For more information about the Life Span Institute at Parsons, contact:

David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.
Director, Life Span Institute at Parsons
University of Kansas
2601 Gabriel
Parsons, KS 67357
620.421.6550 x 1713 (phone)
620.421.0671 (fax)
lindeman@ku.edu
LIFE SPAN INSTITUTE AT PARSONS, KU ~ GRANTS, CONTRACTS, & ACTIVITIES 2015-2016 | 3

2015 - 2016 Highlights
University of Kansas
Life Span Institute at Parsons

FY 2016 Funding: University/State investment of $1 returns $3.98 in grants and contracts with total funding at $3,131,966 in State/ Federal Grants/Contracts.

- LSI at Parsons’ faculty and staff provide direct services, training, and technical assistance in all 105 counties in Kansas.
- Each year, 15,165 Kansans are impacted through training, technical assistance, and conference presentations. (21 year average)
- Yearly, 2,726 professionals, trainees, educators, and others attend regional, national, and international presentations given by Parsons’ faculty and staff. (12 year average)

In FY 2015, LSI at Parsons’ faculty and staff gave presentations to 89 state, national, and international audiences in addition to 354 other training and outreach activities.

Eight peer-reviewed publications include 3 articles published, 3 in press, and 2 articles accepted pending revision. Two newsletter series were produced and distributed.

Assistive Technology for Kansans provided AT services to 60 infants and toddlers with disabilities and their family members; 246 adults with disabilities who were retraining or obtaining part-time or full-time employment; 98 farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural workers with disabilities; 934 seniors needing services to stay in their homes and/or to be active in their community in FY 2015.

Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS), the state’s inservice training program for early intervention professionals, provided training and technical assistance for early intervention and early childhood special education programs in Kansas last year reaching 4,426 teachers, related service providers, and administrators.

Southeast Kansas Respite Services, associated with the Life Span Institute at Parsons, provided respite, supportive home care, payee, and homemaker services to 140 families for a total of 30,666.75 hours, as well as, managing the Social Security benefits for 150 customers in FY 2015.

LSI Parsons Research Center is developing training procedures to prepare children with hearing impairment and other disabilities to learn to respond to the tones used in hearing evaluations; is collaborating with investigators at Texas Tech University on an NIH grant to develop an instrument to assess individuals’ transition difficulties that may trigger problem behavior; and continues research on reading with individuals with intellectual disabilities.

The Steppingstones Project is highlighted in the 2013-2014 University of Kansas Life Span Annual Report. (See picture on left)
For more than 50 years the University of Kansas Life Span Institute at Parsons has
- Partnered with national, state, regional, and community partners,
- Conducted research,
- Developed model service programs,
- Provided training for professionals involved in services to young children, youth and adults with disabilities, and their families.

The Parsons LSI includes the Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities (KUCDD) and the Parsons Research Center.

**People are talking about LSI at Parsons!**

- The parents of a two-year-old with cerebral palsy borrowed a corner chair from the ATK Loan System. Now she can sit up, reach, grasp, and play with toys with her brother. Assistive Technology for Kansans (ATK) http://www.atk.ku.edu
- “As a caregiver for my 95-year-old mother in my home, this service has allowed me respite care for out of town commitments, mainly doctor appointments. I am extremely grateful.” Customer comment. Southeast Kansas Respite Services http://sekrespositeservices.org/
- “This year’s KITS Summer Institute was once again very beneficial to me as a professional. The wealth of knowledge the speakers shared with us was outstanding. As a result, I am going to share the information that I learned with my team members so we can refine our assessment procedures.” Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS) http://www.kskits.org/
- After a device demonstration, a young woman who is deaf selected a tablet that allowed her to send texts, use public transportation apps, and improved her computer literacy skills. She now has a full-time professional position. Assistive Technology for Kansans (ATK) http://www.atk.ku.edu
- “The Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS) is a valuable asset to early intervention providers. I have personally used their on-line resources and have attended staff development sessions. Addressing intervention topics specific to the early childhood level is a necessity. I appreciate being able to access professionally prepared materials and presentations to share with my staff.” Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS) http://www.kskits.org/
- ATK staff demonstrated four Braille note takers to a woman who is blind and has a significant hearing loss. The devices provide refreshable Braille to read and allow her to access the Internet, email, track appointments, and use GPS software. Assistive Technology for Kansans (ATK) http://www.atk.ku.edu

For more information, please contact: David P. Lindeman, Ph.D., Director, University of Kansas Life Span Institute at Parsons, lindeman@ku.edu, 620-421-6550, www.parsonslsi.ku.edu
# KU Life Span Institute at Parsons

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University of Kansas
Life Span Institute at Parsons

The Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities (KUCDD) at Parsons focuses on training, technical assistance, exemplary services, and research with core funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Project activities include early childhood intervention, assistive technology, behavioral crisis intervention, and respite care.

The Parsons Research Center is home base to a number of projects, many of which are funded by the National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Child and Human Development. Current research includes the effects of reinforcement variables on self-injurious and destructive behaviors, the treatment of sexual offenders, the effect of drugs on aberrant behaviors, adaptive behaviors and cognitive skills, and audiometric assessment for young children.

Mission: Committed to optimizing the quality of life for individuals with disabilities and their families through research, training, technical assistance, and public service.

For more than 50 years, the University of Kansas Life Span Institute at Parsons has partnered with national, state, regional, and community partners to:
- conduct research,
- develop model service programs, &
- provide training for professionals involved in services to young children, youth, adults with disabilities, and their families.

Located in a rural community in southeast Kansas, the Parsons LSI includes the Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities (KUCDD) and the Parsons Research Center.

- Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) Secretary Kari Bruffet (top left) visits with David Lindeman, LSI at Parsons' Director
- The KUCDD Building entrance
- University of Kansas staff are recognized annually for their Years of Service to KU
TRAINING
Through conference presentations, in-service, and post-graduate training backed by evidence-based adult learning and implementation strategies, the Parsons faculty and staff teach and support direct care providers, educational and community professionals.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
Parsons investigators and staff participate at the international, national, state, and local levels in decisions shaping public policy and research priorities. They are elected to advisory boards; serve on steering committees, grant review panels, boards of directors, task forces and licensing teams; act as conference advisors; chair credentialing committees; provide program reviews; and inform the public through publications and presentations.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
Individuals, programs, and agencies receive focused and targeted assistance from Center staff to identify solutions to challenges faced by individuals of all ages and disabilities and their families.

DIRECT SERVICE AND CONSULTATION
LSI staff provide services to individuals and families living in all 105 Kansas counties and develop strategies for school systems, community care, and other groups.

RESEARCH
Founded in a rich history for cutting-edge work, research scientists, staff, and partners at the Life Span Institute at Parsons offer a highly collaborative environment to conduct research on human and community development and disabilities in both laboratory and applied settings.
University of Kansas
Life Span Institute at Parsons
FY 2016 Funding
$3,131,966 IN STATE & FEDERAL GRANTS & CONTRACTS

University Investment of $1 returns $3.98 in Grants and Contracts

State of Kansas Grants/Contracts $1,289,515 41%
Fed Grants $984,318 31%
Other $229,583 7%

State of Kansas Salary/Fringe $628,550 20%

State Funds
Salaries & Fringe
Grants & Contracts
Department of Aging and Disabilities 136,100 136,100
Department of Education 100,000 100,000
Department of Health and Environment 931,142 931,142
Other 122,273 122,273

Federal Grants
Federal Communications Commission 270,177 270,177
National Institutes of Health: NICHD
U.S. Department of Education RSA 397,028 397,028
U.S. Department of Homeland Security 183,513 183,513
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (ACYF & ADD) UCDD Core 129,600 129,600
Association of University Centers on Developmental Disabilities/Centers for Disease Control 4,000 4,000
Other: 229,583 229,583

Fiscal Year 2016 Total Funding: 189,460 2,942,506 3,131,966
University of Kansas
Life Span Institute at Parsons

FUNDING LEVEL:
1992-2016
### University of Kansas
Life Span Institute at Parsons


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University of Kansas
Life Span Institute at Parsons

Training and Technical Assistance in Kansas:
2010-2015
PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, POSTERS, WORKSHOPS, WEBINARS, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE, RECOGNITION, & COMMUNITY SERVICE

JULY 1, 2014 – JUNE 30, 2015

PUBLICATIONS


NEWSLETTERS

Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS) newsletter
2014, Summer, 21(3); 2014, Fall, 21(4); 2015, Winter, 22(1); 2015, Spring 22(2).
(archived at http://www.kskits.org/publications/newsletter.shtml)

The Insider – Life Span Institute at Parsons newsletter
2014, July; 2014, October; 2015, January; 2015, April.
(archived at http://parsonslsi.ku.edu/newsletters).

PRESENTATIONS, POSTERS, WORKSHOPS, and WEBINARS


Jones, S. (2015, February). Telecommunications Access Program (TAP): Intro to new materials, demonstration practices, and applications. Presentation for regional TAP demonstration center (Three Rivers), Wamego, KS.


Jones, S. (2015, May). Introduction to the Kansas Telecommunications Access Program (TAP). Presentation at Deaf Culture Center, Olathe, KS.


