



The Insider

Life Span Institute at Parsons

October 2014

<http://www.parsons.lsi.ku.edu>

Patty Black Moore, Editor



KDADS Secretary Bruffett tours LSI/Parsons

Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) Secretary Kari Bruffett recently toured the Life Span Institute at Parsons' offices during her September 17 visit to the Parsons State Hospital and Training Center campus. While on the tour, Secretary Bruffett was accompanied by Nikki Gilliland, Special Assistant to the Secretary; Dr. Jerry Rea, PSHTC Superintendent; Carolyn Martin and Dr. Mike Dixon, PSHTC staff; and Dr. David Lindeman, LSI/Parsons Director. *(Above from left, Nikki Gilliland, Secretary Bruffett, David Lindeman, and Jerry Rea).*

During a stop at the Parsons Research Building Dr. David Lindeman briefly explained the history of the University of Kansas' program at Parsons and emphasized the scope of the work by principle investigators and staff. Comments

focused on current research activities, early childhood training programs, assistive technology access and services, AgrAbility, and the Southeast Kansas Respite Services. Drs. Rea and Lindeman also described the history and success of the Family Care Treatment Project, a project that has been supported by KDADS.

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KDADS Secretary Bruffett, from page 1

Secretary Bruffett has ties to the University of Kansas having served eight years as a Governmental Affairs Liaison at the University of Kansas Medical Center prior to working at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE).

The Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services is a cabinet level agency,

employs 2,650 people and has a \$1.6 billion dollar budget. KDADS is responsible for overseeing and administering Kansas' Older American's Act programs, behavioral health programs, home and community based services (HCBS) for older adults and persons with disabilities, the management and oversight of four state hospitals, survey and certification for adult care homes and the distribution of Medicaid long-term care payments.

Just the "STATS"

In FY 2014, Life Span Institute at Parsons' faculty and staff presented their research, training and technical expertise to 109 state, national, and international audiences, as well as five peer-reviewed publications.



**SEKRS
WELCOMES
BEVERLY
SCHAICH**

Beverly Schaich is the newest member of the Southeast Kansas Respite Services, Inc. (SEKRS) team.

Diane Salyers, SEKRS program coordinator, says, "The Representative Payee Program began in 2005, and by 2006 we had 38 customers. Currently, the program serves more than 140 customers. Laura Doyle-Colvin has been the driving force in the success of the program. She joins me in welcoming Beverly."

Together, Laura and Beverly will manage the SEKRS Representative Payee Program's Social Security/SSI funds that provide the necessary supports, services, and guidance for individuals who cannot manage their money and finances. Additionally, they inform and support the person in learning to increase their money management skills and thus, increase their independence.

Beverly comes well prepared to the Payee Program with an educational background that includes degrees in accounting and business administration. Her work experience includes more than twelve years in banking services and eight years providing income-based housing.

Her husband, Steve, is a UPS driver serving the Fredonia area. They have two sons, two daughters-in-law, and five grandchildren, ages 4-12. Beverly enjoys bowling, quilting, motorcycle riding, sports events, and attending her grandkids' school and social activities.



SPOTLIGHT ON COLLABORATION

Kansas AgrAbility

John Slocombe, Ph.D., Kansas State University, Principal Investigator
Shari Coatney, Southeast Kansas Independent Living, Project Co-Director
Sara Sack, Ph.D., University of Kansas, Project Co-Director
Kerri Ebert, B.A., Kansas State University, Project Coordinator
Sheila Simmons, M.A., University of Kansas, Project Evaluation & Training

Assistive Technology for Kansans benefits from a wide range of collaborative partners across the state.

Kansas AgrAbility is a collaborative effort that involves Kansas State University, Southeast Kansas Independent Living, and Assistive Technology for Kansans for the past twelve years. The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced a new four years of funding for the Kansas AgrAbility project. The goal of AgrAbility projects is to help farmers, ranchers, their families, and agribusiness workers maintain their role in production agriculture. Kansas AgrAbility has served ranchers with spinal cord injuries; farmers with progressive diseases, spouses with arthritis, and children with vision loss remain active in their role on the family farm or ranch.

There are twenty-one state or regional AgrAbility projects across the U.S. Each has selected goals that meet the unique needs of their rural population and agricultural efforts. Kansas AgrAbility has selected an increased focus on serving women producers with disabilities, veterans with disabilities returning to their rural lifestyle, beginning farmers with disabilities and health conditions, and farmers and ranchers with progressive diseases. Kansas AgrAbility staff receives referrals through the regional AT Access Sites operated by Assistive Technology for Kansans (ATK). Individuals wanting to receive services can contact the regional AT Access Sites by calling 800-KAN DO IT (800-526-3648). ATK has three half



time AT AgrAbility Specialists who conduct comprehensive on-site assessments to help the consumer identify technology, equipment and home modifications needed to continue in their role on the family farm or ranch. For video examples go to <http://atk.ku.edu/kansas-agrability> and see for yourself some of the solutions involving Kansas farmers and ranchers and their families.

