

Transition Services with ACN by Brett Samson, Executive Director

About the Autism Center of Nebraska:

ACN is a certified developmental disabilities service provider under contract with the State of Nebraska Health & Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities. Nearly 150 individuals receive services from ACN, ranging in age from five to 65. Although ACN specializes in autism, we serve persons with a variety of developmental disabilities. Individualized services and supports are designed to lead to a higher level of independence for each individual receiving services, addressing the individual's desires for his/her future. ACN provides a variety of residential, vocational, pre-vocational and educational services. At ACN, we believe that every person, regardless of disability, is valuable, and deserves to be considered valued members of their home community.

Transition Services with Parent Advocate, Mary McHale

Mary McHale and her husband, Joe Holm, are the parents of Daniel Holm. Mary has always been a planner; hence her day job as a project manager. When she is not working, Mary advocates by attending disability education sessions (like DSES) to gain more information and improve the quality of Daniel's life as well as the lives of others who have disabilities. She has also served and continues to serve on boards that impact the lives of individuals with disabilities.

In 2019, Daniel Holm was in his last semester at the Omaha Public Schools Transition Program. He has been receiving the DD waiver for day services since 2018 (even though he is not 21) and is working on skills to live on his own within the next 3 years. He participates in Special Olympics basketball and power lifting and is taking a break from swimming and tennis this year. He attends recreational programs at UNMC MMI and Ollie Webb Center, Inc. He is looking forward to working once he is finished with the transition program with the end-goal of making his own money. Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation and a Services Provider are currently assisting in that process.

Additional Transition Resources and Information in Nebraska

Nebraska Career & Technical Education Home:

<https://www.education.ne.gov/nce/transitions-for-all-students/>

PTI & Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation Info.:

<http://pti-nebraska.org/transitions/>

Service Provider Contact:

<http://dhhs.ne.gov/DD%20Documents/Agency%20Provider%20List.pdf>