Kemp, P. (2014, September). Routines based interview. Workshop presentation to Johnson County Infant-Toddler Services, Overland Park, KS.

Kemp, P. (2015, April). Individualized family service plan (IFSP) outcome training. Presentation at Sedgwick County Infant-Toddler Services, Wichita, KS.


Kongs, C. (2014, September). *Safety First: A set of guidelines and procedures for maintaining a safe environment.* Workshop presentation at South Central Kansas Education Service Center, Clearwater, KS.

Liedy, P. (2014, August). *Supporting each other to discover our best work.* Active Treatment Training Program, Kansas Neurological Institute, Topeka, KS.


McShane, J. (2014, August 27). Project management essentials. Active Treatment Training Program, Parsons State Hospital & Training Center, Parsons, KS.

McShane, J. (2014, August 28). Project management essentials. Active Treatment Training Program, Parsons State Hospital & Training Center, Parsons, KS.


Peters, D. (2014, October). *Safety First: A set of guidelines and procedures for maintaining a safe environment.* Workshop presentation at Southeast Kansas Education Service Center, Girard, KS.


Pribble, L. (2015, March). *Social emotional assessment/evaluation measure (SEAM).* KDEC Post-Conference Workshop, Wichita, KS.


Rinkel, P. (2014, November). *Safety First: A set of guidelines and procedures for maintaining a safe environment.* Workshop presentation at Cowley County Special Education Cooperative, Winfield, KS.


Rinkel, P., & Blanchett, C. (2014, July). *Supporting young learners with challenging behaviors: Effective practices and accessible resources.* Presentation at Kansas State Department of Education Summer Leadership Conference (two sessions), Wichita, KS.


Rinkel, P., & Kisner, L. (2014, September). *Safety First: A set of guidelines and procedures for maintaining a safe environment.* Workshop presentation at Hutchinson Center for Early Learning, Hutchinson, KS.


Sack, S. (2015, June). *New technologies, barriers to their development, and unmet needs.* Presentation at KU Research: Science Speed Dating in partnership with Nerd Night Lawrence, Lawrence, KS.


Walters, S., & Kemp, P. (2015, March). *Enhancing partnerships with tiny-k programs.* Presentation at the 2015 Kansas Parents As Teachers State Conference, Topeka, KS.


PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.

INTERNATIONAL / NATIONAL

• Reviewer, Young Exceptional Children
• Member-at-Large, Executive Board, Division for Early Childhood (DEC) of the Council for Exceptional Children
• Member, Advisory Group, ECTA System Framework Personnel Component, Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center
• Reviewer, Early Childhood Strand, Council for Exceptional Children Conference

STATE

• Member, Kansas Coordinating Council on Early Childhood Developmental Services (Regents Representative)
• Board Member, Kansas Division for Early Childhood
• Chair, Early Childhood Special Education Best Practices Committee for Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE)
• Chair, Early Intervention Best Practices Committee for Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)
• Chair and Board Member, Board of Directors, Kansas Child Care Training Opportunities, Inc.
• Member, Kansas School Readiness Data Initiative Planning Group, Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE)
• Member, ECCS Workgroup, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS): Building Health Through Integration, (KIDOS Grant) Kansas Department of Health and Environment, (KDHE)
• Member, Early Childhood Integrated Data System – Planning Committee, Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE)

LOCAL

• Member, Board of Directors, Parsons State Hospital Child Care Center, Inc.
• Treasurer and Member, Board of Directors, Southeast Kansas Respite Services, Inc.
• Chair and Member, Board of Directors, Class LTD, Inc. (CDDO for four counties in southeast Kansas)
• Member, Health Services Advisory Board, Head Start Program, SEK-CAP, Inc.

Sara Sack, Ph.D.

INTERNATIONAL / NATIONAL

• Advisory Council Member, National Council on the Reutilization of Durable Medical Equipment, Atlanta, GA
• Invited Presenter, U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration
• Invited Presenter, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
• Reviewer, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) *Perspectives* (online periodicals)
• Reviewer, U.S. Department of Education, National Institute of Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research
• Reviewer, U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs
• Reviewer, grants for the U.S. Department of Education

**STATE**
• Program Committee, Assistive Technology for Kansans (ATK) and Kansas Speech-Language-Hearing Association (KSHA) Assistive Technology Expo and Annual Conference 2014, Topeka, KS

**Kathryn J. Saunders, Ph.D.**

**INTERNATIONAL / NATIONAL**
• Judge/reviewer: Division 25 of American Psychological Association Applied Dissertation Award

**UNIVERSITY**
• Graduate Seminar on Instructional programming -- Department of Applied Behavioral Science, Spring 2015

**Dean C. Williams, Ph.D.**

**INTERNATIONAL / NATIONAL**
• Member, Board of Editors for the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*

**UNIVERSITY**
• Member of the University of Kansas Faculty Senate Research Committee
• Site visitor for the Association for Behavior Analysis International program accreditation board
UNIVERSITY YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

Sheila Simmons (25 years), Patty Black Moore (20 years), Sandy Hill (15 years), Debbie Moody (15 years), Laura Doyle-Colvin (10 years), and Alan Engels (10 years) were recognized for their Years of Service to the University of Kansas at the annual Life Span Institute at Parsons’ Employee Recognition celebration, June 16, Parsons’ Research Conference Room.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

KU Research Speed Dating: Another way to network

Dozens of people gathered at the Cider Gallery in Lawrence on June 22 “for a night of rapid research conversations with KU experts”. People who paid $10 each had 10 minutes to hear a short presentation of the researcher’s area of expertise, take the opportunity to ask a few questions, and then quickly, move on to the next table. KU Life Span Institute at Parsons’ senior scientist, Sara Sack, "an expert in technology that helps people who have speech-language disorders,” talked about 3-D printed prosthetics, communication and speech output technologies, assistive listening technologies, and promising research.

Following the event, Dr. Sack said, “The event was fantastic! It was fun and had such an amazing turnout: Lots of young researchers and software developers; six rounds of tables with 10 participants and extras, changing every 10 minutes. It was really intense! I met several people that I’m sure we’ll continue to have contact with and one participant wanted to have her picture taken with me. Now I just wonder where that picture will turn up.”

The event was held in partnership with Nerd Nite Lawrence and supported by the KU Natural History Museum, the Spencer Museum of Art, the Life Span Institute, KU Libraries, and the KU Office of Research.

Muscular Dystrophy Association Fundraiser Lock-up

Sara Sack and Patty Black Moore, with help from colleagues, friends, and family, were released from the Muscular Dystrophy Association Fundraiser Lock-up on April 22, 2015. Donations support research and treatment for persons of all ages with muscular dystrophy.

Parsons Community Garden

2015 marks the sixth growing season for the Parsons Community Garden. With grant support from the Parsons Area Community Foundation, the garden has three new rain barrels installed and new raised beds will be installed on the sunny side. Originally a part of a federally funded three-year grant directed by Sara Sack and coordinated by Sheila
Simmons, the Parsons Community Garden continues with returning gardeners and beginning gardeners ready to start planting each Spring.

For more information, follow this link http://parsonsareacf.org/category/grants-in-action/ and scroll until you find “Conservation Rain Barrels” and scroll further to find the article “Parsons Community Garden” with pictures featuring two of our youngest gardeners. The Parsons Community Garden welcomes people of all ages, of all abilities and all levels of gardening experience. To become a Parsons Community Garden member, call 620-421-8367.
## Table of Contents

- Alzheimer’s Association, Heart of America Chapter
- Assistive Technology for Kansans: Core Services Promote Independence
- CRSS: Coordinated Resource and Support Services
- Early Childhood Resource Center (ECRC), Kansas Inservice Training System
- iKAN Connect: KS Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program
- Kansas Equipment Exchange (KEE), a better idea in durable medical equipment
- Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS)
- Kansas Relay Center
- Kansas Telecommunications Access Program
- Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities (KUCDD)
- Opportunity: Employment and the Role of Assistive Technology for Kansans
- Media Laboratory: Web publishing
- SEKRS, Inc., serving families in southeast Kansas since 1990
- Success: Education, Transition and Assistive Technology for Kansans
GRANTS

Association of University Centers on Developmental Disabilities/Centers for Disease Control

Act Early Ambassadors: State, Territory, and Organizational Liaisons to CDC’s “Learn the Signs. Act Early”
PROJECT SUMMARY

Title: Act Early Ambassadors: State, Territory, and Organizational Liaisons to CDC’s “Learn the Signs. Act Early” (NFP0072736)

Funding Agency: Association of University Centers on Disabilities under a contract from the Centers for Disease Control

Collaborating Agencies:

Period of Funding and Amount:
05/01/14-04/30/16 $8,000

Current Year’s Funding and Amount:
05/01/15-04/30/16 $3,448 [Direct]
$ 552 [Indirect]

Project Investigator/Project Director(s): David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.