Most Kansas AgrAbility customers are involved in traditional farm and ranch operations, but there is an increasing number of individuals who are involved in niche or small market operations. Some AgrAbility customers change from working with large livestock to small animals such as goats or poultry. Beginning producers are developing markets for high tunnel or hoop house crops to extend their growing season and make use of smaller production areas. If you'd like to learn more about Kansas AgrAbility, visit their website at <http://agrability.bae.ksu.edu>.

Contributed by Sheila Simmons, ATK Project Coordinator

PRESENTATIONS, POSTERS AND TRAINING

- Barker, M.R., Bridges, M.S., & Saunders, M.J. (2014, July). *Assessing phonemic awareness without speech: An alternative approach using the alphabetic principle*. Paper presented at the Society for Scientific Study of Reading, Santa Fe, NM.
- Bruder, M.B., Catalino, T., Brookfield, J., & Parks, S. (2014, October). *The development of cross disciplinary personnel standards*. Paper presented at the Division for Early Childhood 30th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, St. Louis, MO.
- Bruder, M.B., Stayton, V., Catalino, T., Coufal, K., & Parks, S. (2014, October). *Early childhood personnel TA center: Methodology, processes and outcomes*. Pre-Conference Session presented at the Division for Early Childhood 30th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, St. Louis, MO.
- Chen, C., Bruder, M.B., Brookfield, J., Horn, E., Parks, S., Pribble, L., Lindeman, D.P., Reichow, B., Squires, J., Woods, J., & Lakey, E. (2014, October). *Building statewide comprehensive and integrated early childhood systems of personnel development*. Paper presented at the Division for Early Childhood 30th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, St. Louis, MO.
- Chen, C., Mickelson, A., Parks, S., Pribble, L., Lakey, E., Bruder, M.B., Sugai, G., Gelbar, N., Hanline, M.F., Horn, E., Lindeman, D.P., Reichow, B., Squires, J., & Woods, J. (2014, October). *The national landscape of personnel standards for early childhood/early intervention professionals*. Poster presented at the Division for Early Childhood 30th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, St. Louis, MO.
- Cummings, C., Hayashi, Y., Saunders, K., & Williams, D. (2014, July). *Preparing children with multiple disabilities to take a hearing test: A technology-transfer project*. Paper presented at the 2014 Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) Project Directors' Conference, Washington, D.C.
- Kemp, P. (2014, September). *Routines based interview*. Workshop presentation to Johnson County Infant-Toddler Services, Overland Park, KS.
- Kemp, P., Lindeman, D.P., Walters, S., & Jorgensen, K. (2014, October). *Preparing new local early intervention program coordinators/administrators to be leaders*. Poster presented at the Division for Early Childhood 30th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, St. Louis, MO.
- Kemp, P., Wallin, T., & Hargitt, C. (2014, October). *Building real relationships with families using the best of evidence-based practice in early intervention*. Paper presented at the Division for Early Childhood 30th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, St. Louis, MO.
- 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.
- Liedy, P. (2014, August). *Whose Life Is It, Anyway? Power, Control, and Challenges in Support Relationships*. Active Treatment Training Program, Kansas Neurological Institute, Topeka, KS.
- Lindeman, D.P., Parks, S., & Whaley, K. (2014, August). *Initial summary of part B personnel & CSPD data for the mountain plains regional resource center*. Webinar conducted by the Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center, Logan, UT.

