



Advisory Council Meeting

Mission Statement: *The KATS Network's Mission is to make assistive technology (AT) information, devices, and services accessible to Kentuckians with disabilities.*

Vision Statement: *All Kentuckians with disabilities have the assistive technology they need to maximize their dependence and reach their highest potential.*

September 10, 2025

Charles W. McDowell Center

8412 Westport Road

Louisville, KY 40242

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KATS Network Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Information:

Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2025

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Place: Charles W. McDowell Center, 8412 Westport Rd. Louisville, KY 40242

Agenda:

- I. Welcome, Roll Call, and Introductions of Attendees (**Joe Cowan**)
- II. Approval of the Minutes from June 11, 2025
(**Motion to approve, Joe Cowan**)
- III. New Business:
 - a. AT Presentation – Talking Keyboards – Samantha Hyman
 - b. Updates of KATS Network Activities:
 - i. Updates of KATS Coordinating Center (**Lisa Staub and Carol Weber**)
 - ii. Updates on Regional AT Resource Centers/Project CARAT Sites
 1. ACAT Hazard (**Pat Kitzman/Keisha Wells/Crystal Hignite**)
 2. HDI-CATS (**Christina Espinosa**)
 3. Easterseals Redwood (**Betsy Eiserman**)
 4. Wendell Foster (**Cindy Huston**)
 5. CALTech (**Chris Mattingly/Sierra Potter/Robb Caldwell**)
 6. Carl D Perkins-Project CARAT (**Darrin Breeding**)
 - c. Updates from Agency Representatives (**OVR, IL, Education, KWIB, KCDHH, CCDD, KATLC/AATLF**)
 - d. Advisory Council Co-Chair Voting (**Lisa Staub**)
- IV. Open discussion from Advisory Council (**Joe Cowan**)
- V. Announcements (**Joe Cowan**)

a. Department of Protection & Advocacy (**Whitney Hayse**)

VI. Future meeting dates and Locations

a. Wednesday, December 10th, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. ET. (Location: The Center for Accessible Living, 501 East Broadway, Suite 310, Louisville, KY 40202)

b. Wednesday, March 11th, 2026, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. ET, Location TBD

c. Wednesday, June 10th, 2026, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. ET, Location TBD

d. Wednesday, September 9th, 2026, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. ET, Location TBD

e. Wednesday, December 9th, 2026, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. ET, Location TBD

VII. Adjournment (**Joe Cowan** calls for motion to close, once motion made, call is made to second and meeting adjourned)

KATS Council Members:

State Agency Representatives

- KY OVR – Andre Ryssemus, Andre.RYSSEMUS@ky.gov;
- State Independent Living – David Allgood, dallgood@calky.org;
- Workforce KWIB – Suhas Kulkarni, suhas@suhaskulkarni.com;
- Education Cabinet – Kevin McCormack, kevin.mccormack@ksb.kyschools.us;
- KCDHH – Jessica Endler, jessica.endler@ky.gov;
- DD Council – Nicole Maher, Nicole.Maher@ky.gov
- AATLF- Sarah Richardson, sarahf.richardson@ky.gov

Representatives of Individuals with Disabilities / AT users

- Samantha Farthing – samanthia.farthing@ky.gov;
- Gerry Gordon Brown – gordonbrowng@bellsouth.net;
- Nancy Perry – njperry80@msn.com;
- Melanie Peskoe – mpeskoe@afb.org
- Joe Cowan – joe.cowan@kctcs.edu
- Traci Burks – tracilburks@gmail.com
- Brett Bachmann- bbachmann@thehearinginstitute.org

Acronyms of State & Federal Agencies

ACRONYM	DEFINITION
AATLF	Appalachian Assistive Technology Loan Fund
ACAT	Appalachian Center for Assistive Technology
ACL	Administration for Community Living
ADA	American with Disabilities Act
AFP	Alternative Financing Program
AIT	Kentucky Accessible Information Technology Act
AT	Assistive Technology
AT3	Assistive Technology Act Technical Assistance & Training Center
AT4ALL	Assistive Technology for All online Inventory System
AT ACT	Assistive Technology Act of 1998
ATAP	Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs
ATIA	Assistive Technology Industry Association
ATP	Assistive Technology Practitioner
ATRC	Assistive Technology Resource Centers
CARAT	Coordinating and Assisting the Re-use of Assistive Technology
CC	Coordinating Center - KATS Network
COT	Commonwealth Office for Technology
CDD	The Council on Developmental Disabilities
CDPVTC	Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center

ACRONYM	DEFINITION
CMS	Case Management System
CCDD	Council on Developmental Disabilities
CPE	Council on Postsecondary Education
DME	Durable Medical Equipment
DoD	Department of Defense
DOL	Department of Labor
DWI	Department for Workforce Investment
EKOS	Employ Kentucky Operating System
ESPD	Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment
HAVA	Help America Vote Act
HDI-CATS	Human Development Institute-Center for AT services
HHS	U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services
HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration
ICF/ID	Intermediate Care Facilities for individuals with Intellectual disability
IEP	Individualized Education Plan
ILC	Independent Living Centers
KAMC	Kentucky Accessible Materials Consortium
KAMD	KY Accessible Materials Database
KATL	The Kentucky Assistive Technology Locator
KATLC	The Kentucky Assistive Technology Loan Corporation
KATS	The Kentucky Assistive Technology Service (KATS) Network

ACRONYM	DEFINITION
KCDHH	Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
KCHIP	Kentucky Children's Insurance Program
KDDC/ DD COUNCIL	The Kentucky Developmental Disabilities Council
KDE	Kentucky Department of Education
KIB	Kentucky Industries for the Blind
KMHA	Kentucky Mental Health Association
KSHA	Kentucky Speech-Language-Hearing Association
KWIB	Kentucky Workforce Investment Board
MARC	Microsoft Accessibility Resource Centers
NCF	National Cristina Foundation
NCTI	The National Center for Technology Innovation
NISAT	National Information System for Assistive Technology (ATAP)
ODEP	Office of Disability Employment Policy (U.S.)
OET	The Kentucky Office of Employment and Training
OVR	The Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
P & A	Protection and Advocacy
PRE ETS	Pre-Employment Transition Services
RESNA	Rehabilitation Engineering & Assistive Technology Society of North America
RSA	The Rehabilitation Services Administration (U.S.)
SGA	Substantial Gainful Activity
SILC	Statewide Independent Living Council

ACRONYM	DEFINITION
TARC	Transit Authority of River City (Louisville/ Southern IN.)
UK-IHDI	The Interdisciplinary Human Development Institute
WFTRC	Wendell Foster Technology & Resource Center
WIB	Workforce Investment Board
WIOA	Workforce Innovations and Opportunities Act

KATS Network Advisory Council Minutes

Date: June 11, 2025

Time: 10 AM, Eastern Time

Place: Charles W. McDowell Center and Teams

Welcome & Introductions – Joe Cowan

Advisory Council Members

In person: Jessica Endler Smith, Joe Cowan, Nancy Perry, David Allgood

Virtual: Traci Burks, Robert Proctor (proxy for Andre Ryssemus), Suhas Kulkarni, Nicole Maher

Absent: Samantha Farthing, Gerry-Gordon Brown, Melanie Peskoe, Brett Bachmann, Kevin McCormack, Sarah Richardson

KATS Network Coordinating Center and ATRC/CARAT Staff

In person: Carol Weber, Lisa Staub, Chris Mattingly

Virtual: Keisha Wells, Pat Kitzman, Crystal Hignite, Christina Espinosa, Betsy Eiserman, Brandi Roberts, Cindy Huston, Sandy Hayden, Kassandra Hester, Robb Caldwell, Darrin Breeding

Others in Attendance

In person: Tracy Lundergan (Captioning and CART Services), Missy Miller (interpreter), Alicia Salyer (interpreter), Camille Collins (P&A)

Approval of Minutes from Past Meeting

David Allgood motioned for approval of the March 12, 2025 meeting minutes. Joe Cowan provided a second. Motion carried.

New Business:

Updates of KATS Network Activities

Program Updates – Lisa Staub

Ramps continue to be a significant need all around the state. In Northern Kentucky we've been working with a carpentry program at Holmes High School in Covington. They were able to do two ramp builds this spring, and we had an increase in awareness happen in our area that, and we have had an increased number of requests for ramps in the northern Kentucky area. The school was able to get a grant to pay for the lumber, and the students are able to go off campus to complete the build, which has really helped to make this successful. We have been in contact with staff at schools in Owensboro and in Lexington, but they don't have the same capacity, as they don't have funding for materials or the ability to take students off campus to do the actual builds.

Assistive Technology Awareness Day was April 30th. We have some great videos on our Facebook page from HDI-CATS, Wendell Foster, and Easterseals Redwood, along with a video about the ramp build with Holmes High School. I presented information on KATS to an assistive technology task group with the Kentucky Special Ed Regional Technical Assistance Centers in May. I'm trying to better coordinate some of school staff around the state to have things available for the students, make use of donations and help our centers can clear up a little bit of space.

I assisted with the exchange of a hospital bed. Those are always challenges because Darrin at Carl D. Perkins is really the only one that's able to take those in due to space limitations. We are able to let people list the items on the site and also try to make exchanges if someone happens to call and need one. I had a family from Louisville with a hospital bed that was purchased by the VA for a family member. He used it for a limited time and then was moved to a nursing facility. The VA told the family it was purchased for him, and they didn't want it back. Near that time, I had a call from a woman in Grant County who was caring for her mother and asked about a hospital bed. This is one of those families that did not have funding to buy a hospital bed but really needed something in the home. The two families were able to coordinate the exchange.

