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| **Minutes of KATS Network Advisory Council Meeting** |
| **December 15, 2017** |
| **McDowell Center** |
| **Louisville, KY** |
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| **Welcome & Introductions** |
| The council meeting was called to order at 9:40 am by Deb Bauder, Co-Chair. |
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| **Advisory Council Members** |
| Debra Bauder, Rick Boggess, Karen Coulter, Jennifer Hicks, Tashina Crowe (Proxy),  Tina Jackson, Lee Muncy, Duke Petit, Andre Ryssemus, Todd Stephens, Carol Weber |
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| **KATS Network Coordinating Center and ATRC Staff** |
| Jimmy Brown, Sheila Levy, Elizabeth Thompson; Joe McCombs, Josh Skuller; Racheal Johnson; Peggy Farmer Lisa Staub, Cindy Huston, Jana Billingsley |
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| **Advisory Council Members not in attendance** |
| |  | | --- | | David Dennis, Rowena Holloway (sent proxy), Patrick Murphy, Tishana Wokocha | |  |   **Others in attendance** |
| Mark Jackson |
| **Approval of Minutes from past meeting (s)** |
| Deb called the next order of business; approving the September 22, 2017 council minutes that were e-mailed to members. |
| Suggested corrections to last meeting’s minutes were made in advance of today’s meeting. |
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| Todd motioned to accept the minutes with the updates; second from Rick; all in favor. |
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| **SHARP (Statewide Hearing Aid Assistance & Reuse Program) –Jimmy** |
| * Explained our previous involvement & how the HearNow program works * SHARP application fee assistance has ended due to funds being used up * 505 individuals across the state received assistance * Served individuals from 84-85 of the 120 counties in KY * Still collecting used hearing aids for monetary credit or refurbishment   from the Starkey Foundation |
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| **RampUP KY Project** |
| * $71,000 grant received from the Christopher and Dana Reeve   Foundation to purchase portable aluminum ramps   * Originally, 10 distribution sites, now up to 14 distribution sites * Have 118-120 ramps available for loan * The ramps are engraved with the program information for return * Loans to consumers in 6 month intervals * Ramp kits are supplied at no cost to consumers. Consumers are   responsible for the lumber andlabor to build the ramp. |
| **Project CARAT –Sheila** |
| * In the past year, CARAT gave away equipment valued at $218, 801 * See complete report on page 37 of the meeting book * Paducah CARAT has now formed its own 501( c )3, a not-for-profit corporation. They have lots of volunteers and money for that program. They are no longer receiving financial support from CAL or the KATS Network. The inventory is continues to be posted to the KATS website and their statistics are included in CARAT reports. * CAL in Bowling Green is just now opening. They have offered to be a CARAT drop off   site. CBG has expressed an interest in working with WKU to develop a  CARAT site in the future.   * Louisville Metro Government councilmen toured EnTECH. * Project CARAT will apply for the Metro Government External grant   program   * Collaborated with SOS for them to receive some items they need in the overseas   mission trips, as Project CARAT could not pick up the donated items from the site of a  nursing home demolition. Project CARAT will receive some items in return.   * A training session will be conducted by Jimmy and Sheila at the HDI-CATS site on December 19th * CARAT Paducah has now formed its own 501( c )3, not-for-profit corporation. No longer receiving financial support from CAL or the KATS network.   **Jimmy shared a power point presentation titled, *Data Roundup*** |
| **Updates from ATRCs:** |
| **Enabling Technologies (enTECH)- Scott Yaden and Joe McCombs** |
| * Reviewed the submitted report, see page 25 of the meeting book * Hired 2 client relations associates for the program; Peter O’Connor and Laura Stark * EnTECH provided AT assessments, consultations and demonstrations for individuals from ages 18 months-70 years of age. * Scott and Allison take the students under their supervision out to deliver AT to students of First Steps. * New Addition - EnTECH is in the process of designing an additional advanced AT area on the third floor. The projected completion date is during February of 2018. |
| **HDI-CATS- Jimmy** |
| * Christina was unable to attend KAT’s meeting due to a staff meeting today * Officially scheduled to open on 1/2/18 * Transferring old items recovered from BTC to new site * A funding request was submitted to the UK Equipment Competition for a list of Communication Devices. * The new number is active today, 859-218-7979 * Address is: 2358 Nicholasville Rd, #80, Lexington, KY 40503 * Training Calendar is now in development. Council members are welcome to get on Listserv if so desire. * On 12/19/17, Jimmy and Sheila will be going the site to train the staff * Patrick Kitzman will be meeting with Christina to discuss PT involvement with CARAT |
| **Redwood –Lisa** |
| * 2 members of the May We Help group came to discuss ways they could adapt some mirrors and a Little Room for children with visual impairments * Reutilized a few CARAT items * Lisa set up a Little Room for a child with cortical visual impairment |
| **Western KY AT Center – Cindy** |
| * Worked with Kywanias to develop a bicycle for a child * Most kids are doing well with Milo, have him for 3 years. He is for use under 18 years of age. * Collaborated with various media outlets to share Milo and the Robots4Autism program. One of the local reporters is following the OT as she works with children * Only facility to use robots with Autism Curriculum * Staff exhibited at the Kentucky Rehabilitation Association Convention, Buddy Walk and Autism Walk * Staff exhibited at Senior Day Out hosted by GRADD * Will be hosting a workshop on 3/8 and 3/9- Oral Placement Therapy |
