

College and Career Transitions

Geoffrey Beene, MSW



Agenda

- Greetings/Introduction/QOD
- Cultural Awareness and Preparedness
- College Bound vs. Workforce Development
- Traditional vs Non-Traditional students
- Dilemmas in Distanced Learning
- Case Studies
- Q&A





Geoffrey Beene, LLMSW

- Human being, father, husband, community member
- Worked in many areas of human services in the Greater Grand Rapids area.
- Counselor, educator, college success coach, social work, medical social worker, case management, and others.
- Currently working with patients ranging in ages 13-45 years old.
- Therapist at the BRAINS Adult & Adolescent Clinic in Grand Rapids, MI.
- Part of a multidisciplinary team.
 - Assessment
 - Outpatient Counseling
 - Occupational Therapy
 - Speech and Language Therapy
 - Applied Behavior Analysis





Quote of the Day

Everyone has strengths, purpose, and culture.



Cultural Awareness and Preparedness (when supporting and advising students/clients)

- What is culture?
 - Patterns of learned and shared behaviors and beliefs of a particular social, religious, ethnic, or age group. (Webster, 2020)
 - We use culture to adapt and transform the world we live in.
- Understanding self (Counselors and students/clients) from a Strength's Perspective
 - Knowing one's own culture
 - Bias/Prejudices/Expectations
 - “You won’t get a good job if you don’t go to college’
 - “Women don’t need to work”
 - “College isn’t for me”



College Vs. Workforce Development

College Bound

- Students or clients who are focused on obtaining a college degree with the expectation of securing a career in the future
- Traditional student (recent high school grad, gap year)
- Non-traditional student (currently in the workforce wanting to further education)

Workforce Development

- Students or clients who have identifiable talents, abilities, and attributes toward a specific skill trade or career
 - Information technology, welding, healthcare, Manufacturing, Culinary Arts, Cosmetology, Heating and Cooling, Gaming, Youtubers
- Traditional Student
- Non-traditional student



Traditional Vs. Non-Traditional

- Understanding differences and importance to supporting their decisions
- Person in environment perspective
 - Basic assessing tool for most counselors
 - Gathers data and information from each system impacting student/client
- Implications on the future
 - Student/client future
 - Implication on the community
 - Economic implication



Future Dilemma with Online and In-seat learning

- For K-12 school students
 - Cultural Dilemmas
 - What will school look like going forward?
 - More students changing to online learning permanently
 - Social emotional learning
- College and non-traditional students
 - Cultural
 - Technology challenges and barriers
 - College tuitions and college experiences
 - Careers



Case Study

- Asia is a 16 year old, sophomore high school /early college student who wants to go to finish college and become a nurse. Asia is a first-generation college student. Asia also works at a local smoothie restaurant and “does hair” in her “free time” to make extra money. Asia lives with her single mom and 3 elementary-aged siblings. Asia’s mother is currently unemployed and struggling to pay their bills.
- What are some cultural implications from this vignette?
- As a counselor, how would you advise this student and family?



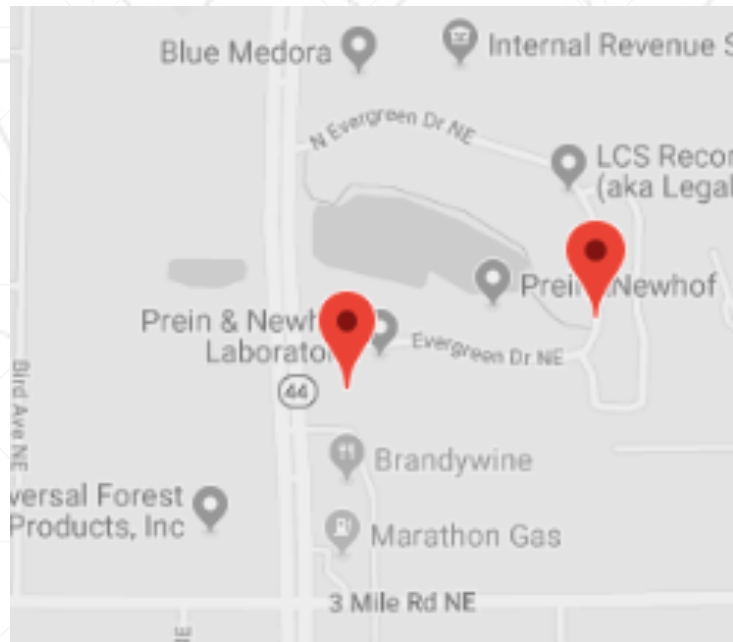
Case Study

- Judy is a 59 years old, former housewife and stay-at home mom looking to get back into the workforce. She graduated from high school “many years ago” and wants to go back to school. Judy just sent her youngest child to college this fall. She is currently seeing a private practice counselor for social anxiety and depression. She is “lost” when it comes technology and school.
- What are some cultural implications from this vignette?
- As a counselor, how would you advise this student and family?



Q & A





BRAINS Main Campus
3292 N. Evergreen Dr. NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Adult & Adolescent Clinic
2900 E. Beltline Ave NE
Suite F
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

P: 616.365.8920
F: 616.365.8971





brainspotential.com





Reminder!!

- Everyone has strengths, purpose, and culture.