In late April we were notified by the technical assistance team with AT3 center that Google had Chromebooks and Pixel 7 smartphones available to AT Act programs free of charge. There were no conditions attached in terms of how the technology needed to be used. Unfortunately, government entities weren't eligible to get this technology, so we couldn't get any in the coordinating center, but several of our centers took advantage of his opportunity to get new devices still in the box.

We will need to submit for one additional member to represent individuals with a disability who use assistive technology, so if you happen to know of anyone that might be interested in serving on the Advisory Council for KATS, please let me know. We will be having elections for co-chairs at the next meeting. Joe's been serving as a co-chair since 2022 and Jessica since 2023, so also be thinking about whether that's something that you would be interested in serving as for our council.

Program Updates – Carol Weber

Budget wise, The KATS Network is doing good. We have not yet received our full allotment of money for fiscal year '25 but we've received most of it, with no reason to believe we won't receive the rest of it at some point. I got a correspondence from our national organization, ATAP. In the president's budget for fiscal '26 they are allocating \$40 million to the Assistive Technology Act programs. That is an increase from last year of \$38 million. However, it excludes P&A funding and allocates it all to the state grant -- state AT Act grantees, and it eliminates money for the separate alternative financing program grant competitions. So overall, the money is probably about the same, but it's more to the AT Act programs, which I think is a positive thing. I strongly believe we're going to be funded next year, which you never know about, so that's the first thing.

The second thing that I want to talk about is the AT workshop. Usually, we have that in the summer, but this year we are not. One reason is that generally at least half of our attendees are Voc Rehab professionals. We're not allowed to do any traveling for training right now, so we knew that attendance would be low. We chose to have our workshop this year feature assistive technology and Pre-Employment Transition Services. By doing this we are able to have Voc Rehab staff travel because there is money budgeted for Pre-ETS. Lisa sent out a save the date flyer. The workshop will be October 21st through 23rd at the Kentucky State Research Farm. With Pre-ETS we have a different population.

The first day we are having a learning lab, with different stations that people will rotate to and actually have a chance to touch and use assistive technology at each of the stations. The Office of Special Education and Early Learning will bring the virtual reality headsets used to allow students to do career exploration virtually. We are going to feature ACAT and do some adapting of toys that day. We have an individual coming in to talk about some software programs that he has to help you explore different assistive technology, So a student in high school who is looking for specific job with specific limitations or whatever, will be able to go through his expert system and maybe see a video of somebody using technology that might work for him or might actually be able to try some of the technology. We're planning on having some adaptive cooking things the first day. We're inviting students, their parents and professionals as well to attend.

The second day we are bringing in a speaker, Jennifer White, with Able Opportunities. She will be presenting building innovative work transition plans

with assistive technology. She will talk about low tech and high-tech accommodations that can be used, as well as self-advocacy, using technology and self-advocacy and developing résumés and video résumés.

Then on the third day we're going to have a Kentucky focus. We will talk about funding assistive technology, ACAT will talk about how they do their Pre-Employment Transition Services program and using technology, and we want to have a discussion between school personnel and Voc Rehab personnel and whoever else might be there about how we can transition assistive technology from high school into adult life.

I do want to mention to everybody that we do have the Appalachian Assistive Technology Loan Fund. They can provide loans for assistive technology from 100 to \$7,000. From July 1st through now we have made 70 loans and 68 of them have been for hearing aids. What we're hearing from Pennsylvania, though, is they want to keep funding other things too. Nancy Perry asked if this includes Cochlear implants. Carol responded that she would assume they could use money for Cochlear implants. Not 100 percent positive, but our maximum is 7,000.

We have had like 24 loans that were denied, and a handful of others that withdrew their application for one reason or another. Carol asked that everyone continue telling people about it whenever they get a chance, including if somebody comes into an ATRC and is looking at technology and can't afford it.

Another thing that we have been participating in is the AATLF convening, which happens monthly. Carol noted that Chris Mattingly and Dave Matheis have worked on these. These AATLF convenings focus on financing assistive technology, with great presentations at every single meeting. Ryan Creech did one on adaptive recreation. People talk on funding like the Medicaid waivers with a lot of good information. Carol can send out a link so people can register.

Joe Cowan asked if Carol knew the reasons people were denied a loan. Carol looked this up and noted that one of the main reasons is the debt-to-income ratio is too high. Sometimes it's because of -- what they have written is charge-offs and collections, so maybe they're already in collections. So those are some of the main things. Bankruptcy. Carol also reported that we've had no defaults

Updates from ATRCs:

ACAT

Pat Kitzman chose to highlight their CARAT-TOP program which works with the high schools in Perry County. In the spring they a long-term project with their high school students in collaboration with the mayor, the Judge/Executive and the director of Chamber of Commerce. Student teams have been developing a new

state-of-the-art sensory park for Perry County. Students from Hazard Independent High School started the groundwork including types of items should be in this particular area. One student who is very gifted in coding and drafting started the blueprints for what this area is going to look like. Moving forward, they will have subsequent cohorts of students from both Perry Central High School and Hazard Independent continue to grow this project and help in all different aspects. The mayor is fully invested in seeing this to fruition and very vocal about making sure that the student teams are a focal of what this project is all about. Keisha Wells added that the mayor is also very vocal that this is going to be the best sensory park in Kentucky, if not the United States and invited everyone to come see it once they get it up and going. Pat noted that the other key part is that they have officially ended the funding for this project through their collaboration with the council and developmental disabilities and are working with their community advisory group on kicking off different methodologies for funding. He stated that they should be on solid ground to not only maintain the program as-is, but are looking want to expand it to a high school in Buckhorn as well as the surrounding counties.

HDI-CATS

Christina Espinosa reports staying very busy with donations, loans, redistribution in addition to their agreement with First Steps and their families. In March one of their consumers of assistive technology loans started volunteering at the center. Her primary focus is on entering into the database. They also have an MSW student from ECU to work with them over the summer with a primary focus on marketing, outreach and contacting nursing facilities in the area and building awareness of the center.

They continue to host the physical medicine and rehab, PM&R residents, and the pediatric residents every month. They provide a tour and overview of their programs and resources.

In March they provided a presentation on AT, and a tour and overview of their program and resources for 13 PTs, OTs, and SLPs from CKEC, the Central Kentucky Education Co-op. This gave them a chance to kind of infiltrate all the regional school districts and hopefully be finding some ways to partner and help serve them as well.

They have been working on the ramp issue locally. Christina noted that some folks in town that contacted the center. They had identified help with building a ramp but had come up against a lot of barriers in the permitting process, and trying to do it right, and legally. The local realtor association can provide some funding for materials and historically would do the building of ramps using contractors that are part of their organization but has kind of stopped doing that because it's been so difficult to navigate the permitting process. In response, Christina reached out to a friend in contact with the senior services administration and has been working together with her and their access Lexington commission.

This is their mayor's commission on people with disabilities. They had a meeting with the building and planning offices in Lexington last month and are working to try to find some solutions to make some guidance in plain language so that people know more simply what the steps are and how to walk through the process, and also to hopefully expedite some of the work it takes to get ramps built and, the technical things that either make it more difficult or denied.

They will be launching a DD-funded project on July 1st called Housing Futures and through the AT center, doing this work across the state with individuals and their families on home modification and home usability solutions. They will be looking for those participants and sharing information, as other advisory council members might come in contact with people that could benefit from this program and either getting assessments for their homes - where they are currently living or identifying other options for where they might want to live that would be most usable to them, and implementing some home automation and some of the equipment they have in terms of environmental controls.

There are some individual stories in the meeting book. In the last quarter they reutilized 308 items for just under \$75,000 worth of equipment. They also loaned out 76 items to 45 unique borrowers. They have an overabundance of that pediatric equipment and continue to get in touch with people who could be utilizing this equipment. HDI-CATS has also been dealing with a lot of nonreturn of loan items and are making sure that the language in their loan agreement is there. They also try to make sure to explain the process a little bit more and the purpose of the Lending Library as a short-term loan to make those important purchasing choices. They are promoting the AATLF as a funding option.

Easterseals Redwood

Betsy Eiserman reports that they hired a new assistive tech admin, Brandi Roberts, on April 21st. For the quarter prior to that the primary focus was on loans and reutilization. She reports an uptick in March in requests from hospice and social workers. One of these contacts was for a gentleman had hadn't been able to leave his house for over a year, even to his back garden, due to a step. The center had a three-foot ramp donated and was able to reutilize it and allow him to get outside again.

They have had an increase in KEIS provider visits with families which is encouraging because of high provider turnover, so these are new providers coming in. They added several pieces of equipment to their inventory due to requests for gait trainers, walkers, standers and seating systems from Children's hospital and some service coordinators through KEIS who report that it is taking 6 to 9 months for insurance to approve equipment. Betsy notes that with these loans, kids can get up and walking sooner than they would if they had to wait for their own device to arrive.

Easterseals Redwood is currently undergoing an ATRC renovation, which should be completed within the next week and Betsy will send pictures out.

There is a gaming committee for Easterseals Redwood and which is focusing on increasing accessible recreation and leisure. Their center is one of the test areas to see what gaming equipment is most beneficial, the best ways to implement, train their adults how to use the equipment, and then reach into some of the job skills that are related to gaming.

