

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bridgeway Transition Program, a comprehensive support program for post-secondary students with learning differences, is taking applications for Fall 2011.

Scottsdale, Arizona – August 26, 2011 – For many students, transitioning from high school into college or vocational school can be overwhelming. For students with learning differences, the challenges are even greater. The mission of the Bridgeway Transition Program is to provide support, resources and guidance to post-secondary students with learning disabilities who are currently attending college or vocational school. Bridgeway is the “safety net” to assure these students do not get discouraged and drop out, but stay in school and enjoy a successful transition to college.

Bridgeway offers a multi-layered approach to supporting students. Working directly with an Academic Specialist each week, Bridgeway students receive individualized support to ensure success in their academic program. Topics addressed include time management, long-term planning, self-advocacy, goal setting, organizing class materials and working with the appropriate Disability Resource Centers to ensure accommodations are met. Students receive one-on-one tutoring and attend a weekly course that reinforces critical college readiness skills and helps students problem solve to proactively address the challenges of higher education. In addition, students can attend a variety of Bridgeway Workshops that target specific strategies and skills.

A special feature of the program is that each student will have an individualized post-secondary plan to chart their progress and ensure their goals are being met. With a students' permission, parents can receive weekly updates that highlight both successes and areas for growth.

Bridgeway students are encouraged take advantage of the many social opportunities that the program offers. Forming friendships and connecting socially is an integral component of the program. Each month, students will be encouraged to attend Bridgeway sponsored social events, including trips to the movies, local hikes, and BBQ's.

“Students with learning differences face many new challenges after graduating from high school,” shares Abbey Fief, Executive Director of Bridgeway. “Our goal is to make sure these students stay in school, complete their education, and become successful contributors to our society.”

The Bridgeway Transition Program was developed by a team of educators at New Way Academy, a 501(c)(3) K-12 school which has been teaching students with learning differences for nearly 44 years. A learning difference is a neurological disorder affecting a person’s ability to speak, listen, read, write, spell, reason, recall, organize information or process information.

Simon Crawford, Director of Academic Programs, has written extensively and presented at professional conferences on the subject of transition from high school to college. He explains that, “Students with learning differences are capable and goal-driven; they simply learn differently. Recognizing and compensating for these differences is the key to their success.”

Applications are now being taken for the Fall 2011 school year. Students who have graduated from high school and are between the ages of 18-26 are eligible to apply. The tuition is set for \$5,000 for an entire school year, which includes two academic semesters. In its first year, Bridgeway will admit 20 students, and will grow to 100 students by the Fall of 2013.

We invite interested students and parents to join us for our Community Open House on Thursday, September 8, from 6-8PM.

The Bridgeway Transition Program is located at 7000 E. Shea Boulevard, Ste J-262, in Scottsdale, Arizona.

For further information on Bridgeway, please visit: www.bridgewayaz.org or call Abbey Fief, Executive Director, [480-991-3686](tel:480-991-3686).