Other Staff:

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Location (if not Parsons)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Peggy Kemp</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>Wamego</td>
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Brief Summary:
The purpose of this project is to promote action and provide training in the state of Kansas regarding the CDC’s “Learn the Signs. Act Early” program (LTSAE). This includes assuring that partner agencies share a common agenda; measurement system; and indicators of success in relation to LTSAE. In addition, a dual focus on working together on mutually reinforcing activities and continuous communication assures commitment and collaboration. An additional outcome is to integrate the “Watch Me” materials with the LTSAE.
GRANTS

*Federal Communications Commission*

Kansas Deaf Blind Equipment Distribution Program
(iKAN Connect)

Kansas Dual Party Relay System

Kansas Telecommunications Access Program (KS TAP)
Title: Kansas Deaf Blind Equipment Distribution Program (iKAN Connect)(FED0070321)

Funding Agency: Federal Communications Commission

Collaborating Agencies: Perkins School for the Blind & Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults

Period of Funding and Amount: 07/01/12-06/30/16 $524,225

Current Year’s Funding and Amount: 07/01/15-06/30/16 $111,680 [Direct]

Project Investigator/Project Director (s): Sara Sack, Ph.D.

Other Staff:

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<tr>
<td>Sheila Simmons</td>
<td>M.A.</td>
<td></td>
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Brief Summary:
The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced that Kansas received one of 53 federally funded Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Programs. The new DBEDP program, iKAN Connect, was awarded to Assistive Technology for Kansans (ATK), the statewide AT program with five regional access sites operated by the Life Span Institute at Parsons, University of Kansas.

Kansans who are deaf-blind and income eligible can receive communication equipment and software that helps access the Internet or use other telecommunications systems such as Skype, video relay, or messaging. An AT specialist provides an assessment at no cost to the individual to review their equipment and software needs so they can achieve their telecommunications access goal. The Kansas ATK iKAN Connect program has funds to purchase recommended equipment and software, but cannot pay for services such as phone lines or Internet access.

Individuals, family members or service providers interested in the iKAN Connect program can contact the program by calling toll-free 866-666-1470 or email (ssimmons@ku.edu). Application forms are available online at http://www.atk.ku.edu/.
Title: Kansas Dual Party Relay System (KAN0072601)

Funding Agency: Kansas Corporation Commission

Collaborating Agencies: Hamilton Relay; AT Access Sites (Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center; Families Together; OCCK; Resource Center for Independent Living; Southeast Kansas Independent Living)

Period of Funding and Amount: 03/11/14-02/28/17 $50,337

Current Year’s Funding and Amount: 03/01/15-02/28/16 $15,250 [Direct] $ 1,525 [Indirect]

Project Investigator/Project Director (s): Sara Sack, Ph.D.

Other Staff:

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<th>Location (if not Parsons)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stuart Jones</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Lawrence</td>
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Brief Summary:

Assistive Technology for Kansans, coordinated by the University of Kansas, monitors the operation of the Kansas Dual Party Relay System (DPRS). The program is funded through the Kansas Universal Service Fund and is administered by the Kansas Corporation Commission.

Through the DPRS persons who are deaf or hard of hearing are able to use an interpreting service to access telecommunications. DPRS interpreting services are provided through a contracted vendor, Hamilton Relay of Aurora Nebraska. The management of the DPRS/TAP reviews billing and performance information regarding the relay system and addresses concerns and complaints regarding interpreter services.

ATK Access Site staff provide outreach services and help consumers troubleshoot CapTel phones as needed. DPRS program oversight is conducted by the Director of ATK. The ATK Director, TAP Coordinator, and Financial Accounting Specialist review program eligibility, provide training to demonstration and installation sites, order and manage inventory, and review and process invoices. Public awareness activities are directed by the Communications Manager of ATK; outreach campaigns are conducted...
by all ATK staff. The Director of the DPRS provides quarterly data to the ATK Advisory Council regarding usage of the relay system, applications, equipment provided, on-site installations, training, and troubleshooting/conflict resolutions conducted. The ATK Advisory Council is comprised of 13 individuals who have disabilities and represent all regions of the state and 7 individuals representing disability agencies and organizations and are well positioned to review performance and provide suggestions to strengthen the operation of DPRS.
Title: Kansas Telecommunications Access Program (KS TAP) (KAN0072839)

Funding Agency: Kansas Corporation Commission

Collaborating Agencies: AT Access Sites (Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center; Families Together; OCCK; Resource Center for Independent Living; Southeast Kansas Independent Living)

Period of Funding and Amount: 03/11/14-02/28/17 $379,016

Current Year's Funding and Amount: 03/01/15-02/28/16 $128,838 [Direct] $12,884 [Indirect]

Project Investigator/Project Director (s): Sara Sack, Ph.D.

Other Staff:

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stuart Jones</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Lawrence</td>
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Brief Summary:

The Telecommunications Program (TAP) was established in 1997 and provides equipment to persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, or have other sensory or mobility impairments that interfere with conventional access to telecommunications. At present, TAP serves approximately 1,200 Kansans every year. Parsons management provides oversight to 12 demonstration sites across the state. Six of the twelve sites are the ATK AT Access Sites located in Oakley, Garden City, Salina, Wichita, Topeka, and Parsons. Six other demonstration centers collaborate with TAP in providing outreach and demonstration of accessible telecommunications.

TAP staff demonstrate the features and operations of the telecommunication access equipment available through the program. Demonstration sites have established hours where staff trained on TAP equipment are available to meet with the public. Kansans who are not able to use conventional telecommunications equipment as determined by a qualified professional, and who earned $55,000 or less per year and have not received equipment from the program within the past four years may be eligible to receive equipment, installation of the equipment, and training of identified
telecommunications equipment. Approved equipment is ordered and shipped directly to the consumer unless advanced installation and training is needed.

The TAP Director provides quarterly data to the ATK Advisory Council regarding applications received, equipment provided, on-site installations, training, and troubleshooting/conflict resolutions conducted.
GRANTS

U. S. Department of Education

Assistive Technology/Kansas Alternative Financing Program

Assistive Technology for Kansans Project (ATKP)

Improving Outcomes for Young Children with Hearing Impairment and Other Disabilities: Technology for Audiometric Assessment

Kansas Alternative Finance Program

Kansas Telework Program
Title: Assistive Technology/Kansas Alternative Financing Program (#24650)

Funding Agency: U. S. Department of Education

Collaborating Agencies:

Period of Funding and Amount: 10/01/00-09/30/16 $742,576

Current Year’s Funding and Amount: 10/01/15-09/30/16 [Carryover]

Project Investigator/Project Director (s): Sara Sack, Ph.D.

Other Staff:

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<tr>
<td>Jeanette Graue</td>
<td></td>
<td>SKIL – Parsons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larissa Cervantes</td>
<td></td>
<td>SKIL – Parsons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lou Ann Kibbee</td>
<td></td>
<td>SKIL – Hays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heather Jones</td>
<td></td>
<td>PILR – Hutchinson</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Brief Summary: The Assistive Technology for Kansans project, coordinated by the University of Kansas, is working to expand personal financing options for the purchase of assistive technology devices and services. The Alternative Finance Program currently manages a revolving loan program as well as a loan guarantee program to assist consumers in financing needed technologies.

During this next year, the program will expand public awareness efforts to assure that statewide coverage and supports will be in place to expand the capacity to make loans. The five regional Assistive Technology Access Sites assist applicants in reviewing public funding options before personal funds are expended.
**Title:** Assistive Technology for Kansans Project (ATKP) (NIH0074768)

**Funding Agency:** U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services (OSERS)

**Collaborating Agencies:**

**Period of Funding and Amount:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>10/01/05-09/30/16</td>
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**Current Year's Funding and Amount:**

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<tr>
<td>10/01/15-09/30/16</td>
<td>$360,935</td>
<td>$36,093</td>
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**Project Investigator/Project Director (s):** Sara Sack, Ph.D.

**Other Staff:**

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<th>Name</th>
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<th>Location (if not Parsons)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sheila Simmons</td>
<td>M.A.</td>
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**Subcontractors/Collaborating Agencies**

- Western Assistive Technology Access Site
  - Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center
- North Central Assistive Technology Access Site
  - Occupational Center of Central Kansas
- Northeast Assistive Technology Access Site
  - Resource Center for Independent Living
- South Central Assistive Technology Access Site
  - Southeast Kansas Independent Living Center
- Southeast Assistive Technology Access Site
  - Southeast Kansas Independent Living Center

**Brief Summary:**

Purpose of Assistive Technology for Kansans: Increase statewide access of assistive technology devices and services to people of all ages and abilities. Kansans of all ages with any type of disability or health condition can request information/referral, evaluation, and demonstration of equipment, technical assistance or training supports by calling 1-800-KAN-DO-IT. Assistive Technology for Kansans has five regional Assistive Technology Access sites that have assistive technology specialists, funding specialists, access to
technology devices, and contacts with experts in all areas of technology. Areas of assistive technology covered: computer access devices and software, activities of daily living, assisted listening, communication, education/learning, environmental control, leisure/play, and mobility. The project is guided by an Executive Advisory Board composed of consumers and disability agency and organization representatives. This group reviews barriers to technology access and suggests strategies related to finance of technology, reutilization/recycling of technology to increase access at low to no cost, increased demonstration and loan or trial use of possible technology solutions.