Wendell Foster

Cindy Houston reports that during January to March of this year, they had a couple of big projects. Cassandra completed a full inventory of everything in our Lending Library, which was over 600 items. That includes probably about a hundred Smart Home items. That allowed them to evaluate what's being used and what is needed. They then spent the last few weeks researching and getting ready to purchase new equipment.

The second project involves streamlining the management of their iPads. They shared two Apple IDs with their speech department, but due to licensing issues on the communication apps, constantly ran into issues. They decided to start a new Apple ID and downloaded all the communication apps that were requested by consumers or recommended by their speech therapists for trial. The new Apple ID is just for loaners of AAC. Cindy said that while this may sound like an easy task, it was pretty huge and took several weeks to complete.

Looking at numbers for this period, Wendell Foster reused five items valued at \$2,250, had 139 loan items, five demos, 15 training participants through a KEIS training, a quarterly KEIS training on AT for early intervention. Listed 57 information and assistance, and 30 public awareness about 2,000 people reached. One of the public awareness opportunities was to tour the rehab department staff at their local hospital, which resulted in the reuse of a donated power chair to a consumer who was recently paralyzed due to a tumor on his spine. The consumer was receiving hospice services, and the staff, case manager and PT saw the power wheelchair on their tour and were able to pick it up the following day. Cindy noted that the biggest barrier for the center recently is requests for ramps with the rise too high for a loaner ramp, and they were not able to accommodate the consumers. Although they were able to purchase a lot of ramps with extra funds through KATS, and have ramps available at the center, the rise is too high and creates a barrier in a variety of different ways.

CALTech

Chris Mattingly reported that from January to March, they received over 40 donated items. They also did an outreach earlier in the spring in collaboration with Portland Museum in Louisville and the University of Louisville to host a wood carving workshop and provide education on accessible tools to use for the wood

carving. They had a print festival in April and the participants were able to make wood carvings using the accessible tools and then get the print steamrolled at the festival.

CAL has a grant that can serve anybody in surrounding counties in Kentucky with a spinal cord injury and assist them with a ramp through Project Going Home. Chris noted that CAL is looking to hire someone part-time to help with First Steps services. CAL has also signed an agreement with Spalding University's occupational therapy program where students are going to come in and do their capstone help with increasing public awareness of CALTech. This program will hopefully start later this fall or early next year.

Chris reported that CAL has had several podcast episodes featuring AT related discussions. They had one with an accessible hunter, and they also had the founder of the Lotus ring device on a podcast. CAL has purchased a Lotus ring for demonstration. Chris is also involved in outreach and has been to Goodwill about every other week to spread awareness about our programs.

Carl D Perkins

Darrin Breeding reported they have had several items moving in and out, and as was mentioned earlier, have several hospital beds in storage. He receives calls at least weekly from people who want to donate or who need hospital beds. They have some students that have been very helpful with pick-ups and getting those moved. They still receive calls for high demand items such as walkers, wheelchairs, and shower chairs, and go through those quickly. Almost as they are donated, they are sent out. Darrin keeps a waiting list and tries to follow up with folks on the list.

He reports they are currently able to provide limited local pickup and delivery. He did have a call from a lady in Frankfort needing a hospital bed fairly quickly, and was not able to work it out immediately, but plans to reach back out to her. He said that their students enjoy being able to get out and work with the individuals that need items. Carl D Perkins is in a unique situation, training students who have some kind of significant disability to go to work, and through this reuse program, they get to see that there are other people out there with disabilities who are successful, so they really enjoy being able to take part in that with this program.

State Agency Representatives

Kentucky OVR

Robbie Proctor, with the AT Branch reported that he has been working together with the KATS Network in the Paducah area in the west region. One organization that he has been trying to work with is Goodwill. He noted that he utilizes KATS and recommends AT items through KATS for consumers who do not have the funds. This has been very helpful with the current order of selection (in OVR). OVR has been busy, and AT is doing its best to just keep pace and keep giving out the technology and information out to consumers. Robbie commented on the upcoming AT conference and the value of hands-on for learning and developing skills. He finds that he is training a lot of people who already have the technology, but just don't know to use it properly, especially on their phones and switch things. Robbie further reported that the AT branch is doing well with Carol to guide it and is available to help if you other resources are needed.

State Independent Living

David Allgood reports that they continue to work on a lot of different issues. First, with housing, they had a meeting the day before with Louisville Metro housing corporation. They had a conference the night before and are working on accessible and affordable housing, which is a big issue for individuals across the City of Louisville, all the cities throughout Kentucky, and across the nation. There is a huge lack of affordable and accessible houses with technology and accessible features for individuals, and they continue to work with those issues well as well. He also notes working with the Kentucky Housing Corporation, on their Housing Policy Advisory Committee, and that there will be a breakout session about the need for accessible housing in their August statewide meeting in Northern Kentucky this year. He reports they are potentially approaching the state legislature to see if there's any interest about potentially adjusting the state building code. They realize this is a huge ask and he does not know whether that will be attainable. The home builders are a very powerful lobby group but right now if you live in a city municipality somewhere you can't supersede the state building code. So even if you could get your local building policy planners to increase the number of accessible units required, you can't supersede the state building code which has a set number. Which David argues is not high enough.

David then followed up on the ramp builder program 'Project Going Home' mentioned by Chris earlier. He stated that if you know of someone with a recent spinal cord injury that is in need of a ramp, this grant could potentially provide all the costs for that ramp so it could be built at no cost to the individual. Please contact CAL if you know that someone that does have that challenge.

CAL continues to conduct sensitivity awareness and disability awareness training for fixed route paratransit drivers in Louisville.

The Printing House for the Blind has been consulting with CAL and other blind individuals to make one of the most accessible museums in the country if not the world for those with physical disabilities and those who are blind or visually impaired. David thinks they have started construction. There are a lot of Helen Keller's items in the collection.

The Statewide Independent Living Council is looking for members to join their youth advisory group. Their focus is on getting young people involved in advocacy in the disability movement. This is important because a lot of those currently involved are getting older and have been doing this for a long time. They fear that some of the young people may take for granted that the ADA is there and that the Supreme Court decision can change that overnight. They want to educate young individuals about the need for advocacy on their part.

They have created a partnership with the Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities, the Human Development Institute, and Protection & Advocacy to try to inform our elected officials about the importance of what these entities do for individuals with disabilities, and how they support and keep people in the community and maybe at a job at their own home. They have created a flier to hand out to our elected officials, particularly at the federal level.

David also brought up concerns that potential Medicaid cuts are very serious issues for our population. They had a meeting with the national Centers for Independent Living and their lobbyists to talk about some of the issues which could impact the disability community in a very negative way. At CAL Murray they are working with a local food bank who also deals with housing and utility bills, and they got a grant and are helping with measurements and accessibility surveys to make sure that places are as accessible as possible for those with disabilities. In Lexington, they have gotten 33 individuals housed that have been homeless in that area.

Education Cabinet

Kevin McCormack was absent but had sent an email that he had no updates to report.

Workforce KWIB

Suhas Kulkarni was on the call earlier but had dropped off.

KCDHH

Jessica Endler reported that during the January to March quarter they have been sending out a lot of equipment. They are up to 16E as far as the iPhone goes, which she noted was a huge improvement as they had an iPhone 14 prior to that. They have been working on their regulation, have some expiring in the fall and hope to add some more items to our program. They are working to get those contracts in place.

Jessica sent out the letter to all of the centers that host our phone demonstration cabinets to see if people actually come into the offices. She noted that for the past one to two years there's not been any data to show that these have been useful. They are proposing this information to their board of the commission to see what they can do at this point, and the next step, and she provide that update as soon as she hears something. That is the information on their TAP program (Technology Access Program).

The commission is still at work at their usual stations and initiatives. They have been updating the in-house policies and have a new director that just came on board for the commission. It's been a wonderful transition thus far, and their building had some updates recently, with new paint, it looks bright to kick off their new era for their new commissioner.

CCDD

Nicole Maher reported that they had their DD network meeting on May 23rd. It was well attended and looked at the history and all the things that the DD network has accomplished over the years. She noted that they have all been a bit worried about their funding.

Nicole said they got news from Justin Jeter, their policy coordinator who is following everything that's happening in Washington closely. It looks like it goes through the HHS budget that they will still be around. There's not any indication that P&A and that the DD councils will be eliminated. However, she said that the HDI, the University Centers on Excellence are potentially being eliminated, so they are calling for a lot of advocacy and a lot of phone calls to let our legislators know how important that leg of the DD network is throughout the country.

CCDD funding was approved for the next year, so they can breathe a little bit easier. They did the notice of funds available and SILC, just received theirs, state independent council received the grant for the self-advocacy portion of what they do, and will be working with them over the next few years to try to start an advocacy network statewide. They have been trying to do that in all kinds of different ways over the years, and David spoke to that a little bit about how important it is for us to train younger advocates to keep advocacy and improvements going for people with disabilities. Nicole suggests that members consider following Justin Jeter, he does email and vide updates. Please reach

out to her for more information if you are interested. All of their information and email addresses are on their website, and he will put you on his mailing list for policy issues.

