All KUCDD Staff Meeting

John Colombo, Director, University of Kansas Life Span Institute and Interim Vice Chancellor of Research, welcomed KUCDD staff from the Lawrence, KUMC, and Parsons campuses to the all KUCDD staff meeting held August 25, 2017 at the University of Kansas Memorial Union.

Representatives from each of the campuses presented their work. Presentations highlighting work by the Life Span Institute at Parsons faculty and staff were presented by Sheila Simmons, Assistive Technology for Kansans coordinator and Missy Goosen, Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS) technical assistance specialist. Also attending were Stuart Jones, ATK-KEE Reuse coordinator and Telecommunications Access Program (TAP) coordinator; Patty Black Moore, communications coordinator; Barbara Kramer, KITS technical assistance specialist; Tamara Wallin, KITS technical assistance specialist; and Michele Utt, KITS technical assistance specialist.

KU Medical Center Projects presented included the CCHD Clinical Research Data Base by Sean Swindler; Girls Night Out by Rene Jamison; and Native American Outreach/Need Assessment by Joshua Allison-Burbank. KUCDD, Lawrence Projects presented included CDC/ Nutrition by Jean Hall; KU-TPE by Dana Lattin; and Knowledge Translation, Martha Hodgesmith and Val Renault.

The afternoon included a panel of agencies and organizations representing Statewide Resources and Activities including Disability Rights Center of Kansas, Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities, Self Advocate Coalition of Kansas (SACK), and Developmental Disabilities Buddy Group. The afternoon culminated with an energetic brainstorming session centered around identifying potential ways to further collaboration and partnerships. The Parsons contingent made several connections that are very exciting. Karrie Shogren, Director of the Kansas University Center on Developmental Disabilities, summarized the group findings and suggested making this get together an annual event.

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The Insider is archived online at http://www.parsonslsi.ku.edu/newsletters
JUST THE STATS
FY 2018 LSI at Parsons Funding: University/State investment of $1 returns $7.62 in grants and contracts with total funding at $3,640,827 in State/Federal Grants/Contracts.

PROJECTS HIGHLIGHTED FY 2017

Assistive Technology for Kansans
ATK served 3,844 Kansans with disabilities and chronic health conditions at six sites where individuals accessed more than 5,809 assistive technology (AT) services and acquired nearly 2,400 AT devices valued at more than $1.4 million.

Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS)
KITS provided training and individualized technical assistance (TA) to 106 teachers/administrators resulting in a potential impact on 1,925 children and families. In addition, 1,040 professionals were engaged in other training/professional development events.

KCCTO-KITS ITSN
KITS, in collaboration with KCCTO, Inc., is providing statewide training and technical assistance (TA) for childcare providers. This project focuses on increasing access to and quality of child care services. In this initial year the project provided support to 547 providers.

Parsons Research Center
Through collaborative research, a Parsons PI is working to develop novel pre-clinical models to understand and develop treatments for self-injurious and aggressive behavior in individuals with developmental disabilities by combining clinical and laboratory research.

Exemplary Services provided by Parsons LSI
41,600 hours of respite services were provided to 124 families by employing 132 part-time providers.

170 individuals with disabilities were supported in 12 counties to live in the community by providing payee support services.

Through a crisis intervention program for persons with intellectual disabilities and mental illness the Center prevented the institutionalization of 33 individuals.

FY 2017 FACTS: LSI at Parsons’ faculty and staff provided direct services, training, and technical assistance to 9,481 Kansans in all 105 Kansas counties; addressed 800 individuals at international, national, and state conferences; had eight peer-reviewed publications; and produced two newsletter series.

Each year, 14,680 Kansans are impacted through training, technical assistance, and conference presentations. (23-year average). Yearly, 2,463 professionals, trainees, educators, and others attend regional, national, and international presentations given by Parsons’ faculty and staff. (14-year average). LSI at Parsons’ faculty and staff gave presentations to 17 state, national, and international audiences in addition to 339 other training and outreach activities.
PRESENTATIONS


In Kansas, the SSIP supports local programs to create action plans to improve social emotional outcomes for infants/toddlers with disabilities and their families. This session will present findings and lessons learned from three programs and how these lessons will be scaled up as part of the overall state plan.


The SAP and SICC membership usually reflects the key constituencies that are important in understanding the impact of policy decisions and influencing practice change. But to what extent are SAPs and SICCs acting as the conduit for each key stakeholders in their own networks and the networks in which they participate? In this interactive webinar, we will explore the issue with state leaders from Kansas Part C, and Michigan Part B.

SARA SACK TAPPED FOR MICHAEL LECHNER AWARD

Sara Sack, Ph.D., senior scientist and director of Assistive Technology for Kansans, is the 2017 recipient of the Michael Lechner Award. Sara is recognized for her work increasing access to technology that people of all ages and all disabilities need to work, play, and live in their communities. The award will be presented at the November 17th Kansas Council on Disability Concerns meeting in Topeka.

The Michael Lechner Award is given annually to a Kansan with a disability who has effectively advocated for changes in his or her community to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

The award is named for Michael Lechner, Executive Director of Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns (KCDC) from 1982 through 1990. His advocacy activities had far-reaching results in improving independent living opportunities for Kansans with disabilities.

For more information about Assistive Technology for Kansans, please visit [www.atk.ku.edu](http://www.atk.ku.edu)
PROJECT NEWS

KU LSI at Parsons and Kansas State University Collaboration
Working for Kansans: KU LSI at Parsons collaborates with Kansas State University to operate the Kansas AgrAbility project to assist injured farmers and ranchers in acquiring technology and modifying production activities to support returning to agricultural employment. In FY 2017, 89 farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural workers were served by Assistive Technology for Kansans AgrAbility Specialists across Kansas.

Diabetes Prevention & Education Classes Start Soon
Assistive Technology for Kansans along with partners Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center, Logan County Health Department, Southeast Kansas Independent Living (SKIL), and Independent Strides Home Health (Parsons) is sponsoring a 10-session series of small-group diabetes education and prevention classes in Logan County and Labette County. A Nurse and Assistive Technology Specialists will teach how to improve participants’ health by using apps on a smart cellphone or tablet to have reliable data to help monitor their blood sugar and insulin use, track meals and snacks, record healthy activities and to get summaries of their data to share with medical professionals. Classes start November 14th.

A photo from the KUCDD All Staff Meeting described on page 1. Check out the KUCDD website at http://kucdd.ku.edu/lawrence

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