



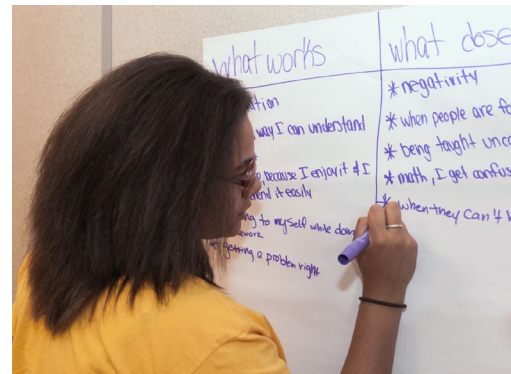
# RENEW

resilience, empowerment, and natural supports for education and work  
*Creating Hope, Building Futures, Changing Lives*



## OVERVIEW

RENEW is a structured school-to-career transition planning process for youth who need help adjusting to transitions, engaging in school, work, and community activities, creating positive interactions with peers and mentors in the community, and creating a plan to finish their education and obtain meaningful employment. Developed in 1996 by staff at the UNH Institute on Disability (IOD), RENEW is provided by trained facilitators from schools, community mental health centers, community-based providers, and the IOD. The model focuses on supporting each youth to design and pursue a plan for the transition from school to adult life. RENEW has substantially increased the high school completion, employment, and post-secondary education participation rates among our most vulnerable youth.



## KEY FEATURES

- Designed to help youth plan for their future
- Encourages youth to take ownership of their planning process
- Identifies dreams and goals that are important to the youth
- Allows youth to decide how they want to achieve their goals, and who is going to help them along the way
- Uses a strengths-based approach
- Emphasizes building relationships and personal connections in the community
- Helps youth and family connect to resources to support the youth's goals

## OUTCOMES

Studies from various cohorts (projects) support these outcomes:

- Improved educational outcomes (increased graduation rates, post-secondary education participation)
- Increased employment rates
- Improved functioning in school and in the community
- Reductions in behavior problems in school and in the community (including reduced juvenile justice involvement)
- High youth satisfaction rates
- Increased youth self-determination and self-efficacy skills

RENEW is a program of

Institute on Disability/UCED



University of  
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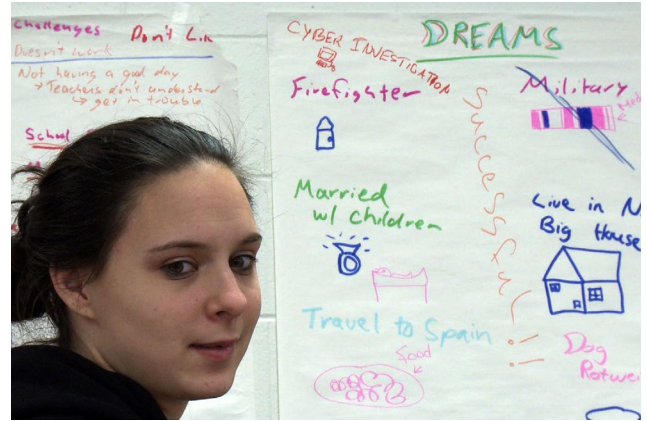
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## AVAILABLE SERVICES

Staff at the IOD provide training and coaching to individuals and groups in community-based agencies and schools to implement the RENEW model, including a comprehensive facilitator’s manual, a set of tools to use with youth and teams, implementation assessments, and process and outcome data collection instruments. The IOD also works with schools, community-based providers, state education, and mental health agencies to develop the systems and infrastructure necessary to implement the RENEW model with fidelity. Consultation also includes assistance with how to use Medicaid and school-based resources for implementation of RENEW.



***“They helped me get organized by breaking up the big goals into little steps. After a while, I was making progress.”***

*Kelsey Carroll, RENEW participant*




## PARTNERS

- Endowment for Health
- New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
- New Hampshire Department of Education, Bureau of Career Development
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) NH
- Eight NH Community Mental Health Centers
- *Who Cares About Kelsey?*, an award-winning documentary film by Dan Habib

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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