CCDD also has Kentucky Partners in Policymaking, and the application process is open again, and will be open through the end of July with classes starting in September. These classes are for people who have disabilities and family members. They meet once a month on a Friday and Saturday from September until May cover everything from history, education, employment, Independent Living. All those things to give people a broader knowledge base to use when they advocate across our state. They will also be meeting that week to start planning the Exceptional Family magazine that will come out at the end of summer. Nicole asked that anyone with story ideas share with her before the meeting to consider with the work team. Nicole then mentioned an email she believes was originally shared by Christina, along with an email Nicole sent to Joe Cowan, which she asked him to send it to everyone. The email provided information in regard to the Department of Energy's direct final rule to eliminate the requirement that new builds that are using federal funds be accessible for people with disabilities. This concern is another reason she urges people again to call their legislators and let them know that we are an important population and that we need to be considered when they are doing all of these cuts.

KATLC/AATLF

Sarah Richardson was absent – no report

Open Discussion from Advisory Council

Lisa Staub reported that she forwarded an email from Christina to the advisory council on the topic discussed by Nicole.

Announcements

Camille Collins-Dean with Protection and Advocacy provided an update that they are looking at significant cuts, but don't really know what all those are going to be right now. With some of their funding coming from Department of Education for two grants and their mental health grants, they are looking at substantial cuts and will continue to follow knowing things can change. They continue to advocate for these uses in particular and for P&A funding as well as DD council's as the DD network state and federal, most importantly the federal level. She thinks they will be working on getting some point of impact appointments for the following month, with senators and representatives and Congress. They continue serving people with developmental disabilities on AT barriers as well as any issues that people with disabilities in Kentucky encounter. They are not changing how they operate,

and we will continue to work until told they cannot walk in the building, they will advocate for the DD network and other partners that are impacted by potential cuts.

Lisa Staub noted that she is working on setting up a meeting site for the September meeting, and invited the centers to let her know if they wished to host a future meeting. Most meetings will be scheduled at McDowell.

Future meeting dates were established for 2026. The council agreed to continue to hold meetings on the second Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. The dates for 2026 are March 11th, June 10th, September 9th, and December 9th.

Meeting Dates for 2025

- Wednesday, September 10th, 2025, 10am-12pm ET, Location: TBD
- Wednesday, December 10th, 2025, 10am-12pm ET, Location: TBD

AT Presentation – CareScribe

Chris Hamblin, with CareScribe, a UK-based assistive technology business, presented virtually on their two products: TalkType and Caption.Ed

Please note: the information provided below is from the presentation and contains the claims that are made by the company. Our centers do not currently have this software available, but you may contact CareScribe directly if you have someone you would like to have trial their product.

The Caption.Ed app creates highly accurate real-time captions and enables you to take more meaningful notes. The software is available on all devices, Windows, Mac, desktop app, browser. It opens on a smartphone and/or tablet, IOS and Android, it's a cloud-based solution and therefore has full synchronization, so if you utilize it on a mobile device, you can then access that on a desktop or laptop. The software provides accurate captions so you will know what is being said, and who is saying what and when. It can be used by individuals with hearing loss but also can support notetaking. It therefore can support individuals with dyslexia, ADHD, and memory sorts of difficulties. You compile notes by either typing them out if you have those capabilities, copying them across, flags as important, making quick annotation, it really is entirely up to the user. Where I refer to our accuracy levels, in comparison to other software's that provide transcription and captions and most definitely when it comes to in built solutions, we are best in class. The ability to revisit sessions retrospectively

is very useful. Everybody has the capabilities of retain all the information that might go on, like in this presentation, and revisit that later and go through it all. It is helpful for comprehending that information. With the click of a button, you can provide a quick summary of that meeting or conversation. You can share your sessions, both in a meeting like we're running today, this could be easily shared, using the software and you can also share retrospective sessions with colleagues or team members. Live. While accessibility isn't the core of what we do, it's also worth mentioning caption can support saving our users on average nearly seven hours per week that have implemented the software.

TalkType is their dictation software. I'm sure you've all heard of dragon software in the past, you might be users, you might have some gripes, but the point is TalkType is a competitor to Dragon. The one key difference with TalkType is it's available across all platforms so therefore if you are a Mac user, if you do have an Apple iPhone then you can use the software just as you can with windows or a Chromebook or any other device. It does exactly what you need, software to do, it supports with dictation and I'll be completely transparent and say if you have individuals with a speech motor impairment or other diagnosis or trait, who to use the power of their voice to completely control all elements for navigational purposes, then I would suggest you consider dragon being that dictation tool. If you are looking for software simply to support with dictation, then you are in the right place. Not only will TalkType allow to you dictate into the software itself but at the click of a button you can easily transition between any third-party application that you may need to type into by dictating anywhere. Not only are you able to dictate, but there is also a commands menu, custom words and key shortcuts to reduce workload and stress. One big positive of TalkType is the ability to simply click the microphone after you signed in and start dictating. No need to create profiles, train voices or even dictate in a specific way, i.e. the dragon way. You can simply turn on that mic and speak naturally. We also have auto punctuation. For those concerned about dictating and punctuation, no immediate, software will do that. It is flexible, accessible, with various options including light and dark modes for a wide range of individuals. It will support with ADHD, dyslexia, and mental health conditions. Chris notes that he does not have an official diagnosis or trait but uses both pieces of software for support in day-to-day activity. He further says, yes, I can type, I have all the thoughts in my head, but I can't type at speed and sometimes I get stuck and frustrated so I dictate probably 80 percent of my work.

There was a question on the cost. Specifically, is it subscription based or is it lifetime. Chris answered that it is subscription-based. They are exploring the North America market and putting together more official US pricing. They don't

offer a perpetual license/lifetime license. They offer an annual, and multi-year (including 3 and 5-year licensing). Ballpark figures are around the \$600 a year mark, up to what could be maybe \$1500 to \$1800 depending on the license type, that's 3 or 5 years. Those prices aren't set in stone.

Nancy Perry asked if this could be used for the deaf and hard of hearing group as well in K through 12 school settings or maybe colleges or universities, as she felt it would be very helpful to see the visual of what is being said.

Chris responded yes, the company was built on providing highly accurate captions for exactly that both in person and online settings, but it's also developed to support other traits as well, and can be used in a multitude of settings, certainly in a K-12 setting.

Nancy then asked if it was COPPA (Children's Online Privacy Protection Act) compliant and explained that this rule applies to children under 13 years of age and refers to using apps that may collect data.

Chris responded that it depends upon how the software is going to be used in a classroom environment. He said that if you are looking to provide captions for their classroom and be inclusive for all students to see what's being discussed or in a lecture theater, the same way you can share a live sessions so those captions can be available on individual devices or on a big screen, and what they are doing then is just basically following along with those captions. You could, based on your admin permissions, share that with all students or select active students so they can play that back. In terms of the students using it themselves to capture the information that they need, there is JDPR compliance involved. It's a cloud-based solution so students would have access to the sessions that they have created retrospectively. They won't be able to share the audio or share any of their media, but they could utilize the transcription, or they could utilize the notes. If you take out the relevant license type as a setting, you have the ability to turn on data purging. This provides the option for a session to be automatically deleted from everybody's library and all servers after a set period of time, for sessions that have been created by any user on your account, which could support data or security concerns. Chris then stated that he could share this information retrospectively.

Nancy indicated that this answered her question.

He then demonstrated how the software works from his dashboard account as a Mac user or Chrome, it doesn't matter if you are on windows or Edge, or Chrome. If you click on recording, maybe for in person scenario, just a recap, caption can

support live or pre-recorded into hybrid setting. To do this, connect to the microphone if everyone is in the same room together. You can also connect into any external mics. It can connect into headsets, hearing aids, as well as neck loops, and other options. When he starts recording, it basically picks up on whoever is speaking and provides captions displayed in the center panel. What you'll notice is that while I am in a different country, there might be a slight delay because of the Internet issue but by the same token, I'm speaking naturally, and I appreciate I can speak at a rapid pace to get through lots of information and the software can manage this. If you use the captions on Microsoft teams you might be able to compare what you're seeing on the bottom of your screen to what I'm sharing, you have complete control as an end user as to what you see and how you manage what you are seeing. For example, I can control my word space to say I don't need to see any slides here, I don't need to see the media, I may not want to create a note, therefore I just want to have the captions visible. And I'm able to resize to so it's my visual preference. You can copy this and share this link potentially with a QR code and that could be used then to provide support in the class environment. People can connect on their devices and then simply follow along with the captioning on the devices in question so be really inclusive for that classroom environment. If I wish to make notes, I can make a note. By typing the notes you'll notice there is a time stamp against every note entry, that becomes useful after the fact, to synchronize the meeting to that point. The captions are automatically scrolling. If you miss something, you have the option to scroll back up, pick up on what you need, potentially mark that as important, click on latest captions, and it will take you to the present part of the conversation. Another way of compiling notes is to copy sections of the transcript over to your note section. Because the transcript is accurate, the notes will be accurate as well, and you can edit later on. The speaker labels will work when you plug into an online meeting. When you see this session after the fact, it will process, and you'll see the speaker labels. At this point it was only one speaker, but when there were multiple people speaking you have speaker labels enabling you to click on and edit the name and it will basically synchronize to those.