ATK Services:

- Five Access Sites across the state, provide AT services to people with disabilities of all ages in Kansas
- Technical consultation in selecting appropriate devices to meet an individual’s need
- Hands-on demonstration of AT
- An equipment loan program with more than 12,000 items that can be borrowed on a trial basis
- An equipment reassignment/reutilization program to promote access at low to no cost devices
- Funding resource information and assistance locating a funding source for a device
- Provide assistive technology evaluation for entities such as Vocational Rehabilitation, Veteran's Administration, Worker's Compensation, Infant-Toddler Services and AgrAbility
- Presentations to groups on specific AT topics
- Related community resource information & referral
- Provide home modification evaluations

ATK Serves:

- Children, adults, and older adults with disabilities and their families
- Older adults experiencing difficulty with daily activities
- Professionals in various fields (i.e., health care, social services, or education)
- Employers and employees in private and public settings

Website: [http://www.atk.ku.edu](http://www.atk.ku.edu)
**PROJECT SUMMARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title:</strong></th>
<th>Improving Outcomes for Young Children with Hearing Impairment and Other Disabilities: Technology for Audiometric Assessment (DED0068248)</th>
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<td><strong>Funding Agency:</strong></td>
<td>U.S. Department of Education</td>
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<td><strong>Collaborating Agencies:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Period of Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
<td>10/01/11-09/30/15 $399,504</td>
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<td><strong>Current Year's Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
<td>10/01/14-09/30/15 [Previously Awarded Funds]</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project Investigator/Project Director (s):</strong></td>
<td>Kathryn Saunders, Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Staff:</strong></td>
<td>Name</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dean Williams</td>
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<td>Carol Cummings</td>
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**Brief Summary:**

There is no doubt that technology has improved outcomes for children with profound hearing loss in both detection and intervention. For young children with hearing loss and additional disabilities, however, the potential of technology is not fully realized due to difficulties obtaining behavioral audiometric assessments. Proper functioning of cochlear implants depends critically on extensive behavioral testing (mapping). Young children with the most significant multiple disabilities, however, often require lengthy and individualized procedures to teach the stimulus-response relations that are required for a valid measure of hearing. Hearing clinics often do not have the time or expertise to prepare these children for a behavioral assessment.

The purpose of this project is to develop computer-based procedures and individualized protocols in order to prepare children with multiple disabilities to complete behavioral audiometric evaluations. The primary products will be a computerized teaching procedure and individualization protocols that can be presented with fidelity by parents and service providers. Our target population is children, two to six years of age, with a severe-to-profound hearing loss, concomitant with one or more additional disabilities. Twenty children, recruited from rural and urban communities, will serve as participants. The long-term outcome is for young children with multiple disabilities to receive the testing that is needed to benefit from hearing technology.
Title: Kansas Alternative Finance Program (DED34680/KAN34685)

Funding Agency: U. S. Department of Education

Collaborating Agencies:

Period of Funding and Amount: 10/01/03-09/30/15 $9,791,266

Current Year’s Funding and Amount: 10/01/15-09/30/16 [Previously Awarded Funds]

Project Investigator/Project Director(s): Sara Sack, Ph.D.

Other Staff:

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Location (if not Parsons)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jeanette Graue</td>
<td></td>
<td>SKIL – Parsons</td>
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</table>

Brief Summary:
The Assistive Technology for Kansans project, coordinated by the University of Kansas, is working to expand personal financing options for the purchase of assistive technology devices and services. The Alternative Finance Program currently manages a revolving loan program as well as a loan guarantee program.

During this next year, the program will expand public awareness efforts to assure that statewide coverage and supports will be in place to expand the capacity to make loans. The five regional Assistive Technology Access Sites assist applicants in reviewing public funding options before personal funds are expended.
PROJECT SUMMARY

Title: Kansas Telework Program (DED34681/KAN34686)

Funding Agency: U. S. Department of Education

Collaborating Agencies:

Period of Funding and Amount: 10/01/03-09/30/16 $1,064,278

Current Year’s Funding and Amount: 10/01/15-09/30/16 [Previously Awarded Funds]

Project Investigator/Project Director (s): Sara Sack, Ph.D.

Other Staff:

Name | Degree | Location (if not Parsons)
--- | --- | ---
Jeanette Graue |  | SKIL – Parsons

Brief Summary:

The Assistive Technology for Kansans project (ATK), coordinated by the University of Kansas at Parsons, operates a Telework financial loan program for the purchase of assistive technology devices and services necessary for employment by distance. Funding for this program is available through the Rehabilitation Services Administration Access to Telework Fund Program (CFDA 84.235T).

The Kansas Telework Program is directed by persons with disabilities and will provide the financial guarantee necessary for personal financing of devices such as computer hardware and software, adapted peripherals, hearing and vision aids, and other devices necessary for work. The establishment of a Telework program provides a financial mechanism to develop employment opportunities and to support persons with disabilities in purchasing assistive technology devices and services needed to work from a remote site or at a Telework center.

The Telework program recognizes that increased access to assistive technology can reduce or eliminate barriers to employment such as inadequate transportation, fatigue, and inaccessible work environments. The Kansas Telework program will consider a full range of financing options including: a low-interest loan fund, a revolving loan fund, a loan guarantee or insurance program, an interest buy-down program, and a program operated by a partnership among private entities for the purchase, lease, or other acquisition of AT devices or AT services.

Dissemination and Outreach efforts for the Telework program will include public service announcements, media campaigns, informational booths at state and regional
meetings, direct mailings, articles in newsletters, and presentations made to disability and non-disability groups. Information gained from operating the Telework pilot programs will be made available through these efforts. Employers, potential employers, assistive technology providers, and Durable Medical Equipment vendors will be involved in media outreach efforts and will be included in public awareness efforts.

Data regarding applicant characteristics, device selection, impact of access to technology, and employment outcomes will be collected and shared with the national database. Information and outcomes will be shared with policymakers.
GRANTS

U. S. Department of Health and Human Services

Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities (KUCDD) Parsons Component
**Title:** Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities (KUCDD) Parsons Component (NIH0070114)

**Funding Agency:** U. S. Department of Health and Human Services/ Administration on Developmental Disabilities

**Collaborating Agencies:**

**Period of Funding and Amount:** Funded since 1969

**Current Year’s Funding and Amount:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Direct</th>
<th>Indirect</th>
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<tr>
<td>07/01/15-06/30/16</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
<td>$ 9,600 [Indirect]</td>
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**Project Investigator/Project Director (s):** David P. Lindeman, Ph.D., Parsons Component

**Other Staff:**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Location (if not Parsons)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sara Sack</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony Grady</td>
<td>A.A.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandy Hill</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Debbie Moody</td>
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**Brief Summary:**

The mission of the University Center on Developmental Disabilities (UCDD) is to promote the independence, interdependence, inclusion, and productivity of persons with developmental disabilities through training, dissemination, applied research, and exemplary services. The Kansas UCDD is a part of a national network of 72 such programs.

The Kansas UCDD has three campuses: Parsons, Lawrence, and Kansas City. In Parsons, the UCDD core grant directly supports educational and dissemination services, as well as several exemplary service programs. It also provides administrative support services to all externally funded UCDD related projects.

Website: [http://www.parsonslsi.ku.edu](http://www.parsonslsi.ku.edu)
GRANTS


Kansas Fire Safety: Education Training with Fire Fighters and the Deaf Community
PROJECT SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title:</th>
<th>Kansas Fire Safety: Education Training with Fire Fighters and the Deaf Community (FED0074638)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collaborating Agencies:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Period of Funding and Amount:</td>
<td>07/31/15-07/30/16 $183,513</td>
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<td>Current Year's Funding and Amount:</td>
<td>07/31/15-07/30/16 $145,645 [Direct] $37,868 [Indirect]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Investigator/Project Director(s):</td>
<td>Sara S. Sack, Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Staff:</td>
<td>Name</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sheila Simmons</td>
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Brief Summary:

This award was made to continue and expand the work that was accomplished with the 2012-13 Fire Safety project. The goals of the 2015-16 project will expand Kansas capacity for prevention and control of fire related incidences, injuries and deaths by increasing understanding of the need for, acquisitions of, and proper use of smoke alarms to meet the needs of people who are deaf and hard of hearing and increasing knowledge of people who are deaf or hard of hearing by providing in-home fire safety education, fire escape planning and practice, and installing accessible smoke alarms. Assistive Technology for Kansans (ATK) will collaborate with the Kansas Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Deaf Cultural Center, Olathe Fire Department, and Kansas Association/Deaf Clubs to create a permanent statewide network that will conduct cross training with local fire departments and members of the deaf and hearing impaired community. Our project will expedite its activities due to the existence of educational materials developed from a previous successful Fire Safety and Prevention project.

The project has eight objectives to educate a minimum of: 300 individuals who are deaf or hearing impaired, conduct installations for 180 people who are hearing impaired across the state, and teach deaf culture and communications to 12 local fire departments serving larger populations of the deaf community. People of all ages with a documented hearing impairment (deaf or hard of hearing), individuals, family
members or service providers interested in the Kansas Fire Solutions 2015-16 program can contact the program by calling toll-free 800-KAN DO IT (800-526-3648).
GRANTS/ CONTRACTS

*Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services*

Active Treatment Training Program

Southeast Kansas Respite Services (SEKRS)
Title: Active Treatment Training Program (KAN0065209, KAN0071561, KAN0073232, KAN0075062)

Funding Agency: Parsons State Hospital and Training Center/Kansas Neurological Institute/Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services

Collaborating Agencies:

Period of Funding and Amount: Funded since 1987 $2,293,601

Current Year’s Funding and Amount: 07/01/15-06/30/16 $70,000 [Direct]

Project Investigator/Project Director (s): David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.