- Lucas, A., Franklin, S., Johnson, L., & Rinkel, P. (2014, July). *Encore presentation: Spotlight on states using the high-quality, functional outcome and goal training package*. Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center webinar presentation.
- 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.
- Nelson, C. (2014, August). *Promoting children's success: Building relationships and creating supportive environments*. Presentation to USD 261 Haysville Public Schools Early Childhood Programs, Haysville, KS.
- Nelson, C. (2014, September). *Promoting children's success: Social emotional teaching strategies*. Presentation to USD 261 Haysville Public Schools Early Childhood Programs, Haysville, KS.
- Nelson, C., Rinkel, P., & Lindeman, D.P. (2014, October). *Developing online technical assistance to support implementation*. Poster presented at the Division for Early Childhood 30th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, St. Louis, MO.
- Parks, S., Kong, N., Horn, E., & Lindeman, D.P. (2014, October). *State requirements for part C special instruction providers*. Poster presented at the Division for Early Childhood 30th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, St. Louis, MO.
- Parks, S., Stroup-Rentier, V., Walters, S., Horn, E., Lindeman, D.P., Horn, E., Kong, N., & Stuber, G. (2014, October). *Analyzing and Augmenting a state's CSPD: Integrating component parts into a whole*. Paper presented at the Division for Early Childhood 30th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, St. Louis, MO.
- Rinkel, P. (2014, August). *Safety First: Trainer certification*. Workshop presentation, Newton, 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., & Carlin, K. (2014, September). *Safety First: A set of guidelines and procedures for maintaining a safe environment*. Workshop presentation to USD 273 Mitchell County Partnership for Children, Beloit, 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.
- Rinkel, P., & Lindeman, D.P. (2014, October). *Challenging behaviors in preschool? Safety first*. Paper presentation at It's Go Time: 2014 Kansas State Department of Education Annual Conference, Wichita, KS.
- Rinkel, P., & Lindeman, D.P. (2014, October). *Implementation of emergency safety intervention regulations in preschool: A multi-level systems approach*. Poster presented at the Division for Early Childhood 30th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, St. Louis, MO.
- Rinkel, P., & Nelson, C. (2014, August). *Prevent-Teach-Reinforce for Young Children: Essential prevention practices for reducing challenging behaviors in early care and education settings-Session One*. TASN-Kansas Inservice Training System webinar presentation.
- Rinkel, P., & Nelson, C. (2014, August). *Prevent-Teach-Reinforce for Young Children: Essential prevention practices for reducing challenging behaviors in early care and education settings-Session Two*. TASN-Kansas Inservice Training System webinar presentation.
- Rinkel, P., Nelson, C., Lindeman, D.P., Goosen, M., & Kemp, P. (2014, October). *Enhancing participant perception and content of online learning through continuous improvement*. Poster presented at the Division for Early Childhood 30th Annual International Conference on Young Children with Special Needs and Their Families, St. Louis, MO.

PROJECT NEWS



The Steppingstones Project, directed by Kate Saunders and Dean Williams along with graduate assistant Carol Cummings, is getting some well-deserved attention from the University of Kansas.

Also known by its “real name” - *Improving Outcomes for Young Children with Hearing Impairment and Other Disabilities: Technology for Audiometric Assessment* - this U.S. Department of Education funded project will be highlighted in the upcoming KU Life Span Institute Annual Report.

The purpose of this project is to develop computer-based procedures and protocols individualized for children with hearing loss and additional disabilities so they can communicate with their audiologist that they hear tones

associated with a hearing assessment. Project researchers are now testing the new computer-based software that teaches the stimulus-response relations that are required for a valid measure of hearing. The long-term outcome is for young children with multiple disabilities to receive the testing that is needed so they can benefit from hearing technology.

Pictured from left: Krysta Beaver, (Schiefelbusch Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic); Participant; Kate Saunders; and Carol Cummings.

BUSINESS OFFICE NEWS

HealthQuest (HQ) Wellness Program Update

The Kansas State Employee Health Plan (SEHP) Online Open Enrollment is from October 1 - 31, 2014 and changes will be effective January 1, 2015.

Rewards Program for 2015 discount 'Deadline' Extended to November 15, 2014

Employees who **have not yet qualified for the incentive discount on their 2015** health insurance premium now have more time to participate! The deadline has been extended to November 15, 2014. Those who complete the required health assessment questionnaire (worth 10 credits) and earn an additional 20 credits (for a total of 30 credits) by November 15, 2014, will qualify for a \$480 premium incentive discount for plan year 2015.

Employees who **have already qualified for the incentive discount on their 2015** health

insurance should not enter any more information for credits until after the new period starts on November 16, 2014. For this year only, employees will be able to enter activities completed between 8/1/14 – 11/15/14 after the new period starts on 11/16/14 to count towards the 2016 discount.

2015 earnings period = 08/01/13 – 11/15/14

2016 earnings period = 11/16/14 – 11/15/15

Please Note: Credits for some activities will be changing for the 2016 earnings period

Employees can confirm their discount status by logging into their account at www.KansasHealthQuest.com and clicking on the “My Printable Credits Summary” link from the left menu. Full details on the Rewards Program are available at <http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/healthquest/rewards.html>.

Visit the KU Life Span Institute (LSI) at Parsons website at <http://www.parsons.lsi.ku.edu/newsletters>

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