You will have your speaker labels here, my colleague myself Matthew and I, if I click on the transcript and press play, it plays back the audio in synchronization with the media. Following along with the transcript so you can easily do that, scroll down, click on any word and again play. You also have the ability to skip forward and backwards in 15 second increments, speed up or slow down the play back speed to help with comprehension, and edit the transcript. You can use time stamps and create a recording summary at the push of a button, share the session by providing the link. There is a custom dictionary, so the software will handle legalese or medical jargon exceptionally well. If it doesn't you can add in

your own custom words and have the option to change the language. This won't translate but what it will do is provide a transcript and captions in that language. So, you do have the option to change that to support, and should the words provided not be as accurate as you want, you can add custom words. It won't do is translate an English session into Spanish or vice versa. It will support potentially non-standardized speech. It supports a plethora of different accents, as they have a load in the UK and it does very well. He suggested they could provide evaluator licenses if there's interest to test it in your environment. The person shown in the demonstration was completely deaf, and there's a link on their website which shows different options for non-standardized speech of varying accents and how their software compares to Zoom or teams and other transcription and captioning software. In a recap, join your meeting by copying and pasting the URL into the relevant section, and it will then plug into the meeting, and you can start that meeting. It will then pull out the speaker labels and upload and the software will transcribe so you can review it.

Chris then discussed TalkType, which can log on any device also, as it is browser based as well. You click the microphone, good morning, my name is Chris and I am providing a demonstration of our dictation software. Full stop. New paragraph. Don't panic, for example, exclamation point you don't need to speak that local with our software you can speak as naturally as you want. And as I've already mentioned this morning I speak at quite a rapid pace. You have commands available, for example, TalkType bold on, same logic would apply there to underline, talk top, full stop, new paragraph. What's also very useful is the ability to use things like shortcuts to streamline workload and make it easier when you're trying to dictate full stop new paragraph, morning team. bear with me, let me look at my shortcuts. Big thanks. New paragraph. Signature. Forgot all my shortcuts were. So I'm showing you here the ability to turn the mic on and start dictating at rapid speed that I did and these shortcuts you can create over here, your trigger word of big thanks produced this paragraph, my signature trigger word produced my signature and then the commands are available, so one pane view you can see a variety of command here which you can easily open up give an idea what to say navigate your way around, you've got your custom words you can add in, my daughter's name is Callie, spelled C-A-L-I, the software would like to spell it with a double L and I and E so I added that in there and shortcuts you can create. One thing I do want to show you is the ability to open up our desktop app, the one key difference with our desktop app is the ability to dictate anywhere. Immediately this thumbnail appears reducing screen real estate, I can now turn the microphone on and dictate into any third-party application I need to type into. I simply click it to my Google docs and I can now start speaking. Full stop. If you're using the software in this environment, which is basically dictating into any document that

you are dictating into, it will just simply dictate straight into the application of your choosing. If you open up and dictate into TalkType the software itself, it will store all the documents over here and these are the things that I'll be working on, allowing you then to potentially copy them and paste them elsewhere, but if I'm being honest the way it's used if you are creating documents or even dictating into your own third party platform, you would choose to dictate anywhere function and just click this mouse, cursor wherever you need to dictate into. It's that simple. TalkType by the way is not a cloud-based solution, so there shouldn't be any sort of security concerns around that. Also, punctuation can be turned on or off depending on user's capability and I guess ways of dictating, the comfortability into dictating I like to put my own punctuation in but you can turn that on. And then you can control all these either with the power of your voice or you can simply use the (indiscernible) to do so, what I'm trying to highlight here is TalkType's simplicity, no training, no profile, turn the mic on dictate into the software or dictate into anywhere that you need to type into.

I'm happy to share evaluator licenses for trial purposes, or provide more in-depth information regarding any particular scenario, and get those prices done

Adjournment: 12:05 PM

The motion was called by David and Joe provided the second for the motion.

Assistive Technology Branch Quarterly Report

April 1, 2025, through June 30, 2025

KATS Network

On June 11th, the KATS Network held their Advisory Council meeting at the Charles McDowell Center in Louisville, KY. In addition to the regular meeting business, Chris Hamblin, with CareScribe, presented information on two of their products, TalkType and Caption.Ed

State Level Activities

Loan

302 items were loaned to 212 individuals statewide through our participating programs. An item is counted as a loan upon return of the item to the lending program site.

- 71 loans were made to assist individuals in decision-making about the purchase of AT.
- 2 loans were made to allow for training, self-education, or professional development activities.
- 134 loans were made for short-term accommodations.
- 5 loans were made to provide AT while an individual waiting for the purchase or repair of their current AT.
- Loans were made for community living, employment and education purposes.
- Types of devices loaned by federal category: Recreation, Sports, and Leisure (114), mobility, seating, positioning (88), speech/communication (24), daily living (27), computers and related (19), learning, cognition and developmental (18), Vision (4), and Environmental Adaptations (8).

Demonstration

8 Device demonstrations were reported during this quarter. During the quarter, demonstrations were made for community living purposes and education.

Participants included individuals with disabilities; family members; representatives of health, allied health, and rehab; representatives of community living; and representatives of technology. Device demonstrations were provided in the areas of speech communication; learning, cognition, and developmental; and mobility, seating and positioning.

Reuse: Statewide Project CARAT Program Update

In this period across all sites, Project CARAT managed 381 reuse items valued at \$79,047.21. Devices were given out through reuse to 244 individuals. The largest category of items provided through reuse were daily living items (214); followed by mobility, seating, and positioning items (158). Two items categorized as computers and related were reutilized, along with one item which fell under the recreation sports and leisure items category, four hearing items and two environmental adaptation items. One item (a hospital bed) with a total estimated current purchase price of \$799.99 was provided through device exchange. Eight items were recorded under open-ended loans in the areas of daily living; environmental adaptations; computers and related; mobility, seating and positioning; and recreation, sports and leisure. These eight items were valued at a total estimated current purchase price of \$3,141.89.

Financing Activities

- Information on AATLF was provided in April 2025 to 25 individuals. Fifteen of these were in response to assistance with ramps, while four involved requests for hearing aid assistance. Other requests included installation for vehicle lift, battery for portable oxygen concentrator, Roho cushions, lift chairs, and a mobility scooter. Individuals reported their counties as: Jefferson (9), Pike (1); Pulaski (1); Harrison (2); Marshall (1); Lewis (1); Boyle (1); Fayette (1); Daviess (2); Casey (1) Washington (1); Bath (1); Grant (1); not reported (2).
- Information on the AATLF was provided in May 2025 to 32 individuals. Sixteen of these were in response to assistance with ramps, while three involved requests for hearing aid assistance. Other requests included: stairlifts, wheelchair repair, wheelchair lifts (vehicle), shower installation, scooter, laptop, and wheelchair with detachable wheels. Individuals reported their counties as: Jefferson (7); Shelby (1); Campbell (1); Morgan (1); Barren (1); Metcalfe (1); Simpson (1); Nelson (1); Kenton (1); Powell (1); Clark (1); Harrison (1); Jessamine (1); Warren (1); Greenup (1); Montgomery (1); Bath (1); Greenup (1); Lincoln (1); Madison (2); Washington (1); Harlan (1); Casey (1); Pulaski (1); not reported (1).

- Information on the AATLF was provided in June 2025 to 37 individuals. Twenty-six of these were in response to assistance with ramps, while four involved requests for hearing aid assistance. Other requests included: a communication device, scooter, track chair, bike cart for adult to ride in, and a wheelchair battery. Individuals reported their counties as: Jefferson (5); Fayette (5); Kenton (3); Boone (2); Campbell (1); Lincoln (2); Martin (1); Crittenden (1); Magoffin (1); Pike (3); Trigg (2); Daviess (1); Madison (1); Clinton (1); Casey (1); Hart (1); Christian (1); McCreary (1); Muhlenberg (1); Bath (1); Hardin (1); Meade (1).

State Leadership Activities

Public Awareness Activities

KATS public awareness activities during the quarter reached approximately 103,409 individuals through newsletters, printed materials, social media, internet information, tours, and presentations. Tours and presentations were made to community health workers, participants at a community engagement event, public schools and adult daycares, a disability service center, 4H programs, Goodwill staff, local paramedic program, KY school special education staff, National Transportation Safety Board staff, and care facility staff, and St Clare UK to discuss a potential expansion site. Printed materials and newsletters were provided to celebrate National Speech-Language Hearing month, and an article on AT in Education in a monthly newsletter.

In celebration of National AT Awareness Day on April 30, 2025, the Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs (ATAP) launched a social media campaign. Content was provided by ATAP, and each ATRC was asked to share posts twice weekly during the month of April. ATRCs also provided short videos related to AT that were shared on the KATS Facebook page to highlight how important each of our centers are to the community around them. The coordinating center created and shared a video on our ramp building collaboration with Holmes High School.

Information & Assistance

- The Coordinating Center provided I&A to 332 individuals in 71 counties across the state.
- The Coordinating Center provided I&A to 100 individuals wishing to donate items. 8 individuals contacted the KATS Network regarding hearing aid donations, 14 individuals had hospital beds available for donation, and 33

calls or e-mails involved wheelchairs/transport chair/scooter donations. We continue to receive a significant number of calls and e-mails from individuals in the counties of Fayette (27) and Jefferson (30).