Other Staff:

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<th>Name</th>
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<th>Location (if not Parsons)</th>
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Brief Summary:

The purpose of this project is to provide training to personnel in Kansas ICF/MR facilities serving individuals with developmental disabilities.

This training is intended to promote the implementation and evaluation of active treatment programs for all residents of these facilities. In addition to collaborative training and support services provided directly by the staff of this project, this contract supports webinars, conference attendance, special topic consultations and workshops by national leaders in the field of developmental disabilities.

The topics and consultants for these activities are selected on the basis of specific needs identified by the participating ICF/MRs relevant to the provision of quality services to the residents in their facilities.
PROJECT SUMMARY

Title: Southeast Kansas Respite Services (SEKRS) (KAN0074944)

Funding Agency: Parsons State Hospital and Training Center / Kansas Department for Aging and Disability

Collaborating Agencies:

Period of Funding and Amount: 07/01/98-06/30/16 $1,109,292 [Funded Annually]

Current Year’s Funding and Amount: 07/01/15-06/30/16 $ 66,100 [Direct]

Project Investigator/Project Director(s): David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.

Other Staff:

Name         Degree   Location (if not Parsons)
---           ------   ---------------------
Diane Salyers  B.S.     
Laura Doyle-Colvin  B.S.     

Brief Summary:

SEKRS provides the following services that are designed to support and keep individuals with disabilities in their home and in their community:

Respite Services: Are those services provided by a trained professional going into the home of a person with a disability to provide the caregiver in that home a break or interval of rest from the challenging task of providing care for the person with a disability. The goal of the program is to give caregivers time away with peace of mind and trust by knowing the respite provider in their home has been screened, trained, and has experience providing care. This program will provide respite for individuals of all ages, and will not be limited to a specific need, disability or health care issue. The primary consumers are family members of a person with a developmental or acquired disability.

Coordinated Resource and Support Services (CRSS): This program is designed to respond to crisis situations with individuals who are dually diagnosed with developmental disabilities/intellectual disabilities and mental illness. CRSS is designed to stabilize an individual who is in crisis with the goal of preventing the need for hospitalization or institutionalization. Additional outcomes also include limiting the person’s contact with law enforcement or removal/eviction from their living situation. Following the initial crisis intervention, this program focuses on the development of recommendations related to the environmental, behavioral,
psychological, and or systemic issues that may be contributing to the person’s difficulties. These recommendations are designed to be as comprehensive as possible in identifying the issues leading to problems and then identifying service and support options based on the individual’s needs. These recommendations integrate community-based resources to support the individual, account for current and needed supports, and focuses on the communication skills of the person and their social skills with emphasis on quality of life.

Payee Program: This program provides the necessary supports, services, and guidance for individuals who cannot manage their money and finances. This program manages a person’s monthly income to pay bills while distributing discretionary spending money in a fair and judicial manner. This program receives the payee’s social security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments and uses those funds to pay for current and foreseeable needs of the beneficiary (e.g. rent, transportation, clothing, food, recreation, etc.). Additionally, the program works to inform and support the person in learning to manage their funds with the goal of the person participating in or making informed decisions regarding the use and management of their money.

Homemaker Services: These services are provided to individuals to support them in their home living environment and to assist them in maintaining their independence. These services include light housekeeping, running errands and providing transportation as needed and appropriate. As with other programs the intent of this program is to maintain individual in their current living environment and prevent movement in more restrictive settings such as nursing homes, hospitals, or other more restrictive settings. These services will concentrate on persons with disabilities living on their own and elderly individuals.
GRANTS/contracts

Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Assisting Medicaid Beneficiaries in Accessing Assistive Technology

Kansas Equipment Exchange: Increasing Access to Durable Medical Equipment

Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS): Infant/Toddler Component

Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS):
Infant/Toddler Component (KAN0074904)

Tiny K - Infant Toddler Assistive Technology Services
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title:</strong></th>
<th>Assisting Medicaid Beneficiaries in Accessing Assistive Technology (KAN0074593)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Funding Agency:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Collaborating Agencies:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Period of Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Current Year’s Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Project Investigator/Project Director(s):</strong></td>
<td>Sara Sack, Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other Staff:</strong></td>
<td>Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheila Simmons</td>
<td>M.A.</td>
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**Brief Summary:**
Kansans who are eligible for Kansas Medicaid may have a need for assistive technology services so they can determine what type of devices they need and how to use those devices to promote maximum independence in their homes and communities. Assistive Technology for Kansans staff provide a range of services including assessment, goal setting, training and advocacy that help over 750 individuals achieve their personal goals each year.
**PROJECT SUMMARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title:</strong></th>
<th>Kansas Equipment Exchange: Increasing Access to Durable Medical Equipment (KAN0074592)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funding Agency:</strong></td>
<td>Kansas Department of Health and Environment</td>
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<td><strong>Collaborating Agencies:</strong></td>
<td>Fifty disability, non-disability, and faith-based organizations across the state</td>
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<td><strong>Period of Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project Investigator/Project Director (s):</strong></td>
<td>Sara Sack, Ph.D.</td>
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**Other Staff:**

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<th>Name</th>
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<th>Location (if not Parsons)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stuart Jones</td>
<td>M.A.</td>
<td>Lawrence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheila Simmons</td>
<td>M.A.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandy Hill</td>
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**Brief Summary:**

Kansas Adult Medical Services and the Assistive Technology for Kansans Project of the University of Kansas at Parsons are working together to operate a statewide durable medical equipment (DME) reuse program. Kansas Equipment Exchange (KEE) is designed to quickly move DME that is not being used and that is still in good shape (or could be returned to good shape) to Kansans who need equipment.

Durable medical equipment such as manual and powered wheelchairs, power operated vehicles, patient’s lifts, home care beds, standers, and gait trainers, communication devices, and other devices are tracked upon their initial purchase. An inventory barcode is placed on the device by the vendor and the program is explained to the customer at the time the device is purchased/delivered.

The program coordinator contacts each customer at one-month post acquisition and again seven months after acquiring the device. Information regarding satisfaction with the evaluation/selection of the device process, need for training or maintenance/repair assistance, and impact of technology on independence, safety, and productivity is collected and analyzed by the project. This information is used by Medicaid and ATK to guide program development. At any point if it is determined that the device is no longer being used, the coordinator...
contacts the Reuse Team from that area to arrange for pick up of the device. Customers are instructed to call 1-866-666-1470 (toll free) to request pick up if they no longer need their device/s. The five regional Assistive Technology Access Sites affiliated with the Assistive Technology for Kansans project work with a minimum of ten organizations in their region to operate regional reuse teams that can pick up, clean up and conduct minor maintenance, repair, and deliver equipment. If more substantial maintenance is needed to return equipment to good working order, authorized repair is conducted by certified durable medical equipment vendors.

The coordinator of the project keeps an electronic inventory of available equipment and matches the technology to customers who have requested equipment. Reassignment of equipment is made by the coordinator based on applications received by eligible Kansans. The intent of the program is for consumers to have access to needed equipment at no cost, in the following priority: 1) Medicaid beneficiaries, 2) Medicaid eligibles, 3) those likely to become eligible for Medicaid, and 4) those eligible for limited medical coverage by virtue of their limited income and assets, their disability as determined by SRS and their pending application for disability through the Social Security Act. If the equipment is not reassigned to eligible Kansans within six months, the equipment is transferred to free equipment loan closets that operate within the region.

For more information on the Kansas Equipment Exchange visit the Assistive Technology for Kansans project website at www.atk.ku.edu or call 1-866-666-1470 or 620-421-4514.
Title: Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS): Infant/Toddler Component (KAN0073002)

Funding Agency: Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)

Collaborating Agencies:

Period of Funding and Amount: 07/01/98-12/31/15 $2,525,205 [Funded Annually]

Current Year’s Funding and Amount: 07/01/14-12/31/15 [No Cost Extension]

Project Investigator/Project Director (s): David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.

Other Staff:

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Location (if not Parsons)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peggy Kemp</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>Wamego</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kimberly Page</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misty Goosen</td>
<td>Ed.S.</td>
<td>Lawrence</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Brief Summary:

This project will continue support for the Kansas Inservice Training System to include professional development and technical assistance for staff and programs providing early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The continued growth and development of a comprehensive statewide training system, addressing professional development needs of infant/toddler early intervention professionals, paraprofessionals, related services personnel and families in the State of Kansas, is essential to assure quality services. Therefore, this project will continue to enhance a professional development and technical assistance program and provide learning opportunities through support of a variety of collaborative training and technical assistance activities on a comprehensive statewide basis.

The project will provide results-based professional development and technical assistance to the early intervention programs in the state, for infants/toddlers with disabilities (Part C of IDEIA). Additionally, parents and staff of network agencies collaborating with those programs will be afforded opportunities to be involved with training and technical assistance activities.

