

## Board Report

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**Month:** January 2026

**Administrator:** Angela Telfer, Executive Director for Special Education

**Update:** KRESA Transition Services – Highly Individualized Programming Driving Student Success

### Overview

KRESA Transition Services (KTS) continues to lead the way in creating highly individualized programs for young adults ages 18–26. Our approach centers on each student's goals for a meaningful life in the community, ensuring that programming reflects their aspirations and strengths. Staff expertise, combined with family and community partnerships, allows us to design innovative solutions that remove barriers and promote inclusion.

### Student Success Story

Last year, KTS welcomed a 24-year-old student from another county who had previously received homebound services due to challenges with emotional regulation in traditional school settings. Recognizing the importance of equitable access to education and community life, the KTS team collaborated with the student, family, and group home staff to design a program tailored to the student's preferences and needs. This individualized plan focused on:

- Reducing environmental stressors by scheduling instruction after hours in the KTS building.
- Building self-advocacy and emotional regulation skills through strategies that empower the student to express authentic feelings and use coping tools.
- Expanding community engagement by introducing volunteer opportunities at a local farm, with plans to add experiences at a food bank and greenhouse.
- Fostering recreation and social connections through activities such as bowling, rock climbing, and learning to enjoy games with peers.

### Collaborative Approach

The success of this program reflects the collective effort of:

- Teachers, behavior support specialist, social worker, speech-language pathologist, paraprofessionals, and administrators.
- Group home staff who partnered seamlessly with KTS educators.
- Parents who served as strong advocates and active partners in planning.

This team-based approach ensured that the student's voice remained central, honoring their right to a self-directed, fulfilling life beyond school services.



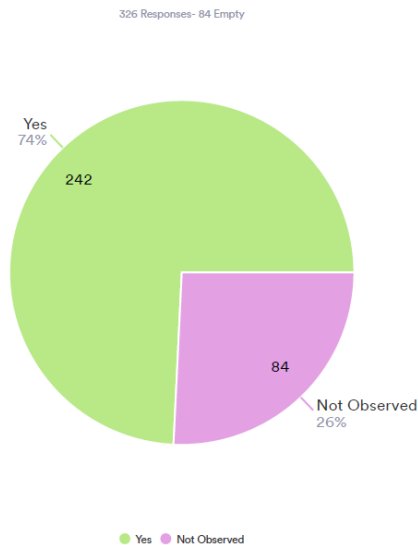
### Impact and Outcomes

Over the past year, the student has demonstrated remarkable growth:

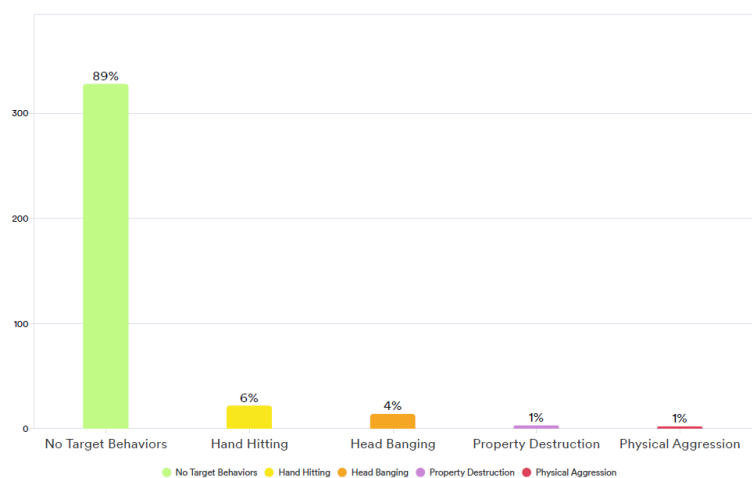
- Increased participation in community-based activities.
- Improved ability to identify emotions and use coping strategies (from 45% of the time to 74% of the time).
- Greater confidence in trying new experiences.

With six months remaining in the program, the student is on track to transition successfully into adulthood with meaningful work, recreation, and supportive living arrangements. Progress graphs below illustrate the trajectory of achievement, underscoring the effectiveness of individualized, inclusive programming.

Student Utilized a Coping Strategy



Type of Target Behaviors Observed



### Key Takeaways

- Innovation and flexibility are essential to dismantling barriers and creating equitable opportunities.
- Collaboration and advocacy amplify student success.
- Student-centered planning ensures dignity, autonomy, and meaningful outcomes.

KTS remains committed to advancing practices that empower every student to thrive in their chosen community settings.

#### Action Item:

None

#### Fiscal Impact:

None

#### Attachments:

None