- Coordinating Center provided information and assistance to 218 individual's requests. 29 of the requests involved the need for a wheelchair or scooter, track chair, wheelchair battery and wheelchair repairs. We continue to receive a significant number of calls and e-mails from residents of Fayette (19) and Jefferson (51) counties.
- Funding resources for hearing aids were provided to 11 individuals.
- Ramp access to residences continues to be a significant need. The Coordinating Center provided resource information regarding 95 ramp-related requests. Most requests involve the need for a ramp to be built, as the temporary portable ramps available through the RampUp program are not appropriate for their specific needs, and even when they are, many people require more long-term solutions. Information on loans available through AATLF and other potential resources and funding opportunities are provided to these individuals.
- The KATS Network was contacted by the family of a single mother of four in need of a ramp solution. Her oldest daughter is 13 years old and in a wheelchair with a diagnosis of cerebral palsy. It had become increasingly hard to get her daughter up and down the steps. The KATS Network has a partnership with the carpentry program at Holmes High School in Covington. A site visit was made to the home for field measurements by the program instructor to design an appropriate ramp solution. Under the guidance of the teacher, ramp components were built at the school by students. A ramp build was scheduled at the home and occurred in April during the school spring break. The build was completed by the instructor and 3 students.
- In May a second ramp build was completed by the carpentry program instructor and 5 students from Holmes High school for an elderly couple that was referred through a local rehab facility.

Technical Assistance

- Jimmy Brown provided technical assistance to the KY Administrative Office of the Courts to discuss the techniques and strategies in making their forms

accessible to individuals in preparation for the upcoming changes to Title II of the ADA.

- Jimmy Brown provided technical assistance to the Appalachian Assistive Technology Loan Fund (AATLF) program to support efforts to improve the accessibility of their website for individuals with disabilities.

Training

KATS coordinating center staff are working with Pre-ETS staff on a workshop planned for October 2025.

Program Development

KATS Network Advisory Council members with terms expiring on March 31, 2024 submitted updated information which was forwarded to the Governor's office, and we are still waiting on the official approvals. One member representing individuals with a disability who use AT passed away in December 2024, and leadership was notified that this created an additional opening.

ACAT

FFY 2025 Quarterly Narrative Report

Reporting period: April 2025 to June 2025

Summary of Assistive Technology Services provided during the Quarter Reporting Period:

The ACAT team was involved in a lot of community outreach and networking, as well as expansion. We have continued to complete monthly activities with the LKLP Adult Day Program participants. We participated in a Derby-themed community engagement session hosted by the Disability Resource Center. We funded 4 individuals with the Grace Jones Memorial Fund mini grant. The team participated in Exceptional Fun Day hosted by the Perry County school system. Our Pre-ETS students continued to come in and participate in makerspace activities until the end of the school year. They also took a field trip to the Hazard ARH Medical Center to learn about job opportunities. One of our Pre-ETS students has been coming to the ACAT center two days a week this summer, to learn additional skills. The ACAT team presented in a session at the 4H teen camp on the University's campus. We held a toy adapting session with the camp participants. The new DPT incoming class toured the ACAT center. Our team had an exhibit and assisted with the senior games at the Knot County Sportsplex, that hosted individuals from 8 counties. We had a visit from the therapy department from UK ST. Claire, to discuss expansion. We hosted a tour for the Deaf/Blind group holding EEC week in Hazard and discussed us holding a session for parents during that week. We hosted a CARAT training and trained 4 individuals to properly refurbish DME. ACAT participated in World Autism Day and had others participated in a social media campaign. Some of the ACAT team attended an LI conference with some of the Pre-ETS students, hosted by KVEC. Our CARAT-TOP students presented their projects at the Appalachian Research Day conference held in Corbin. We wrapped up another CARAT-TOP cohort and held their Certificate of Completion Ceremony. We continue to give presentations and tours of ACAT, when Kentucky Homeplace hosts Community Health Worker training for individuals and organizations across the state. We held an ACAT advisory committee meeting and have added 2 committee members. The advisory committee is working on sponsorship for our CARAT-TOP program.

Summary of State Level and Leadership Activities provided during the Reporting Period:

Device Reutilization

Anecdotal Story: A consumer reached out about a ramp to get her husband in and out of the house. He had not been out of their home (other than an Ambulance ride to and from doctor visits) for months. She had remembered about our program through another program at the CERH and we had a ramp that worked. She was very appreciative and has sent other consumers our way.

Device Loan

Anecdotal Story: See story above

Device Demonstration

Anecdotal Story: Demonstrated iPad and apps to a consumer, that then requested a loan for the item.

Alternative Financing

Anecdotal Story: None provided.

Training

Anecdotal Story: We were honored to have Lisa attend our CARAT training and she has the idea for us to train staff at all of the ATRC's.

Technical Assistance

Anecdotal Story: None provided.

Public Awareness

Anecdotal Story: The ACAT team participated in 2 very fun community events that are very touching. The senior games, where senior citizens are given the opportunity to showcase their skills no matter their abilities and compete against their peers. The same with the exceptional fund day at the perry county schools. These students get to showcase their abilities, and adapted games are created for them to do so. ACAT was honored to be a part of both these events.

Information and Assistance

Anecdotal Story: Continue to get calls from all over the state and connect the consumer with the ATRC that is closest to them.

Additional Information or Activities

- Continuing to work on and getting closer to an expansion site at UK St. Claire
- We were awarded the HRSA Rural Network Planning grant

AT Services related to Selection/Acquisition of Equipment during the First Quarter Reporting Period:

- a) Reutilization: **13** items distributed to **7** individuals; valued at: **\$1,176.00**
- b) Device Loans: **9** items loaned to **9** borrowers.
- c) Device Demos: **0** demonstration provided to **0** participants.
- d) Training Participants: **4** participants across **1** event(s)
- e) Information & Assistance: **100** individuals reached.
- f) Public Awareness: estimated **633** individuals reached.

Barriers/Obstacles during the reporting period, if any:

We have been low on DME since the last flood in eastern Kentucky wiped out a lot of our inventory. We are working to build our inventory back up, though.

CALTech

FFY 2025 Quarterly Narrative Report

Reporting period: April 1 to June 30, 2025

Summary of Assistive Technology Services provided during the Quarter Reporting Period:

Received 18 donated items with a total value of \$13908.30. Loaned out 12 items with a total value of \$11838.05. Gifted 36 items.

Summary of State Level and Leadership Activities provided during the Reporting Period:

Device Reutilization

Anecdotal Story: A family member was providing a place for convalescence for a sibling after a hospitalization. We were able to provide several useful items including a bedrail during this transitional period and beyond.

Device Loan

Anecdotal Story: We were able to provide a gentleman of modest means and unable to afford mobility items for his home a ramp, standard wheelchair, and rollator until he could arrange to get his own.

Device Demonstration

Anecdotal Story: None provided.

Alternative Financing

Anecdotal Story: None provided

Training

Anecdotal Story: None provided

Technical Assistance

Anecdotal Story: The Portland Museum and the University of Louisville were conducting a series of workshops on woodcarving in advance of their CeLOUbrate Print event on April 19th. Staff at CAL scheduled a workshop at the Center specifically for individuals with disabilities, a group they had not worked with before. We were able to provide technical assistance on how to make their workshop accessible to the disabled population. We also submitted a letter of support for their grant to Arts for All Kentucky for funds to purchase accessible woodworking tools. Their grant was funded and they now can make the workshops accessible in the future.

Public Awareness

Anecdotal Story: None provided.

Information and Assistance

Anecdotal Story: None provided

Additional Information or Activities

- None provided

AT Services related to Selection/Acquisition of Equipment during the First Quarter Reporting Period:

- a) Reutilization: **22** items distributed to **9** individuals; valued at: **\$1,472.46**
- b) Device Loans: **3** items loaned to **2** borrowers
- c) Device Demos: **0** demonstrations provided to **0** participants
- d) Training Participants: **0** participants across **0** events
- e) Information & Assistance: **0** individuals reached
- f) Public Awareness: estimated **0** individuals reached

Barriers/Obstacles during the reporting period, if any:

None to report.

Easterseals Redwood ATRC

FFY 2025 Quarterly Narrative Report

Reporting period: April, 2025 to June, 2025

Summary of Assistive Technology Services provided during the Quarter Reporting Period:

This quarter, the Easterseals Redwood ATRC hired an AT Admin which increased the capacity of our location to work with KEIS providers, work with families of individuals served in our programming, and identify outreach opportunities in Northern Kentucky.

Summary of State Level and Leadership Activities provided during the Reporting Period:

Device Reutilization

Anecdotal Story: A child who participates in the Easterseals Redwood early childhood program needed to have a more appropriate seating option to use while in the program. Her family has a seating option they use at home, but it is too large and heavy to transport between home and Easterseals Redwood daily. The child had been spending her time sitting in a Special Tomato Soft Touch Sitter that was too small for her and did not allow her to access her full visual field. Another family from Easterseals Redwood donated a Reach adapted stroller that was the perfect size for the child. The physical therapist and AT manager worked together to adjust the seat, footrest, seatbelt, and recline to meet all of the child's needs. The difference in the child's participation with her peers and her visual tracking improvement since receiving the stroller is truly remarkable.

Device Loan

Anecdotal Story: A KEIS provider came to the ATRC looking for something that would encourage interaction and engagement by a two and a half year old little boy. He would not play with toys at home and his parents were struggling with ways to get him to interact with them. The KEIS provider brought the family in and they took a guess at a few toys that might be of interest. When they got home, the little boy started playing with one of the toys in ways they had never

seen him interact. He has even started engaging in some parallel play with his parents and KEIS provider.