Results based staff development needs will be addressed at three levels of training...
- Level 1-Proactive/General Issues Staff Development, Level 2-Focused Staff Development, and Level 3-Intensive Staff Development. This will be accomplished through collaboration with the state lead agency (Kansas Department of Health and Environment) and will be based in research-validated strategies.

The project's goals will be accomplished through activities such as Level 1 and 2 results-based training, a summer institute, dissemination of information through a quarterly newsletter and web site, utilization of a listserv, provision of network technical assistance (Level 3), development of new interventionist, new administrator and technical assistance packets for practitioners in the field and based on research validated resources, and management of the identification of exemplary practices in the state. Additionally, the project will expand learning opportunities through such avenues as web based threaded discussion and training, video streaming, and self-study materials. Further, the program will continue to build the statewide early childhood resource center. This center houses material for professionals and families to access in support of services, program or individual needs as well as support through Internet information resources. These include online access to state and national resources, training/TA materials, and KDHE guidance documents. These materials are accessible through the Internet from across the state, which facilitates the interaction of resource materials with the needs of the state, specific agencies and individuals. The program also maintains an online searchable training calendar.

Finally, this program will continue to support and utilize existing structures and opportunities for staff development occurring throughout the state through collaborative linkages with other agencies, programs, organizations, and projects in the field of early intervention and early childhood education.

Website: www.KSKITS.org
**PROJECT SUMMARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title:</th>
<th>Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS): Infant/Toddler Component (KAN0074904)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Funding Agency:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Collaborating Agencies:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Period of Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Current Year's Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
<td>07/01/15-06/30/16 $265,872 [Direct] $21,270 [Indirect]</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project Investigator / Project Director(s):</strong></td>
<td>David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other Staff:</strong></td>
<td>Name</td>
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<td>Peggy Kemp</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kimberly Page</td>
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<td>Misty Goosen</td>
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</table>

**Brief Summary:**

This project will continue support for the Kansas Inservice Training System to include professional development and technical assistance for staff and programs providing early intervention services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The continued growth and development of a comprehensive statewide training system, addressing professional development needs of infant/toddler early intervention professionals, paraprofessionals, related services personnel and families in the State of Kansas, is essential to assure quality services. Therefore, this project will continue to enhance a professional development and technical assistance program and provide learning opportunities through support of a variety of collaborative training and technical assistance activities on a comprehensive statewide basis.

The project will provide results-based professional development and technical assistance to the early intervention programs in the state, for infants/toddlers with disabilities (Part C of IDEIA). Additionally, parents and staff of network agencies collaborating with those programs will be afforded opportunities to be involved with training and technical assistance activities.
Results based staff development needs will be addressed at three levels of training – Level 1-Proactive/General Issues Staff Development, Level 2-Focused Staff Development, and Level 3-Intensive Staff Development. This will be accomplished through collaboration with the state lead agency (Kansas Department of Health and Environment) and will be based in research-validated strategies.

The project’s goals will be accomplished through activities such as Level 1 and 2 results-based training, a summer institute, dissemination of information through a quarterly newsletter and web site, utilization of a listserv, provision of network technical assistance (Level 3), development of new interventionist, new administrator and technical assistance packets for practitioners in the field and based on research validated resources, and management of the identification of exemplary practices in the state. Additionally, the project will expand learning opportunities through such avenues as web based threaded discussion and training, video streaming, and self-study materials. Further, the program will continue to build the statewide early childhood resource center. This center houses material for professionals and families to access in support of services, program or individual needs as well as support through Internet information resources. These include online access to state and national resources, training/TA materials, and KDHE guidance documents. These materials are accessible through the Internet from across the state, which facilitates the interaction of resource materials with the needs of the state, specific agencies and individuals. The program also maintains an online searchable training calendar.

Finally, this program will continue to support and utilize existing structures and opportunities for staff development occurring throughout the state through collaborative linkages with other agencies, programs, organizations, and projects in the field of early intervention and early childhood education.

Website: [www.KSKITS.org](http://www.KSKITS.org)
Title: Tiny K-Infant Toddler Assistive Technology Services (KAN0074914)

Funding Agency: Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)

Collaborating Agencies:

Period of Funding and Amount: 07/01/98-06/30/16 $576,000 [Funded Annually]

Current Year’s Funding and Amount: 07/01/15-06/30/16 $30,909 [Direct] $3,091 [Indirect]

Project Investigator/Project Director (s): Sara Sack, Ph.D.

Other Staff:

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sheila Simmons</td>
<td>M.A.</td>
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</table>

Brief Summary:

Kansas Infant Toddler Services was the first state agency to develop collaborative activities with Assistive Technology for Kansans. The initial intent of the contract was to encourage local infant-toddler teams to consider the assistive technology needs of the children and families they serve and to develop relationships between local providers and the regional AT Access Sites. These activities resulted in increased attention to access issues for infants and toddlers in addition to introducing a new resource that was particularly important for rural networks.

The scope of the contract has remained somewhat constant, but there has been a change in how the services were used over time. The primary activities of the contract are comprehensive assistive technology assessment, regional and state training, and loan of equipment. Initially, assessment requests were limited to children who needed access to adapted toys and communication solutions. After the first few years, there was a leap in requests for support in the areas of feeding and mobility. In the past two years, almost all assessments have been requested for children with multiple disabilities and low incidence syndromes and disabilities.

Local infant toddler teams are encouraged to participate in the comprehensive assessments conducted by evaluation teams. These experiences in conjunction with participation in annual training activities appear to have influenced the capacity of the state to respond to children's and families’ needs. Local infant toddler teams are
reporting that they are comfortable independently conducting simpler assessments.

Loan of equipment has saved thousands of dollars for both public funding agencies and families. Infants and toddlers are allowed to borrow equipment to determine if it meets their needs. Trial use of equipment or lease of equipment not part of the ATK Loan System inventory have prevented family service coordinators and parents from funding inappropriate technology. In some cases, families have been able to borrow a piece of equipment for as long as the child needs it. The loan policy for infants and toddlers is to allow the piece to stay in the home for as long as the child needs it, unless another child needs to try it out.

This collaboration has resulted in systemic change. Kansas Medicaid changed its policy on powered mobility for toddlers after an assessment provided documentation of a toddler’s need for powered mobility. In subsequent years, Kansas Medicaid modified coverage of powered mobility from only rental to purchase. Special Health Services increased its scope of coverage to include augmentative communication supports, software, adapted peripherals for computers, and other types of assistive technology. Without the type of documentation provided by these assessments, these changes would minimally be delayed for Kansas’s children with disabilities and their families.
GRANTS/CONTRACTS

Kansas State Department of Education

Kansas Early Learning Standards Training Project

Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS)
# PROJECT SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title:</strong></th>
<th>Kansas Early Learning Standards Training Project (73301)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funding Agency:</strong></td>
<td>Kansas State Department of Education</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Collaborating Agencies:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Period of Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
<td>01/01/15-12/31/16 $100,000</td>
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<td><strong>Current Year’s Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
<td>01/01/15-12/31/16 $92,593 [Direct] $7,407 [Indirect]</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project Investigator / Project Director (s):</strong></td>
<td>David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.</td>
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<th><strong>Other Staff:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Degree</strong></th>
<th><strong>Location (if not Parsons)</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carla Heintz</td>
<td>M.A.</td>
<td>Wichita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Mitchell</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>Wichita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phobe Rinkel</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>Lawrence</td>
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**Brief Summary:**

This project is designed to increase the consistency and quality of early childhood services through the development or training materials and a tool kit for early childhood educators. The training will be designed to be used by trainers on a statewide basis with a variety of stakeholders, including child care, Head Start, public and private preschool. The training materials will focus on the Kansas Early Learning Standards and their utilization with support materials providing a broad spectrum of resources.
PROJECT SUMMARY

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title:</strong></th>
<th>Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS) (KAN0066065)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Funding Agency:</strong></td>
<td>Kansas State Department of Education</td>
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<td><strong>Collaborating Agencies:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Period of Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
<td>07/01/93-09/30/15 $6,764,041 [Funded Through 2015]</td>
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<td><strong>Current Year’s Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
<td>07/01/14-09/30/15 [No Cost Extension]</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project Investigator/Project Director (s):</strong></td>
<td>David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.</td>
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<td><strong>Other Staff:</strong></td>
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<td>Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phoebe Rinkel</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Rowland</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kimberly Page</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
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**Brief Summary:**
This project is designed to meet the Kansas State Department of Education - Priority Area of Early Childhood by building LEA capacity and self-sustainability, to implement scientific and evidence based research practices that meet the educational, developmental and social needs of young children with disabilities and their families. This work will be based in an implementation research model and accomplished through the specified goal and subsequent outcomes:

**Project Goal:** Continue to provide support for local Kansas’ school districts to meet the needs of all young children with disabilities and their families.

**Outcomes:**
1. Scale up MTSS efforts to integrate supports for EC and become part of a sustainable MTSS training system designed to assist LEAs in the implementation of MTSS for students in grades EC-12.
2. Sustain collaborative partnerships between with KSDE and between State Agencies, Institutions of Higher Education, Local Education Agencies, and Professional Organizations working in the area of early childhood.
3. Increase the knowledge, skills, and capacity of individuals and/or organizations across the state through results-based training and technical assistance.
4. Develop and disseminate evidence and research-based materials, state level guidance
documents, processes, and training materials.

