



# Advisory Council Meeting

**September 9, 2021**

**Virtual Zoom Meeting**

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88048992713>**

# KATS Network Advisory Council Meeting

## Meeting Information:

**Date:** Thursday, September 9, 2021

**Time:** 9:30 am Eastern Time

**Place:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88048992713>

## Agenda:

- I. Welcome & Introductions of Attendees (Lisa McKeown)
- II. Approval of the Minutes from June 10, 2021 (Motion to approve, Lisa McKeown)
- III. Updates of KATS Network Activities:
  - a. Updates of ATRC Operations (ATRC Representatives)
    - i. enTECH (Joe McCombs), HDI-CATS (Christina Bard), Redwood (Lisa Staub), WFTRC (Cindy Huston), Carl Perkins (Darrin Breeding)
    - ii. Project CARAT Site Updates: Paducah (Terri Ross), Hazard (Keisha Hudson), Louisville (Joe McCombs), Lexington (Christina Bard), Paintsville (Darrin Breeding)
  - b. Coordinating Center updates
    - i. Project CARAT Update (Mike Karman)
      1. Overview of CARAT data covering April-June, 2021
      2. New Partnerships
        - a. Extreme Mobility Lexington
        - b. Kentucky / Indiana Paralyzed Veterans of America
      3. Close to 100 surveyed for end user/ demographic survey
    - ii. KATS Coordinating Center Updates (Mike Karman)
      1. Overview of KATS data covering April-June, 2021
      2. Update of KATS Activities
        - a. Annual AT Conference
          - i. There were between 40-50 participants in each session. (Inclusive Higher Education, Student Empowerment, Farming Panel, Accessible Word Docs, AAC devices, AAC Assessments, DIY Home Ergonomics, Wheelchair Repair). There were 9 attendees registered for RESNA Credits, and 40 registered for CRC credits. 120 Total overall registrants (registered for 1 or more sessions)
        - b. Discussion of offering quarterly virtual training opportunities statewide as ongoing AT Conference Events
        - c. OVR Accessibility workgroup - An accessibility Coordinator has been hired (Jimmy Brown) and started on August 1. The cabinet is also hiring for a similar position
        - d. Reeve Grant is going live after much delay due to Covid

- e. For discussion: migrating website at4all to version 2 software demo site for review: <https://demo.at4all.com/>
- f. Moving forward OVR will be changing the way contracts are awarded. We will schedule an open meeting for all interested to attend

IV. ATRC Spotlight

- a. **HDI-CATS**, Lexington, KY (Christina Bard),
- V. Open discussion from Advisory Council (Lisa McKeown)
- VI. Vote on Co-chairs for next Federal Fiscal Year (FFY).
- VII. Announcements/New Business (Lisa McKeown)
- VIII. Set date and location for future meetings (Lisa McKeown)
  - a. Scheduling 2022 meeting dates December
- IX. Adjournment (Motion to close) (Lisa McKeown)

## **KATS Council Members:**

### **State Agency Representatives**

- KY OVR – Andre Ryssemus, [Andre.RYSSEMUS@ky.gov](mailto:Andre.RYSSEMUS@ky.gov);
- State Independent Living – Lisa McKeown, [lmckeown@calky.org](mailto:lmckeown@calky.org);
- Workforce KWIB – Suhas Kulkarni, [suhas@suhaskulkarnary.com](mailto:suhas@suhaskulkarnary.com);
- Education Cabinet – Kevin McCormack, [kevin.mccormack@ksb.kyschools.us](mailto:kevin.mccormack@ksb.kyschools.us);
- KCDHH – Jessica Endler, [jessica.endler@ky.gov](mailto:jessica.endler@ky.gov);
- DD Council – Nicole Maher, [Nicole.Maher@ky.gov](mailto:Nicole.Maher@ky.gov)

### **Representatives of Individuals with Disabilities / AT users**

- Bill Titus – [billtitus1@gmail.com](mailto:billtitus1@gmail.com);
- Samantha Farthing - [samanthia.farthing@ky.gov](mailto:samanthia.farthing@ky.gov);
- Winter Renfrow – [winter.renfrow@gmail.com](mailto:winter.renfrow@gmail.com);
- Gerry Gordon Brown – [gordonbrowng@bellsouth.net](mailto:gordonbrowng@bellsouth.net);
- Mindy McGirt – [mcgirts@gmail.com](mailto:mcgirts@gmail.com);
- Nancy Perry– [njperry80@msn.com](mailto:njperry80@msn.com);
- Chester Wilbert – [chester.wilbert@att.net](mailto:chester.wilbert@att.net)

