



*The Insider*

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***Life Span Institute at Parsons***

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*November, 2008*

*Pat White, Editor*

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## **Presentations**

- Bruder, M. B. (2008, November). *Family service coordination train the trainer: Part II*. Statewide training for Part C Service Coordinators at Lawrence, KS.
- Crim, A., Lindeman, D. P., & Denny, R. (2008, September). *Crisis resource and support services: A case study in successful MH/DD collaboration*. Presentation to the Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas Annual Conference, Overland Park, KS.
- Rinkel, P. (2008, September). *Using curriculum based assessment results to improve our practices*. Inservice training at Overland Park, KS.
- Rinkel, P., & Kongs, C. (2008, October). *Ready, set, evaluate! Using the AEPS for progress monitoring*. Inservice training at Overland Park, KS.
- Rinkel, P., & Lindeman, D. P. (2008, October). *Multi-tiered system of supports or pyramid scheme? The evolving role for early childhood special educators*. Poster presented at the DEC 2008 24<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, Minneapolis, MN.
- Sack, S. (2008, September). *Collaborating with the physical medicine team to provide assistive technology*. Presentation to Labette Health, Parsons, KS.
- Sack, S., & Simmons, S. (2008, September). *Assistive Technology for Kansans (ATK) services to seniors*. Presentation to the Kansas Department on Aging, Topeka, KS.
- Sack, S., & Simmons, S. (2008, September). *Serving Kansans with disabilities and health conditions*. Presentation to the Kansas Social and Rehabilitation Services, Topeka, KS.
- Saunders, M. D., & Saunders, R. R. (2008, October). *Pilot evaluation of the impacts of Special Olympics Healthy Athletes, screening events on referral, follow-up and health behavior of Special Olympics athletes*. Presentation to the American Public Health Association meeting, San Diego, CA.
- Saunders, R. R., & Saunders, M. D. (2008, September). *Reducing the incidence of obesity in adults with developmental disabilities in Kansas*. Presentation to a brown bag seminar of the Kansas Health Policy Authority, Topeka, KS.

Saunders, R., Saunders, M., Donnelly, J., Smith, B., Sullivan, D., Guilford, B., Erickson, B., & Rondon, M. (2008, September). *Weight loss by adults with developmental disabilities using pictorial support materials*. Presentation at the University of Kansas 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on the Prevention and Treatment of Overweight and Obese Individuals, Kansas City, MO.

Saunders, R. R., Saunders, M. D., Donnelly, J. E., Smith, B. K., Sullivan, D. K., & Erickson, B. P. (2008, October). *Reducing the incidence of obesity in adults with developmental disabilities in Kansas*. Presentation at the American Public Health Association meeting in San Diego, CA.

Williams, D. (2008, October). *The human operant laboratory in translational research or, basic to applied and back again: A collaborationist's tale*. Invited address to the Mid-American Association of Behavior Analysis Annual Conference, Champaign, IL.

## Reviews

Sack, S. (2008, September). Alternative Finance Program Review, Kansas Assistive Technology Cooperative Advisory Council, Emporia, KS.

## Publications

Woods, J. J., & Lindeman, D. P. (2008). Gathering and giving information with families. *Infants & Young Children, 21*(4), 272-284.

## Grant Submissions

Sara Sack submitted her 11<sup>th</sup>-year, progress report "Tiny K "Infant Toddler Assistive Technology Services" to KsDH&E on August 1, 2008.

Chris Smith submitted a new, one-year proposal "Kansas Early Learning Collaborative (KELC) "Evaluation Project to the Kansas Head Start Association on September 22, 2008.

Dean Williams and Kathryn Saunders resubmitted their five-year subcontract proposal "Translational Analyses of Chronic Aberrant Behavior Across the Life Span "Projects 1 and 3" to the Kennedy Krieger Institute, prime contractor to NICHD on September 25, 2008.

Chris Smith submitted his second-year continuation "Technical Assistance Services (Data Management and Mental Health Consultation) to the Southeast Kansas Community Action Program, Inc. on October 22, 2008.

Richard and Muriel Saunders resubmitted an R01 application with Joe Donnelly (PI) November 5<sup>th</sup> to NIDDK entitled: Weight Loss and Maintenance for Individuals with IDD.

## Grants Awarded

David Lindeman, in collaboration with Suzanne Hawley at University of Kansas School of Medicine in Wichita, received a new, 3-year award "Prevalence of Developmental Disabilities Among Children with Epilepsy in Rural Populations" from AUCD that began October 1, 2008.

Muriel Saunders has been awarded a grant from the Special Olympics International from October 31, 2008 to February 1, 2010 for \$100,000.

Richard and Muriel Saunders are opening a new research site for their communication P01 (NIH46700) in the Special Education School of the Junior Blind of America in Los Angeles, CA. They anticipate 10-12 participants to begin about 12/9/08.

## Project Highlight

### Evaluation of the Impact of Vision and Hearing Correction on Measurement of Sport and Non-Sport Performance of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities

Muriel D. Saunders

This project will determine how vision and hearing improvements impact the sports and nonsports skills and performances of Special Olympics athletes who have not been previously screened and who are, therefore, not in the SOI database. The University shall gather data on individuals with intellectual disabilities who have not previously participated in a Special Olympics Healthy Athlete® health screening program.

At a Healthy Athletes health screening organized and conducted by SOI or a Special Olympics Accredited Program in Latin America, the investigators shall:

- a. Identify 40 school-aged athletes who, for the first time at such screenings, are found to be in need of corrective lenses and/or hearing aids.
- b. Identify a second group, matched fairly closely for age and gender, who do not need hearing or vision prosthesis.
- c. As these athletes await receipt of their lenses and/or hearing aids, or neither, conduct interviews (with the athlete or spokesperson) and assessments of the athletes to obtain a baseline of their performances in an array of sports-related and non-sports-related tests. These tests will be administered during the event.
- d. Provide a second assessment of athletes during the event, immediately after the hearing aid or glasses are provided (assuming on-site provision of these prostheses) to assess immediate impact.

At approximately 4-5 month and 8-10 month intervals, the investigators will travel to the site of the original screening (special school or group living environment in Latin America) to re-administer the baseline array of tests.

The final report of follow-up assessments will address:

- a. Comparing each athlete's sports- and non-sports-related performances to the tests administered at baseline;
- b. Comparing the degree of change in sports- and non-sports-related performances between those receiving prostheses at baseline and those not needing prostheses; and
- c. Report results with descriptive tables and figures, supplemented by statistical analyses where sample sizes permit.

### **Staff News**

This will be my last newsletter—I want to express my appreciation to everyone who has provided assistance and say “Thanks” for 41+ years with the state of Kansas and KU. My retirement party is set for December 12<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria. *Pat White*

### **New Employees:**

Cindy Zimmerman and Megan Huber are new trainers with the Foster Care Project.