5. Provide leadership and training for the implementation of State Performance Plan improvement activities and writing of the Annual Performance Report as related to early childhood indicators.

6. Collaborate with SES TASN Coordination staff members to design and carry out evaluation of the priority area work at multiple levels (i.e. evaluation of TA activities provided, evaluation of State SPP/APR data, and evaluation of the entire SES TASN).

Professional development will be accomplished through a four-component system framework of collaborative linkages, information services, training, and technical assistance and will be provided through a three-tiered system of supports, reflective of Special Education Services Technical Assistance System Network Principles of Operation, TA system core values, and the Kansas MTSS Model. The three levels of training will include: Level 1 - Proactive/General Issues Staff Development and will be designed for All, Level 2-Focused Staff Development will be targeted and designed for Some, and Level 3-Intensive Staff Development and Technical Assistance will be highly focused on specific topics/skills/populations and will be designed for Few. Primary target recipients of the KITS Project services and activities include LEA administrators and staff, families, and their partners who collaborate in the provision of services to all young children with disabilities. Secondary target recipients will include partner state and local agencies, college and university staff and students, professional organizations, and other state training and technical assistance providers and systems.

Website: www.KSKITS.org
GRANTS/ CONTRACTS

Other Kansas Funded Grants and Contracts

Consortium of Low Incidence Teacher Preparation Programs in Kansas Project (CLIPP)

Empower Kansans: Achieving Employment and Health Goals with Digital Technology

Safety First/Prevent-Teach-Reinforce Training

Telemedicine Clinic
**PROJECT SUMMARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title:</strong></th>
<th><strong>Consortium of Low Incidence teacher Preparation Programs in Kansas Project (CLIPP) (2930345907)</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Funding Agency:</strong></td>
<td>Northeast Kansas Education Service Center/Kansas State Department of Education</td>
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<td><strong>Collaborating Agencies:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Period of Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
<td>09/01/14-06/30/16 $30,000</td>
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<td><strong>Current Year’s Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
<td>07/01/15-06/30/16 [No Cost Extension]</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project Investigator/Project Director (s):</strong></td>
<td>David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.</td>
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**Other Staff:**

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<th><strong>Name</strong></th>
<th><strong>Degree</strong></th>
<th><strong>Location (if not Parsons)</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debbie Moody</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Linda Mitchell, Consultant</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>Wichita</td>
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</table>

**Brief Summary:**

CLIPP consortium is composed of faculty from colleges and universities across Kansas who are committed to collaboratively support and enhance the development and delivery of teacher training programs to meet the standards for low incidence disabilities license(s). This project addresses the relationships and partnerships among participating teacher training programs in the effort to meet the needs of the state of Kansas for highly qualified teachers.

The goals of this proposal are to:

1. Strengthen the relationships of college and university faculty through the coordination of planning meetings to explore college and university partnerships;
2. Develop a network/infrastructure of professionals working together, as a state resource, to address the need for highly trained teachers of children with low incidence disabilities;
3. Examine potential models for partnerships that would support sharing of cost and revenue for courses shared across teacher training programs.
**PROJECT SUMMARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title:</strong></th>
<th>Empower Kansans: Achieving Employment and Health Goals with Digital Technology (IND0073234)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funding Agency:</strong></td>
<td>UnitedHealthcare Community &amp; State, UnitedHealthcare of the Midwest, Inc.</td>
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<td><strong>Period of Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Current Year’s Funding and Amount:</strong></td>
<td>2/1/15-12/30/15 $111,157 [Direct] $11,116 [Indirect]</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Project Investigator/Project Director (s):</strong></td>
<td>Sara Sack, Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
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**Other Staff:**

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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sheila Simmons</td>
<td>M.A.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhonda Etter</td>
<td>Ed.S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gaye Calhoun</td>
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<td>Wichita</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stuart Jones</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
<td>Lawrence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nancy Bolden</td>
<td>B.A.</td>
<td>Salina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karin Rasmussen</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>Oakley</td>
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**Brief Summary:**

ATK staff will five four-day iPad training workshops for seventy-five individuals with disabilities and health conditions interested in employment. Each of the workshops will be scheduled over a period of four to six weeks and be conducted by one of ATK’s five regional AT Access Sites. The two primary priorities of the project are to 1) provide access to digital devices that provide the support individuals with disabilities need to overcome barriers to achieving their employment goals and, 2) teach individuals with disabilities the technology skills needed to obtain and retain employment. 3) identify skills that are most essential for individuals with traumatic brain injuries and/or mental health issues to master so they are successful in obtaining and maintaining employment 4) prioritize involvement of individuals with disabilities in rural settings in the technology and employment skills workshop.
## PROJECT SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title:</strong></th>
<th>Safety First/Prevent-Teach-Reinforce Training (2930345907)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Funding Agency:</strong></td>
<td>Northeast Kansas Education Service Center / Kansas State Department of Education</td>
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<td><strong>Collaborating Agencies:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Project Investigator/Project Director(s):</strong></td>
<td>David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.</td>
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### Other Staff:

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<tr>
<td>Phobe Rinkel</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>Lawrence</td>
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### Brief Summary:

This project is designed to support local school districts in addressing the Kansas Emergency Safety Intervention Regulations in their preschool programs. This training will support early childhood staff in the development of the skills necessary for the management and prevention of challenging behavior.

The goals of this project are to:

1. Conduct 10 additional Safety First trainings statewide, and
2. Provide a webinar series that includes a distribution of books to early childhood providers and trainers.
**Title:** Telemedicine Clinic (NIH0070114)

**Funding Agency:** KU Medical Center, Parsons State Hospital and Training Center, Kansas Department for Children and Families, Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities

**Collaborating Agencies:***

**Period of Funding and Amount:** 07/01/05-06/30/16

**Current Year's Funding and Amount:** 07/01/15-06/30/16 [Supported Through KUCDD Core and General Funds]

**Project Investigator/Project Director (s):** David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Other Staff:</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Location (if not Parsons)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cynthia Huebner</td>
<td>A.A.</td>
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</table>

**Brief Summary:**

The purpose of the collaborative program between the KUCDD/Parsons and the KU Center for Telemedicine and Telehealth is to provide for local health care needs and problems that are amenable to a telemedicine approach. This program supports individuals by eliminating or reducing travel to Kansas City and specialty clinics. Specifically, this program addresses needs for early identification and intervention development for young children with autism or autism specific disorders.
OTHER

Other Funded Grants and Contracts

Cooperative Project on Dual Diagnosis of Persons with Disabilities (CRSS – Coordinated Resource and Support Services)

Kansas AgrAbility Program

Media Laboratory

Translational Analyses of Chronic Aberrant Behavior Across the Life Span 2
**PROJECT SUMMARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title:</th>
<th>Cooperative Project on Dual Diagnosis of Persons with Disabilities (NFP16041)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding Agency:</td>
<td>Southeast Kansas Respite, Inc., and Community Mental Health Centers (6) and Community Developmental Disability Organizations (4)</td>
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<td>Collaborating Agencies:</td>
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<td>Period of Funding and Amount:</td>
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<td>Current Year’s Funding and Amount:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Investigator/Project Director(s):</td>
<td>David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Staff:</td>
<td>Name</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diane Salyers</td>
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<td>Patti Blake</td>
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**Brief Summary:**

The project (also known as CRSS-Coordinated Resource and Support Services) is designed to support individuals, with a dual diagnosis of intellectual disabilities and mental illness, in their community and prevent hospital or institutional admission. This is accomplished by providing crisis intervention and needed follow-up services, such as respite care or attendant care for the individual and/or family. Information regarding community resources is made available to individuals to enable them to identify and access those resources in their home community.
### PROJECT SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title:</strong></th>
<th>Kansas AgrAbility Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funding Agency:</strong></td>
<td>U.S. Department of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collaborating Agencies:</strong></td>
<td>Kansas State University, Southeast Kansas Independent Living</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Period of Funding and Amount:** | 04/01/02-03/31/18 $2,167,205  
ATK Access Site Total $1,126,622 |
| **Current Year’s Funding and Amount:** | 04/01/15-03/31/16 $180,000  
ATK Access Site Current $92,780 |
| **Project Investigator/Project Director(s):** | John Slocombe, Ph.D., Kansas State University: Principal Investigator; Shari Coatney, Southeast Kansas Independent Living; Sara Sack, Ph.D., University of Kansas; Sheila Simmons, M.A., University of Kansas; Project Co-Directors |

| **Other Staff:** | **Name**  
**Degree**  
**Location (if not Parsons)** |
|----------------|------------------|
| Kerri Ebert  | B.A.  
Manhattan |
| Nancy Stork  |  
Salina |
| Steve Hoover  |  
Oakley |
| Jeannie Sharp  |  |

**Brief Summary:**

The Kansas AgrAbility program is a partnership between Kansas State University, the University of Kansas and Southeast Kansas Independent Living. John Slocombe, Ph.D., KSU serves as project director and Shari Coatney, CEO, SKIL, Sara Sack and Sheila Simmons, Assistive Technology for Kansans (a project sponsored by the University of Kansas) serve as project Co-Directors. The many collaborating partners include County Extension educators, Centers for Independent Living, Rural Independent Living, Easter Seals, Vocational Rehabilitation, and the Kansas Livestock Association.