## Acronyms of State & Federal Agencies

- 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 on line 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
- 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
- enTECH - Enabling Technologies of Kentuckiana
- EKOS - Employ Kentucky Operating System
- ESPDT - 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
- ICFMR - Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded
- IEP - Individualized Education Plan
- ILC - Independent Living Centers

- KAMC - the 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
- KCDHH - Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- KCHIP - Kentucky Children's Insurance Program
- KDC - Kentucky Disabilities Coalition
- 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 – Nat'l 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
- Redwood - Redwood Assistive Technology Center
- RESNA - Rehabilitation Engineering & Assistive Technology Society of North America
- RSA - The Rehabilitation Services Administration (U.S.)
- SDIACC - Statewide Disabilities Interagency Coordination Council
- SGA - Substantial Gainful Activity
- SILC - Statewide Independent Living Centers
- TARC - Transit Authority of River City (Louisville/ Southern IN.)
- UK-IHDI - The Interdisciplinary Human Development Institute
- UP in KY - United Partners in Kentucky
- WFTRC – Wendell Foster Technology & Resource Center
- WIB - Workforce Investment Board
- WIOA – Workforce Innovations and Opportunities Act

# **KATS Network Advisory Council Minutes**

Date: June 10, 2021

Time: 9:38 AM, Eastern Time

Place: Zoom

## **Welcome & Introductions—Co-chair, Bill Titus**

### **Advisory Council Members-in attendance**

Andre Rysemus, Lisa McKeown, Lee Muncy, Jessica Endler, Nicole Maher, Bill Titus, Samantha Farthing, Duke Pettit, Rick Boggess, Gerry Gordon-Brown

### **Advisory Council Members- not in attendance**

David Dennis, Winter Renfrow, Melissa Aguilar

## **KATS Network Coordinating Center and ATRC Staff**

Jimmy Brown, Mike Karman, Elizabeth Thompson, Christina Espinosa-Bard, Darrin Breeding, Joe McCombs, Jana Billingsley, Peggy Farmer, Lisa Staub, Joan Hagar, Jennifer Withrow

### **Others in attendance –**

Casey Philpot (P&A)

Interpretation services provided by Tara Eversole and Lisa Amstutz

CART services provided by Tracy Lundergan

## **Approval of Minutes from past meeting(s)**

Bill motioned for approval of the March 10, 2021 meeting minutes.

Rick moved to approve. Lee provided a second.

## **Updates from ATRCs:**

### **enTECH- Joe McCombs**

January- First Steps Service Coordinators are working from home and our AT loans have dropped. A total of 7 items were donated valued at \$368.00

February- The CARAT program picked up with 16 items at nearly \$4500. EnTECH generated 6 or 7 AT loans, primarily to First Steps Children. Our enTECH therapists completed 5 AAC evaluations.

March- enTECH generated 11 assistive technology device loans and therapists completed 3 AAC evaluations.

Laura Starck with Client Services recently retired. Many thanks for the kind emails.

OT program students may return to providing volunteer service hours in the fall.

### **HDI-CATS- Christina Espinosa-Bard**

January through March- We made our first loans to First Steps during this quarter. We hosted our 4th Thursday ADA talk, with online participation growing from 64 in January, 74 in February to 110 in March.

January- Project CARAT distributed 33 items with a total MSRP of almost \$30,000, although only 16 items loaned through the lending library. We also provided information and resources to 110 clients. We have conducted multiple tours and received positive feedback.

February- Loaned 12 items through the lending library. Reutilization distributed 8 items with a total MSRP of \$1,712.96. We provided information and assistance to 57 clients.

March- Reutilization distributed 44 items for just over \$12,500, 20 items through the lending library, provided information and assistance to 116 clients. Collaboration between Driver Rehab Programs, HDI and OVR.

### **Redwood- Peggy Farmer**

January through March involved 63 reutilizations distributed to 12 individuals, valued at \$29,324.60. Redwood ATRC staff provided trainings for adult program staff in the use of the Touch Accessible Platform for Interactive Technology



(TAPit) and interactive activities for use with clients. First Steps services provided.

January- Redwood's new Chief Executive Officer, Sharon Fusco, received training on ATRC programs and services at Redwood and information on the KATS Network.

February-Redwood ATRC staff and Speech-Language Pathologists coordinated a training of Boardmaker Online from Tobii-Dynavox to learn more about the tools that they have with Wordmaker and how they can be used for Teletherapy. Nine iPads were donated and repaired with donated funds.

