

To compile these data—which is critical to the task of mapping the community’s ability to support transitioning youth with disabilities—it is essential to visit each location. In addition to providing basic physical information on the location (e.g., is the site accessible to people with disabilities?), surveying and interviewing resource personnel will provide a clearer picture of how this particular agency or organization fits into the team’s overall vision. Figure 3.2’s Community Mapping Survey is a sample of the types of information that might be collected to inform community mapping. Collecting this type of comprehensive information will provide the team with the information it needs to align the resources within the community to the transition-specific areas of need (e.g., employment opportunities, postsecondary education supports) it has identified.

Figure 3.2. Community Mapping Survey

Date of visit: _____

Agency/organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Website: _____

Contact person (tel. # and e-mail address): _____

1. What services does the organization provide for youth with disabilities?
2. What services does the organization provide for adults with disabilities?
3. How are services funded? (What types of funding sources pay for services?)
4. What services does the organization plan to offer in the near future for youth with disabilities?
5. What critical elements does the organization lack regarding the support needs of students with disabilities?
6. What information can the organization share regarding other organizations in the community? (Other agencies or organizations serving the same population?)
7. Notes and observations: Is the site accessible to people with disabilities (doorways, restrooms, media/materials)? Does the agency seem to have the supplies, technology, and other supports it needs to effectively deliver services?