The program has identified four levels of service for farmers with disabilities, their families, and farm workers with disabilities. The identified barrier of limited rural rehabilitation ties necessitates a strong focus on public awareness (Level 1: Public awareness, grassroots advocacy, general accommodations, and AT solutions). The project coordinator collects and develops materials, and along with the Ag Specialists and Ag AT Specialists disseminates to the collaborating partners. This grassroots
network will assist in identification and referral of consumers. Training and public awareness activities will reach 1,000 Kansans annually.

Access to the Kansas AgrAbility program is streamlined through use of a toll-free number 1-800-KAN-DO-IT, which is located at the five regional AT Access Sites to provide information, referral services to agricultural resources, and basic product and strategy information (Level 2: Information and referral, product solution packets/research).

When more intensive services are needed, the AT Access Site staff connects the caller with the Ag AT Specialist serving their region. This level of service (Level 3: Technical assistance, customized accommodation, and AT solutions) provides more in-depth technical assistance, on-site evaluation, and modifications customized to meet an individual’s needs.

The Ag Specialists, Ag AT Specialists, and the local team conduct an on-site evaluation. Some requests require assistance from specialists in areas such as low incidence specialized farm operations, some forms of fabrication, and complex mobility/safety issues. This expanded team is considered a Level 4: Customized accommodations.

The program offers a peer-to-peer counseling network and is guided by a state consumer advisory group. Training session evaluations and measures of consumer satisfaction with services and appropriateness of recommended accommodations are routinely collected.
PROJECT SUMMARY

Title: Media Laboratory (#2930311)

Funding Agency: State of Kansas; Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities/Administration on Developmental Disabilities; and Contracts

Collaborating Agencies: 

Period of Funding and Amount: 07/01/15-06/30/16

Current Year's Funding and Amount: (Fee For Services)

Project Investigator/Project Director (s): David P. Lindeman, Ph.D.

Other Staff: 

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<td>Cynthia Huebner</td>
<td>A.A.</td>
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Brief Summary:

**Purpose:** The LSI Media Laboratory supports research and development in information, communication, and publishing technologies. Specifically, the LSI Media Laboratory focuses on the creative use of digital technologies to enhance the lives of people with disabilities, augment teaching and learning, and communicate and express ideas.

**Facilities:** The Media Laboratory has a 40-year history of film, videotape and print media production in conjunction with grant-supported projects. The LSI Media Laboratory is the location of state-of-the-art facilities for the production of video and print materials, closed captioning, multimedia production, facilities for distance learning technology, and a 40 x 60 foot television and film studio. Modern production equipment and software packages and tools are used for the production of electronic media, graphics, video, and Web site development.

**Research:** The Media Laboratory provides a unique environment for exploring and developing applications using digital technologies and multimedia. Research conducted by the Media Laboratory includes developments in a range of disciplines including technology integration in classrooms, evaluation of technology and innovative technologies including video captioning and description.

**Development:** The Media Laboratory provides design, development, and technical support for a number of Institute, University, and external programs and projects.
including website design and development, graphic design and layout, video production, and captioning. These ventures broaden the Media Laboratory research community through collaborations with other programs and projects within the Life Span Institute and the University of Kansas.
Title: Translational Analyses of Chronic Aberrant Behavior Across the Life Span 2 (NFP0060312)

Funding Agency: Kennedy Krieger Institute under grant from National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Collaborating Agencies: Johns Hopkins School of Medicine; University of Massachusetts School of Medicine, Kennedy Krieger Institute

Period of Funding and Amount: 09/01/09-06/30/16 $287,489

Current Year’s Funding and Amount: 07/01/15-06/30/16 [No Cost Extension]

Project Investigator/Project Director(s): Dean Williams, Ph.D.

Other Staff:

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<tr>
<td>Kathryn Saunders</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iser DeLeon</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>Johns Hopkins</td>
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<td>SungWoo Kahng</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Thomas Hurley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathleen Hine</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
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Brief Summary:

Project 1 is designed to increase basic knowledge of the etiology and maintenance of severe, chronic aberrant behaviors (CAB) and to develop treatments based on this knowledge. This research program translates basic-research findings from laboratory studies of both animal and human subjects, first to more naturalistic settings and activities, and then to clinical-treatment settings.

The laboratory studies have shown, paradoxically, that schedules of positive reinforcement can, in some circumstances, be aversive. When relatively rich conditions of positive reinforcement transition to relatively lean conditions of positive reinforcement, subjects show prolonged, counterproductive disruptions in behavior (pausing). Further, if a means of escape from the situation is provided, subjects escape. That is, negative incentive shifts are aversive, and thus motivate maladaptive escape behaviors. It is important to note that the relatively lean reinforcement conditions are not inherently aversive. It is the context that creates the aversiveness. In the laboratory, these findings have a great deal of generality. In the
natural environment, schedules of positive reinforcement are ubiquitous. The present research program is the first to integrate these laboratory findings with the problem of chronic aberrant behavior.

In the clinic, a current, successful treatment strategy has been to identify the behavioral function of aberrant behavior on an individual basis (Le" a functional analysis), and use this information to design treatment. Escape (negative reinforcement) has been shown to be a primary motive for the aberrant behavior of a substantial portion of treated individuals. Explaining, at a behavioral-process level, what makes certain activities aversive for some individuals has not been a primary goal of the treatment-oriented studies. Not surprisingly, given its paradoxical nature, the notion that escape can be a side effect of positive reinforcement has not been applied to either basic or clinical research in this area. Note that we do not suggest that negative incentive shifts account for all of aberrant behavior, or even all of escape-motivated aberrant behavior. Our preliminary work suggests, however, such pausing and escape can provide a functional analogue to a clinically significant portion of aberrant behavior, in that conditions that generate long pausing may predict aberrant behavior.

The proposed research will test the utility of this conceptualization in predicting the occurrence of stereotyped and self-injurious behaviors in persons with IDD. In keeping with the translational nature of the research program, studies will be conducted in naturalistic and clinical settings. In the naturalistic setting, three studies are proposed for each of two CAB topographies (self injury/aggression and stereotypy). These studies will generally replicate laboratory procedures, but with modifications to better reflect the conditions of reinforcement and behaviors found in natural environments. In addition, aberrant behaviors, vocalizations, and other behaviors indicative of emotional responses will be observed.

Two experiments are proposed in clinical settings. The first is to predict conditions of incentive shift that produce CAB based on relative preference for daily activities. The second clinical study identifies functional reinforcers for CAB, and assesses rich and lean transitions and CAB based on natural, fluctuations in the quantity and quality of these reinforcers in daily clinical activities. This research strategy is geared towards better understanding of the behavioral processes that may provide the motivational conditions for CAB, and to begin the use of this knowledge for developing treatment strategies.
COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS

Breakfast Clubs for Alzheimer's Caregivers

Counseling for Alzheimer's Caregivers
**Title:** Breakfast Clubs for Alzheimer’s Caregivers

**Funding Agency:**
- Title III Older Americans Act
- Southeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging

**Collaborating Agencies:**
- Alzheimer’s Association Heart of America Chapter

**Period of Funding and Amount:**
- 10/01/15-09/30/16 $13,558 [Yearly]

**Current Year’s Funding and Amount:**
- 10/01/15-09/30/16 $13,558 [Yearly]

**Project Investigator/Project Director(s):**
- Michelle Niedens, L.S.C.S.W.

**Other Staff:**

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**Brief Summary:**

Breakfast Clubs for Alzheimer’s caregivers are support groups for anyone who serves as a caregiver to an individual with a dementia illness like Alzheimer’s. Caregivers might be a spouse or adult child helping to take care of someone or might be a family member who, while not having any direct role in care, would benefit from information and sharing with others about concerns through the course of the illness. A staff member from the Alzheimer’s Association is always in attendance and available for questions.

The Breakfast Club offers an opportunity to come and talk with individuals who share similar issues while enjoying a free breakfast. Breakfast clubs are held monthly, in each of four locations: Chanute, Parsons, Fort Scott, and Pittsburg.
# Project Summary

**Title:** Counseling for Alzheimer’s Caregivers

**Funding Agency:**
- Title III Older Americans Act
- Southeast Kansas Area Agency on Aging

**Collaborating Agencies:**
- Alzheimer’s Association Heart of America Chapter

**Period of Funding and Amount:**
- 10/01/15-09/30/16 $ 7,000 [Yearly]

**Current Year’s Funding and Amount:**
- 10/01/15-09/30/16 $ 7,000 [Yearly]

**Project Investigator/Project Director(s):**
- Michelle Niedens, L.S.C.S.W.
- Amy Yeager, M.S.W.

**Other Staff:**

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**Brief Summary:**
The Southeast Kansas Counseling Grant provides individual consultations for caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias in Labette, Neosho, Bourbon, Cherokee, Crawford and Allen counties. Individual consultations can address issues around caregiver stress, related depression, disease education, communication shifts, care planning and supporting positive coping strategies.