March- Redwood hosted a Toyota GoBabyGo event to showcase 4 adapted vehicles that are now available for use with our childcare and pediatric therapy clients. Redwood staff met with a former volunteer and engineer, who had enlisted the help of a work colleague and was interested in adapting and repairing items again for the ATRC. Items and materials were provided for the volunteers to work on from home.

## **WKATC- Jana Billingsley**

January through March- AAC assessments were conducted with a child in Caldwell County and two children from Daviess County. Wendell Foster is contracted with First Steps to provide technical assistance statewide to early intervention providers about how to access assistive technology resources, chair the state's AT Review Panel, and maintain a social media page.

### **January 2021**

Loans of equipment included ramps for children on vacation, toys and switches, with 50 items returned during this month. Another consumer with low vision borrowed the Optelec Traveler for use in her job, which allowed her to continue working without having to retire early. Jana participated in virtual ATIA Conference.

February- A speech therapist was looking for a musical toy for a child with hearing impairment. AT staff demonstrated the Drumbourine, Lighted Musical Tambourine, and switch adapted drum. An individual with Multiple Sclerosis successfully trialed a power wheelchair to see if he could manage with fewer accidents.

March- A Consumer having foot surgery chose a power chair to navigate her work environment. A Kaye vertical stander was reutilized to an 11-year old boy which allowed him to begin a home program immediately. We facilitated a sleep safe bed exchange with a Madisonville family to an Amish family in the area. Tours were conducted for students from the University of Southern Indiana and Brescia. Jana provided training for (16) First Steps service coordinators and providers across the state. We received a donation of 5 adapted Toyota Tundras from a statewide Go Baby Go build sponsored by Toyota that will be used in our outpatient facility.

## **Carl Perkins- Darrin Breeding**

As of Monday, the 14th, we will be back in the office full-time and be able to start back up working on the First Steps application that we had tried to start earlier last year.

We've had several loans on ramps, done some loans on a wheelchairs.

We have a new director, Alan Gullett, who is replacing Barb Pugh, who retired.

Patrick Kitzman is working on a grant through the Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities, to partner with the Hazard site

## **Project CARAT sites**

### **Project CARAT Paducah Update-Mike**

The site has moved to the new downtown Paducah location and downsized, new address is: 220 N. 8th St., Unit 2 Paducah, KY 42001

### **Project CARAT Hazard Update-Mike**

Hazard has partnered with Kentucky Home Place and have added two satellite sites for CARAT work, located in Morehead, and Harlan, Kentucky. We received a 2-year grant from the Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities to expand our work with Project CARAT. This grant will also include the development of a toy lending library

### **Project CARAT- enTECH**

Our RampUp program continues to be a success. I think we've only got one set of ramps that's available in the inventory now.

## **Project CARAT- HDI-CATS**

Dave has been working 10-20 hours a week to refurbish and fix up equipment.

We had 86 items that we redistributed for over \$42,000. We've been able to utilize Michael and his volunteers too to be able to help with transportation.

With our purchase money, we bought more ramps for our lending library. Our RampUp ramps are consistently all checked out. We would like to collaborate on any additional funding opportunities for more ramps.

## **Project CARAT- Paintsville**

We have moved several hospital beds here recently, with 5 or 6 still in storage.

We were able to work with Michael earlier in the summer and the spring. He was able to get some volunteers to take down probably 100 foot long sections of an aluminum ramp. We picked it up and I've already had 2 people interested in using parts of that ramp system. We delivered a 30-foot section of it last week to a gentleman in Pikeville whose wife was having a significant issues.

## **Statewide Project CARAT Program Update**

### **January 1 – March 31, 2021**

In this period across all sites, CARAT managed 367 items valued at: \$121,514.82.

Part-time staff through ADECCO has increased our pick up and deliveries.

We lost storage space in Frankfort and are actively looking for centralized spot for storage and distribution. Preferably free with 24-hour access.

Budding partnership with Supplies Over Seas (SOS).

Potential partnerships with HELP out of Carter County, non-profit doing about the same work as Project CARAT.

A Place to Sleep –out of Shelbyville is serving in a host of ways and hoping to filter some of the items through us.

Team meeting is on the 30<sup>th</sup> of the month.

## **Coordinating Center Updates- KATS – Jimmy**

Annual Summer AT Conference Dates: June 14, 15, 16, and 17, 2021.

