

Bridget Brown

Designing my life and speaking on behalf of myself...

MY IEP PRESENTATION

Thank you for coming to my meeting today. I am Bridget Brown. Please introduce yourselves.

I would like to thank all the great people who helped me be successful. I am so grateful for all of your support.

I want you to know that I appreciate everyone who helped me succeed and everything you did to make a difference in my life.

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Thanks!
Bridget



My mission statement

I will continue on my journey towards my dreams. I will be kind and helpful. I will try to continue my education in school and work hard to reach my goals. I will learn job skills as I become more independent.

THINGS I AM PROUD OF THIS YEAR ...



- I was on the speech team
- I was in another play
- I had some great opportunities to do public speaking
- Project Choices conference – Keynote for 800 people
- ICE ARC – Keynote
- I will be presenting at the National Down Syndrome Congress convention this summer (keynote and breakout sessions)
- I was in Choir and voice lessons
- In the summer I worked at my camp and also at a day care center with small
I worked hard in school and got good grades
I have many friends
I am still involved in my church group and theater group





DREAMS

- Continue to be a public speaker and have my own consulting organization
- Be an advocate for people with disabilities – and start the “Butterflies for Change” group
- Make a difference in the world
- Continue to work with babies and little children
- Have lots of good friends
- Go to TCD and learn about child development and child care
- Be a life long learner
- Go to Elmhurst College for 4 years in the ELSA program or COD
- Continue to learn, write in my journals and maybe publish my work someday.
- Be a good role model and a good person
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NIGHTMARE

- Be alone & Sad
- People make fun of me because I have down syndrome
- Sit at lunch by myself
- No job
- No friends
 - No dreams and no hope
 - reams
 - No gifts
 - Lonely & ignored
 - No opportunities

GIFTS AND TALENTS



- **Loveable & loving & Joyful**
- **Help people when they are sad**
- **Bright & beautiful**
- **A Strong Self Advocate - determined Smart**
- **Good, clear voice & a Good public speaker**
- **Lots of opportunities and support**
- **Friendly and a good friend**
- **A family who cares about me**
- **Good with babies and small children**
- **Good social skills & funny**
- **Strong faith**
- **Lots of energy**
- **Good reader and good in math**
- **Lots of support from great people!**

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR



- Go to TCD in the childcare/child development program
- Take extra classes at Hinsdale South – Math, Sign Language, Word processing
- Take a class at College Of DuPage
- Part time job – maybe at my dad’s office, Jewel, child care center
- Continue to be involved with Special Olympics at the High School

- Work with the We Grow Dreams group – sales, customer service, and public speaking on behalf of the group around the area to increase support for the group
- Work again this summer at the child care center and get different jobs at Norman B. Barr Camp along with my work in the candy store.
- Save my money so I can go to Elmhurst College

PLANS FOR MY 6th YEAR

- Go to COD
- Work
- Save money for College
- Continue being involved in all my activities
- Get involved in more community activities

PLANS AFTER TRANSITION

My dream is to go to ELMHURST COLLEGE for 4 years

WHAT I NEED TO SUCCEED



- Opportunities & Support
- An advocate & my family
- The determination to speak for myself
- Assistance when needed
- A chance to try things – no one clipping my wings
- Not to be judged because I have Down Syndrome
- A full life with lots of different things I can do
- Transportation



In Denmark the word for Education means SHOW THE WONDER and I think that is a good description of my own education! I have had a wonderful time and I am sad to move on. Hopefully the rest of my life will be as fun and as exciting as these four years!

My family has been there for me since I was born and they are my angels. I had the best teachers in the world and that is why I have such a great life.

THANK YOU!! Bridget

LOVE

BRIDGET

Questions

- **THE HISTORY** - Where have you been on your journey?
- **Things I am proud of !**

- **DREAMS** ~ Pretend you have a magic wand - what would you hope for and dream for yourself (your child)?

- **NIGHTMARE** - what are the things that you worry about and are afraid might happen? Things you want to avoid.

- **GIFTS AND STRENGTHS?** What are your talents, things you like to do, things you are good at?

- **SUCCESS STRATEGIES** - The individual is successful when....?
(Example: Tom is successful when he has tasks broken down for him so he can accomplish one thing at a time.)

- **FUTURE SEARCH.** Step into the future - 1 year from today. Imagine it was the best year ever. Tell us what it would look like for the student if it was the best year ever. **KEEP IT POSITIVE AND POSSIBLE!!!**

- **NEEDS** - What does the student need to be successful? What does the school need? What does the family need?

- **ACTION PLAN:** What do we (the team & student) need to do to make the dreams and the future search comes true?

- **WHAT IS THE FIRST STEP and WHO IS GOING TO DO WHAT?**