| **Carl D. Perkins Center – Racheal** |
| * Really busy with Rehab Tech work, not in office a lot * Staff have provided several successful demonstrations of KTAP cabinet * Racheal displayed KATS and Project CARAT information at the 2017 KAARN conference * CARAT donations were down this quarter; have still refurbished and redistributed a number of items to individuals * Received a large donation of 20 hospital beds from a local nursing home |
| **Discussion Notes:**  Tina inquired about the types of sensory toys at Redwood. Lisa shared that information with the council.  For additional information, Scott and Duke recommended ENABLING DEVICES.com website. Rachael offered to mail her a catalogue. Deb offered to share a resource for Christmas toys.  BEYOND PLAY.COM was suggested by Karen Coulter  Tina suggested an adapted toy drive for kids next year for Christmas. She states she thinks she has people who could volunteer. Duke mentioned Broad Horizons that makes controls for decreased hand function for gaming systems, like Xbox.  Karen suggested making an award trophy to increase interest and competition, “something kitchy and weird”.  Scott discussed some of the adaptive projects from the collaboration between students and others.  Sheila mentioned meeting the PVA (Paralyzed Veterans of America) at the KAARN conference. She is working with the Indiana director to enlist veteran volunteers to transport items for CARAT sites.  Sheila suggested ECE coordinators as a possible resource for Rachael’s challenges with her site’s refurbish program.  Discussion about how to track ramps, including electronically; such as by ‘tiles’.  Todd asked about the renewal on ramps.  Deb inquired as how the ramp program information was distributed. Jimmy gave details. |
| **Program Updates:**  **OVR –CAROL**   * Starting in January, SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) will require 20 hours of community engagement from recipients. This will now be run through the Career Centers. Cross training of staff will occur across the state to assist with those programs. * We are figuring out how to work out spending the 15% Pre-employment Transition Services. * Carol and Jimmy are working on a series of trainings to replace the usual AT conference. The first webinar is pretty well developed. KATS helped purchase the system to do these. Will have live captioning and a sign-language interpreter. * First one will be the 3rd week of January 2018 –*“Intro to Accessible Documents”* will show how it is for someone with a visual impairment. There will be several demonstration to show why it is important to have accessible documents. * Accessible documents have been converted by Carol and are a work in progress; such as the Employee Handbook. The Education Cabinet is helping to push for access to state time sheet. * Sight surveys are ongoing; most recently accessible parking has been added near the accessible entrance in Somerset * Carol has visited 4 career centers in Eastern KY this past week; still more issues with the inside of buildings |
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| **OFB- Andre** |
| * The commissioner came down to speak at a big meeting last week, talk about the budget. There have been several staff retirements. Some positions are being filled, others not. * Beth Belt was optimistic when she talked about SNAP involvement. She mentioned there could be private industry funding, possibly.   **Department of ED- Lee Muncy**   * Student Technology Leadership Program STLP- on March 29, 2018. Rupp arena; state championship with 5,000 students demonstrating AT use in the classroom. |
| **Rehab Tech Branch-Carol** |
| * Busy, keep moving along |
| **KCDHH- Proxy represented Tashina Crowe (Proxy for Row Holloway)**   * We are looking at new equipment, such as the updated “TeliTalk”; information is on our website under the “Equipment” tab. It is used with people who have had larynx surgery * Still offer iPad, iPhone and such to consumers. * Row is retiring at the end of April, 2018 * It is expected that I (Tashina) will work with KATS |
| **Discussion Notes:**  Todd expressed frustration that the accessibility issues are ongoing; asked if other states are more advanced than KY. Carol and Jimmy responded with some thoughts.  Carol asked the council members how well JAWS works with Chrome. Todd said Chrome works best. OVR will have an update that requires Chrome with CMS. |
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| **Announcements / New Business:** |
| Todd shared NewsLine information. Anyone who has trouble reading a traditional newspaper can benefit from this service. |
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| **Open Discussion from the Council:** |
| Todd asked for everyone to introduce themselves at the next meeting.  Rick shared information on the app, Seeing AI. It is used for reading handwriting and has recently received a significant update.  Karen shared that hospitals are required to follow guidelines for accessibility for patients, probably including the remotes to call Nurses/TV, etc. Rick had expressed concerns about a friend of his.  Carol will follow up with who to contact about SNAP volunteers, per Tina’s inquiries.  Per Deb, a group will come together on the toys for next Christmas |
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| **Tentative future council meeting date/s:** |
| **Location: EnTECH**  **Date: March 23, 2018**  **Time: 9:30 AM** |
| **Tentative future council meeting date/s:** |
| **Location: TBD** |
| **Date: TBD** |
| **Time: TBD** |
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| **Adjournment:** |
| Lee motioned to adjourn and Rick seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:51 PM. |

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