Challenges:

**School Level Roles and Responsibilities**
- With ISD administration, “transition is not viewed as a priority, but paperwork is.”
- Inconsistency in schools
  - Procedures to access and serve students, varies by schools
  - ISD personnel wear “many hats” – it is difficult to discern who is the person of contact throughout the year, as there is school personnel turnover and/or changing of job titles
  - Unawareness and/or misunderstanding of existing MOU

**TVRC/VRC Roles and Responsibilities**
- There is little advancement and promotion opportunities in TWC
- Roles of VRC’s with assigned schools in relation to TVRC’s
- Perception of VRC’s serving students in a timely manner (e.g., SEAL)

**Working with Parents**
- Parents have a misunderstanding of VR funds for college tuition and do not utilize FAFSA
- Parents are unsure or misinformed about how employment can affect their student’s SSI benefits
- Parents have reported that paperwork is “intrusive” and asks for unnecessary sensitive information (e.g., “It’s their life.”)
- Working with undocumented students have presented some challenges – lack of identification paperwork impacts students’ ability to secure employment
- Parents are overwhelmed during student’s school years, and do not ask for services from TWC until the student’s senior year, which is not effective for beneficial services
- Parents are seeking guardianship of students and expect the student to live with their parents long-term, which is unrealistic

**Working with Students**
- Students’ have a lack of motivation to work in employment settings due to lack of training and understanding of employment as well as lack of an immediate “reward” and feelings of “entitlement”

**Who is in your team?:**
- Administration
- General Education and Special Education Teachers
- Transition/Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor (TVRC/VRC)
- Coordinator
- Resource Teachers
- Vision Impaired (VI) Teachers
- Educational Service Centers 7 & 8
- Diagnostician
Supporting Organizations and Agencies

- **Agency**
  - MHMR
  - ARC of Texas
  - Health and Human Services
  - State Department of Health
  - Child Protective Services (CPS) (e.g., education vouchers, quarterly meetings)
  - Federal TRIO programs (e.g., Upward Bound, Talent Search, Student Support Services)
  - SSI, School Health and Related Services (SHARS) form
  - TWC -- Benefits Subject Matter Utilization Resource Facilitator (SMURFS)

- **Education**
  - School Personnel
    - Diagnostician
    - Special Education Teachers
    - General Education Teachers
    - School Counselors
  - Head Start
  - ISD Director (e.g., Helps with applying for grants)

- **Preparing for Adulthood and Work**
  - Community Colleges

- **Community Supports and Solutions**
  - Transportation Services (e.g., TRANX)
  - Special Education vehicle
  - District specialist of the Community Services of East Texas
  - Social Services (e.g., food stamps)
  - Locations to meet with clients
    - e.g., community libraries, health and human services, courthouse, WIC office, Dairy Queen, parking lot
  - Chamber of Commerce (e.g., Chamber Connect helps provide internship)
  - The ARC for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (local ARC- Smith County)

- **Family Support**
  - Parent to Parent (ATX)
  - Mothers of Memorable Students (M.O.M.) group
  - Teachers make home visits (as a last resort)

- **Health Resources**
  - Medicaid providers
  - Lighthouse Counseling Services
  - ACCESS (Jacksonville, TX)

- **Professional Relationships**
  - Each other (TWC and ISD personnel)
  - Continued relationships with individuals after promotions