to identify their dreams, set goals, and develop concrete steps to meet those goals

PATHfinder's Team

- Important stakeholders in the PATHfinder's life, including family members, friends, classmates, neighbors, teachers, related service providers, and/or coworkers

Process Facilitator

Enables the PATHfinder and their team to identify a common vision, encourages collaboration, synthesizes team member contributions

Graphic Facilitator

Creates a visual representation of the PATHfinder's and their team's vision, draws throughout the meeting to create a picture associated with each hope or goal