Device Demonstration

Anecdotal Story: In June, a family came in with their KEIS physical therapist. The child needed a gait trainer and the family believed they knew which one would work the best because they knew a family whose child used one. The physical therapist felt that a lighter weight gait trainer, like the Crocodile with accessories, would work better than the heavier option. The child was able to use the heavier option with effort and the family still thought that gait trainer was the one she should use. The physical therapist encouraged them to at least look at the lighter weight one. The child was able to take steps with much less effort in the Crocodile and the family agreed with the physical therapist. Without seeing the child using each of the gait trainers, the family would have chosen the heavier one that required more effort.

Alternative Financing

Anecdotal Story: This quarter, the ATRC provided financing information to three individuals. These individuals were looking for resources to fund AAC devices.

Training

Anecdotal Story: The Easterseals Redwood ATRC did not provide any trainings this quarter.

Technical Assistance

Anecdotal Story: The ATRC was not asked to provide technical assistance during this quarter.

Public Awareness

Anecdotal Story: Due to the continued staffing constraints, the Easterseals Redwood ATRC did not participate in any public awareness events this quarter.

Information and Assistance

Anecdotal Story: Many of the information and assistance activities at Easterseals Redwood centered around wheelchair safety and repairs this quarter. Aside from repairs and facilitating connections with wheelchair vendors, the ATRC was able to provide Braille support to a blind individual served in the program.

The individual had not had access to a lunch menu or activities calendar that he could read on his own. The ATRC was able to emboss them for him and will continue to do so monthly so that he has access to the information that is shared with others.

Additional Information or Activities

A new AT Admin was hired for the ATRC!!!! In addition, the ATRC held three wheelchair repair clinics at Easterseals Redwood during this quarter. A total of 86 safety checks and repairs were completed by Numotion during those visits.

AT Services related to Selection/Acquisition of Equipment during the First Quarter Reporting Period:

- a) Reutilization: **7** items distributed to **6** individuals; valued at: **\$7,830.00**
- b) Device Loans: **43** items loaned to **29** borrowers
- c) Device Demos: **7** demonstrations provided to **32** participants
- d) Training Participants: **0** participants across **0** events
- e) Information & Assistance: **58** individuals reached
- f) Public Awareness: estimated **0** individuals reached

Barriers/Obstacles during the reporting period, if any:

A new AT Admin was hired for the ATRC!!!! In addition, the ATRC held three wheelchair repair clinics at Easterseals Redwood during this quarter. A total of 86 safety checks and repairs were completed by Numotion during those visits.

HDI CATS LEXINGTON KY

FFY 2025 Quarterly Narrative Report

Reporting period: April 1, 2025 thru June 30, 2025

Summary of Assistive Technology Services provided during the Quarter Reporting Period:

During the reporting period, we have continued to stay extremely busy with accepting donations, loaning out equipment, and giving away CARAT items. We are still actively involved in loaning out items to First Steps families. Services were provided by Christina Espinosa, Joan Hager, and Nancy Savage. In March, one of our consumers started volunteering. She comes in twice a week and primarily works on entering items into the website. She has been a much-needed asset to our center.

Summary of State Level and Leadership Activities provided during the Reporting Period:

Device Reutilization

In March we were able to assist a family with durable medical equipment following their daughter's foot surgery. The young lady has autism as well as balance issues. The parents were concerned because she would need to be non-weight bearing for several months. We were able to provide them with a bedside commode, walker, wheelchair, shower seat, and transfer board.

Device Loan

In March we loaned out our Vive Health Compact Power Chair to a consumer who is also a caregiver. The caregiver has been assisting an older gentleman with pulmonary issues to get back and forth to doctors' appointments, as well as helping him with assistive technology and mobility. While in our center, returning items, she saw the recently returned lightweight folding power chair and inquired about it. She said she would like to try it with this gentleman because he enjoyed being outside and going for walks and had been unable to do so because of his illness. She borrowed the chair for a few days, and it was a great fit. She is now helping him with locating one for him to purchase.

Device Demonstration

We did not have any device demonstrations during this reporting period.

Training

In March we presented to a group of 13 therapists from the Central Kentucky Education Cooperative. This group included PTs, OTs, and SLP's from several schools in central Kentucky. The group was educated on how our program works, federal legislation, types of AT, and available resources. They were also given a tour of our center, shown various types of AT and how they work, and how our program can benefit their students. We gave them brochures to take with them and also encouraged them to check out the statewide locator website and set up an account for future use.

Public Awareness

During the reporting period, we posted 2 Facebook posts. One post was on March 7th and was a request for donations of transport wheelchairs. We have been having an increase in requests for this item. That post reached 3064 individuals. The second post was on March 20th and showcased a few adaptive strollers available in our CARAT program, just in time for Spring! That post reached 673 individuals.

Information and Assistance

In January a case manager with Baptist Internal Medicine called our center looking for assistance for a trach for a patient. The patient is in her 80's and has had a trach for 60 years. She was in need of a new part, a Tucker Speaking Valve. Unfortunately, the only company that makes this particular part, does not accept insurance and the part is several thousand dollars. After researching online and not finding much, I sent the AATLF resources to her and reached out to Lisa. Lisa forwarded information from Kristy Hampton, an SLP with Wendell Foster to me and I forwarded it to the case manager. A few weeks later, the case manager emailed me to say that the patient was able to get the part covered. Teamwork!

AT Services related to Selection/Acquisition of Equipment during the Second Quarter Reporting Period:

- a) Reutilization **308** items distributed to **106** individuals; valued at **\$74, 354**
- b) Device Loans: **76** items loaned to **45** borrowers

- c) Device Demos: **0** demonstrations provided to **0** participants
- d) Training Participants: **13** participants across **1** events
- e) Information & Assistance: **86** individuals reached
- f) Public Awareness: **2** events estimated **3,737** individuals reached

Barriers/Obstacles during the reporting period, if any:

We still have an overabundance of pediatric equipment and continue to get offers of more on a regular basis. If you have any particular needs in this area, please reach out to us! Another issue that we have been dealing with is the non-return of loan items. We recently updated our loan agreement and are being more vocal in explaining the purpose of the lending library and our terms when loaning out items. We are also offering resource information and AATLF. Hopefully, these steps will help.

Wendell Foster

FFY 2025 Quarterly Narrative Report

Reporting period: April 2025 to June 2025

Summary of Assistive Technology Services provided during the Quarter Reporting Period:

- Assisted consumers with information & assistance, loans, and reuse.
- Worked with Service Coordinators and Providers in the Kentucky Early Intervention System to provide loans for children ages Birth - 3 years old.
- Provided a virtual training for early intervention providers on types of AT for young children and how to access state AT resources.
- Provided a virtual training on pediatric durable medical equipment for PTs, OTs, and students in those fields.
- Purchased new AT for loans/demonstrations.
- Cleaned and maintained DME inventory, including 6 reuse donations.
- Worked with the Community Engagement Department on several Public Awareness activities. The local newspaper, Messenger-Inquirer, published an article on mass distribution day "Establishing Independence." Wendell Foster celebrated National Speech-Language Hearing Month by highlighting an individual with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy in its newsletter and on social media. The consumer needed an AT device that could assist with operating his wheelchair, accessing his TV and computer, and communicating whenever his voice was fatigued. His PT and OT worked with a SLP-ATP at Wendell Foster to fit him with a speech generating device.

Summary of State Level and Leadership Activities provided during the Reporting Period:

Device Reutilization

Anecdotal Story: Reused a new Bantam Stander to PT at Daviess County Public Schools. The stander was donated to Wendell Foster from a former outpatient.

School systems receive limited funding for equipment and was excited to have a new stander that will benefit their students.

Device Loan

Anecdotal Story: Loaned multiple items for a child with complex medical issues who is receiving services through the Kentucky Early Intervention System. The child utilized a Play Pak as a short-term accommodation to assist in tolerating activities in more challenging positions. The child trialed several communication devices and was able to borrow more advanced devices as he progressed. The child benefitted from multiple adapted toys and switches to provide access for learning. After successful trials, KEIS purchased the items so he could have them long-term. The child borrowed a Grillo gait trainer to support him with progressive standing and mobility activities. The family is working with a DME vendor to purchase his own.

Device Demonstration

Anecdotal Story: SLP/ATP provided an AT evaluation for a 39-year old consumer with Autism from Christian County who has successfully used AAC for 9+ years. Her current speech generation device is in need of repair, but the vendor no longer makes or repairs it. She trialed NovaChat 10, ProSlate 10, I-110, PRiO, and TD Navio Mini. She decided on a device from the same vendor.

Alternative Financing

Anecdotal Story: N/A

Training

Anecdotal Story: Provided a virtual training on pediatric durable medical equipment to PTs, OTs, and students in those fields. The presentation provided detailed information on a variety of gait trainers, standers, adapted seating, and adapted strollers.

Technical Assistance

Anecdotal Story: N/A

Public Awareness

Anecdotal Story: Messenger-Inquirer published an article "Establishing Independence" recognizing the important role that technology plays in helping

people with disabilities. It was mass distribution day and delivered to every household in the county.

Information and Assistance

Anecdotal Story: Speech Language Pathologist at Owensboro Health inquired about funding for AAC apps.

Additional Information or Activities

NA

AT Services related to Selection/Acquisition of Equipment during the First Quarter Reporting Period:

- a) Reutilization: **7** items distributed to **7** individuals; valued at: **\$6,730.00**
- b) Device Loans: **135** items loaned to **48** borrowers
- c) Device Demos: **2** demonstrations provided to **4** participants
- d) Training Participants: **35** participants across **3** events
- e) Information & Assistance: **55** individuals reached
- f) Public Awareness: estimated **102,766** individuals reached

Barriers/Obstacles during the reporting period, if any:

We receive many requests for ramps, but the rise is too high and we are unable to provide an accommodation.

