



education: associates  
**Job Ready. Life Ready.®**

# NEWS & VIEWS

Tips. Research. Best Practices. Community.

## USING CREATIVE FUNDING & GRANT WRITING TO GENERATE POSITIVE POST-SECONDARY OPPORTUNITIES



GRANT COUNTY  
*Special Education Cooperative*  
"Working Together for a Successful Future"



with  
**LISA GRAHAM**

Our April Webinar Wednesday was hosted by Lisa Graham from Grant County Special Education Cooperative in Indiana. She inspired us to dream big about career readiness programming and finding unique funding sources.

Below, we'll walk through:

- Finding your dream - *DREAM BIG*
- Sharing your dream - *GET OTHERS EXCITED*
- Funding your dream - *JUST ASK*

We've provided tips for funding along the way.

## "Making an Impact" - Literally

Lisa's dream from 36 years ago has evolved into a program called "Making an Impact" that has been running for 11 years. Lisa will be the first to tell you that the program did not come about overnight. It is the result of hard work, taking risks, handling rejection, and a strong dedication to seeing students succeed.

*Lisa Graham is a distinguished professional in the field of special education, bringing over 35 years of experience as a special educator and over 20 years as an administrator. Throughout her career, Lisa has been recognized for her innovative approach to supporting and including students who learn differently. She prides herself on "thinking outside of the box" to create effective educational strategies.*

WATCH THE WEBINAR

## Dreaming Big for Inclusive Career Readiness

Building a meaningful career readiness program for students with disabilities starts with a bold vision. By setting ambitious goals, you can create opportunities for your students that go beyond traditional expectations. By dreaming big, we open up possibilities to design inclusive programs that empower students with the skills and confidence to succeed in the workforce.

**17%** of people with intellectual disabilities are **employed** in the United States.

*Lisa's dream has always been to beat the odds and contribute to increasing this percentage.*



## FUNDING TIP #1

Get specific about your dream & identify what you need funding for.

# BUILD THE TRANSITION PROGRAM OF YOUR DREAMS!

*Schedule a FREE 15-minute  
Discovery Call to learn more!*

CLICK HERE



## SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

### "Making an Impact" Program



Young adults from 5 different schools participate in a post-secondary educational program on campus at Indiana Wesleyan University. The goal? To provide rich experiences that will allow them to flourish as independent, productive adults in their communities. This includes life skills like building resumes and using money.

"Making an Impact" offers numerous valuable work placement opportunities for students; on a food truck, in a greenhouse, and with screen printing. These are all self-sustaining enterprises that fund future endeavors for the "Making an Impact" program. Through these job experiences, students earn income, develop job skills, and acquire practical knowledge they can carry into the real world.







## FUNDING TIP #2

Check out Education Associates' "Find the Funds" webpage.



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### Sharing Leads to Networking



Collaboration is key to refining and expanding career readiness programs. Openly discussing ideas with colleagues, administrators, and community partners can lead to valuable feedback and innovative solutions. By sharing your program's achievements, as well as its challenges, you might be pleasantly surprised to discover new connections that can assist in the development of your program. These relationships can lead to opportunities for student job placements, program funding, and much more!



## FUNDING TIP #3

People don't know you need funding unless you tell them!

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# TAKE A SNEAK PEEK!

CLICK BELOW FOR CURRICULUM SAMPLES.

Click Here



## Creative Funding & Long-Term Growth

Finding financial support often requires creative thinking beyond conventional budgeting methods. You can secure resources through grants, community sponsorships, and innovative partnerships. By exploring multiple funding avenues, you can build a lasting initiative that will impact students for years to come!



## FUNDING TIP #4

Look for funding opportunities at local organizations, clubs, & foundations.

Get Your Program Started with Savings!

CELEBRATING

45 YEARS  
OF JOB & LIFE  
READINESS!



JOIN THE PARTY WITH OUR  
ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL!

GET STARTED

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## Celebrating our Executive Vice-President & Chief Academic Officer: SHELLEY MAUER



After 45 years of creating the very best in career & life readiness curriculum, Shelley Mauer, our Senior Vice President of Research and Development and Chief Academic Officer, is retiring. Throughout her tenure, she has partnered with school districts throughout the country to lift up thousands of students to become confident, independent adults! Shelley worked tirelessly on our CASE-endorsed Career Exploration Adapted Series, worked with trainers, curriculum writers, and so much more to

ensure that our curriculum was the best it could be to serve educators and students. *Thank you, Shelley, for 45 wonderful years!*

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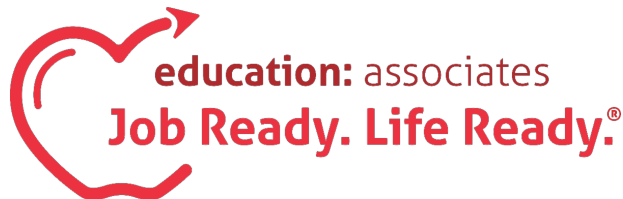
# CAREER READINESS IS IN FULL BLOOM

WITH OUR SPRING SAVINGS SPECIAL!



LEARN MORE

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