Recognized a need to create access to higher education
Established Think College! at UMass – Boston
Enabled students to access federal financial aid
Four Pillars of a Quality Model

- Alignment with College Systems & Practices
- Academic Access
- Career Development
- Ongoing Evaluation
- Campus Membership
- Coordination & Collaboration
- Self-Determination
- Sustainability
UCCS and Inclusive Higher Education

• For the past 10 years UCCS has informally included students with intellectual disabilities
• Nick, Megan, and Dillon, paved the way for full services
Currently at the Office of Inclusive Supports

- 3 Students Currently Enrolled
- Students are taking 2 academic courses and 1 self determination/career course
- Students are researching clubs and volunteer positions
- Mentors are designing modifications
- Mentors are reaching out to colleges and planning presentations to teach faculty about the Office of Inclusive Supports
Where We are Going

• Concentration of classes that lead to a career path
• Volunteer work
• Paid internship
• On and off campus paid jobs
• On and off campus supported housing
• Natural supports from fellow students
• Recreation and friendships
• Career development
• CTP certification
• Nationally recognized certificate
Admission and Future Growth

- Age 18-26 and completed High School (no SAT/ACT)
- Have a documented Intellectual Disability
- Strong motivation to attend college
- Expresses an interest in living and working as independently as possible after completing college
- A total of 40 students within 5 years
- Relationship and support for schools districts to prepare students to go to college
- Relationships with local businesses to employ students