KATS Network Advisory Council Proxy Designation Form

By means of this form, I authorize the person named below to vote on my behalf at the next scheduled Kentucky Assistive Technology Service (KATS) Network Advisory Council meeting and on matters announced before those meetings and/or included on the agendas for those meetings. This proxy designation is only valid for the next scheduled meeting (as determined by the date signed below). This proxy designation will expire at the conclusion of that meeting.

Council Member Name:

Entity Represented (if any):

Proxy Name:

Proxy Email Address:

Council Member Signature

Date:

Note: If you sign the form electronically, you must include the /s/ prefix (for example: /s/ John Doe).

Please send completed form to:

Lisa Staub
KATS Network
lisa.staub@ky.gov

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KATS Network Locations

KATS Network Coordinating Center

1324 Madison Ave.
Covington, KY 41011
(800) 327-5287

Regional AT Resource Centers

ACAT – Appalachian Center for Assistive Technology Services - Hazard

UK Center of Excellence in Rural
Health
750 Morton Rd.
Hazard, KY 41701
(606) 439-3557

CALTech

501 E. Broadway
Suite 310
Louisville, KY 40202
(502) 589-6620

HDI-CATS – Center for Assistive Technology Services

2358 Nicholasville Rd.
Lexington, KY 40503
(859) 218-7979

Easterseals Redwood

71 Orphanage Rd.
Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017
(800) 728-9807

Wendell Foster Regional AT Center

815 Triplett St.
Owensboro, KY 42303
(800) 209-6202

Project CARAT Sites

Carl D. Perkins Training Vocational Center

5659 Main St.
Thelma, KY 41260
(606) 788-7080

By-Laws of the Kentucky Assistive Technology Service Network

Amended 06/26/2024

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Kentucky Assistive Technology Service (KATS) Network Advisory Council.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of the KATS Network Advisory Council shall be to provide consumer-responsive, consumer-driven advice to the Commonwealth of Kentucky for, planning of, implementation of, and evaluation of the activities carried out through the State grant for assistive technology pursuant to the Assistive Technology Act, including setting measurable goals for addressing the assistive technology needs of individuals with disabilities in the State related to education, employment, telecommunication and information technology, and community living.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Composition

The KATS Network Advisory Council will be composed of:

- Representatives of individuals with disabilities who use assistive technology or their family members or guardians of the individuals.
- A representative of the state vocational rehabilitation (VR) agency and a representative of the blind VR agency, if such agency is separate from general VR.
- A representative of the state education agency
- A representative of the state workforce development board
- A representative of a center for independent living in the state
- A representative of the alternative financing program, if there is such program, it is separate from the State AT Program, and it is operated by a non-profit entity.
- One required agency representative picked from following options:

- Medicaid state agency
- State agency administering Developmental Disabilities Act
- State agency administering or organizations funded under Older Americans Act
- Organization representing veterans.
- University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)
- State Protection and Advocacy System
- State Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Representatives of other State agencies, public agencies, or private organizations, as determined by the State.

Membership shall be geographically representative of the State and reflect the diversity of the State with respect to race, ethnicity, types of disabilities across age groups, and users of types of services that an individual with a disability may receive.

A majority, not less than 51 percent, of the members of the KATS Network Advisory Council shall be individuals with disabilities who use assistive technology or the family members or guardians of the individuals. Agency members cannot count as consumers even if they have a disability.

Section 2: Appointment and Terms

All members of the KATS Network Advisory Council are appointed by the Governor to a term of three (3) years with the exception of any shorter initial appointments to establish staggered terms. KATS Network Advisory Council members may serve three consecutive three-year terms and are eligible for re-appointment after a reasonable interval.

Appointed members shall serve until a replacement appointment is made by the Governor's office.

Section 3: Nominations

The Nominating Committee will recommend names of candidates for appointment to fill KATS Network Advisory Council vacancies. Those candidates will be considered by the KATS Network Advisory Council for approval. The KATS Director will submit, through the lead agency, names of approved candidates to the Governor's Office for appointment.

The Nominating Committee may choose to waive the consecutive-term rule in special circumstances where it is deemed to be in the best interest of the KATS Network, the KATS Network Advisory Council, and the consumers to be served. This waiver, as with all nominations, is subject to the approval of the full KATS Network Advisory Council.

Section 4: Proxy voting

A member may designate in writing a proxy authorizing the proxy to vote on matters announced prior to the meeting and/or included on the agenda for any meeting the member cannot attend. The member may revoke the proxy at any time in writing submitted to the KATS Network Director. Any member who has advanced knowledge that they will be unable to attend a KATS Network Advisory Council meeting should make every attempt to designate a proxy to attend the meeting. A KATS Proxy Designation Form is attached to and made part of these Bylaws.

Section 5: Attendance

A member or his or her proxy who is absent from two (2) consecutive KATS Network Advisory Council meetings without providing prior notice and a reasonable explanation to the KATS Network Director will be contacted by the Director to ascertain the member's continuing interest in serving on the KATS Network Advisory Council. The Director will advise the KATS Network Advisory Council at its next regular meeting of the member's stated interest, if any, in continuing membership. The KATS Network Advisory Council will consider requesting a resignation from or a replacement for that member.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

Section 1: Meeting Dates and Location

The KATS Network Advisory Council will meet quarterly (4 times per year). Meeting dates and locations will be scheduled in consultation with the KATS Network Advisory Council Members. The KATS Network Coordinating Center staff will be responsible for notifying members, distributing any needed materials in advance, publishing the required notice to comply with the Kentucky Open Meetings law, and making all other necessary arrangements. The Director, in consultation with the KATS Network Advisory Council Co-Chairs, may call special meetings in conformity with the notice requirements of the Kentucky Open Meetings Law.

Section 2: Agenda

All members of the KATS Network Advisory Council will receive an agenda prior to each regularly scheduled meeting. The agenda will be prepared by the KATS Network Director in consultation with the KATS Network Advisory Council Co-Chairs.

Section 3: Quorum

A majority (no less than 51%) of KATS Network Advisory Council members or their designated proxies is required for attendance at any regularly scheduled or special-called meeting to constitute a quorum. A quorum is required to take final action on all matters properly before the Advisory Council.

Section 4: Accessibility and Accommodations

All meetings will be held in accessible locations and reasonable accommodations will be provided if requested in advance. The meeting locations will be designated by the KATS Network Director in consultation with the KATS Network Advisory Council Co-Chairs.

Section 5: Minutes

The KATS Network staff will be responsible for the KATS Network Advisory Council meeting minutes.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 1: Officers.

- There will be Co-Chairs of the KATS Network Advisory Council.
- One Co-Chair will be a consumer or family member of a consumer, and one Co-Chair will be an agency representative.

Section 2: Duties of the Co-Chairs.

- Preside at all KATS Network Advisory Council meetings. If both Co-Chairs are unable to attend a KATS Network Advisory Council meeting, a member of The KATS Network staff will preside.
- Collaborate with the KATS Network Director to establish the agenda for meetings of the KATS Network Advisory Council.
- Serve on at least one subcommittee and/or task force of the KATS Network Advisory Council.

- Act in the place of the absent Co-Chair.
- Assist the Co-Chair as requested.

Section 3: Terms of the officers.

- Co-chairs will serve a one-year term that coincides with the fiscal year of the KATS Network, except as may be extended from time to time by a simple majority vote of the KATS Network Advisory Council for the convenience of the KATS Network.
- Co-Chairs may serve consecutive terms.

Section 4: Eligibility, nomination, and election of Co-Chairs.

- Any KATS Network Advisory Council member shall be eligible to be elected a Co-Chair.
- Prior to elections, the KATS Network Director will solicit names of members of the KATS Network Advisory Council who would be willing to serve as a Co-Chair and submit the name(s) to the KATS Network Advisory Council for nomination.
- Nominations will be taken and seconded from the floor during a regular KATS Network Advisory Council meeting to stand for election as Co-Chair.

ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

Section 1: Committees and Task Forces.

- Committees and task forces may be formed as needed by the Co-Chairs with approval of the KATS Network Advisory Council as to the mission, assignment or business with which such bodies are charged.
- Appointments to committees and/or nominations or requests for membership on any task force may be made to The KATS Network staff and are subject to their approval.

Section 2: General Rules for Committees and Task Forces

- Committees and task forces shall make reports to the full KATS Network Advisory Council.
- Appointments to committees or task forces are not limited to KATS Network Advisory Council members. The KATS Network staff may appoint individuals with specialized expertise and/or resources.

ARTICLE VII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

All meetings of the KATS Network Advisory Council will be conducted using parliamentary procedure. Co-Chairs will be provided with information on conducting meetings utilizing parliamentary procedure.

ARTICLE VIII: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Section 1: Financial Conflict

No KATS Network Advisory Council member shall knowingly vote on any matters that may result directly or indirectly in financial advancement for herself/himself or for any family member, including in-laws.

Section 2: Vested Interest

A member shall disclose his personal interest in or membership in any agency or group with a vested interest in matters presented to the KATS Network Advisory Council prior to his or her participation in any discussion on the matter. The member shall abstain from voting on any action taken by the KATS Network Advisory Council on that matter.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the KATS Network Advisory Council members or their designated proxies present. Proposed changes must be transmitted to each member at least ten (10) days before the meeting at which the amendment is voted upon.