YesLMS Learning Management System for OVR/KATS to utilize for developing, managing, and hosting trainings is being purchased by OVR-RT Branch.

Update provided on accessible documents work and new position postings related to Accessible Communications.

Budget update provided.

## **ATRC Spotlight – Carl D. Perkins Center by Darrin Breeding**

**Open Discussion** –P&A is back out in the field. This last quarter 340+ individuals were served. Currently, we are writing new priorities for 2022 and will reach out to council for input.

Jessica- KCDHH will be opening back in Frankfort on 14<sup>th</sup>. In contact with phone segments to make sure we have everything updated. Email coming soon.

Lisa-CAL is still remote, will reopen Bowling Green on 14<sup>th</sup>. Louisville on July 1<sup>st</sup> by appointment.

## **Announcements / New Business**

Applications and resumes have been submitted to the Governor's office to fill or to reappoint those who are eligible for reappointment.

Committee meetings will resume, primarily thorough email and Zoom, between meetings with a report given at the next Advisory Council meeting.

Reeve Foundation Grant-MNKSH project extension received through June 2021, Will shift the equipment to Regional ATRC sites to distribute to paralyzed individuals via the lending library.

## **Next council meeting date:**

Council has proposed meeting dates for the remainder of FFY 2021. Meetings will remain virtual until further notice.

- September 9, 2021 – HDI-CATS Center Spotlight
- December 9, 2021 – Redwood Center Spotlight

**Location:** Zoom Link will be provided

**Tentative future council meeting date/s:**

September 9, 2021 and December 9, 2021 are the next tentative dates.  
Thursdays seem to be best with the present council.

**Adjournment:**

Motion called by Bill, Gerry moved and Rick provided the second for the motion.

Adjourned: 11:38 AM

# FFY 2021 Quarterly Narrative Report

## Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center (CDPVTC)

**Reporting period:** April 1 – June 30, 2021

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

During this quarter, assistive technology services provided include: consultations, reutilization, information and assistance, short term loans of equipment and delivery/ pickup of devices. Services were provided by Site Coordinator, Darrin Breeding and Dalton West, Adecco staff assistant.

### Highlight of Activities provided during the Reporting Period:

#### April 2021

- 99 items were removed from KATS NETWORK
- Items reutilized included manual wheelchairs, power wheelchairs, shower chairs, commode risers, hearing aid batteries, walkers, hoist lifts, commode safety rails, transport chairs, hospital beds
- An estimated \$17330.00 of reutilized equipment was repurposed for individuals in need.

#### May 2021

- 11 items were removed from KATS NETWORK
- Items reutilized included manual wheelchairs, power wheelchairs, shower chairs, commode risers, hearing aid batteries, walkers, hoist lifts, commode safety rails, transport chairs, hospital beds
- An estimated \$7475.00 of reutilized equipment was repurposed for individuals in need.

#### June 2021

- 19 items were removed from KATS NETWORK
- Items reutilized included manual wheelchairs, power wheelchairs, shower chairs, commode risers, hearing aid batteries, walkers, hoist lifts, commode safety rails, transport chairs, hospital beds

- An estimated \$13050.00 of reutilized equipment was repurposed for individuals in need.

**Direct AT Services provided during Reporting Period:**

- a. Device Demonstrations – **0** Participants; **0** Demonstrations
- b. Device Loans – **1** Items loaned to **1** individuals
- c. Reuse – **118** Items distributed to **29** individuals, valued at **\$31,985.00**
- d. Information and Assistance – Estimated number reached: **0**
- e. Training – **0** Participants, **0** Events

**Barriers/Obstacles during reporting period, if any:**

COVID restrictions

**Additional Information, if any:**

None to report at this time.



# FFY 2021 Quarterly Narrative Report

## Enabling Technologies (enTECH)

**Reporting period:** April 1 – June 30, 2021

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

During the quarter enTECH conducted Assistive Technology assessments/evaluations, consultations, and demonstrations for individuals from 18 months to 70 years of age. enTECH provided assessments and AT services to individuals ages 1-21 in various settings including natural settings in school districts across the state of Kentucky. enTECH continues to educate students in the OTD program at Spalding University on AT-related across the lifespan. Many serve as community living support for all ages. Below is a summary of State Leadership Activities provided during the reporting period.

### Highlight of Activities provided during the Reporting Period:

#### April 2021

- AT interest has picked up, 17 loans with MSRP's valued over \$8,000.00 primarily switches with seating and mobility included in the mix
- Project CARAT has also gained momentum, 42 items were reutilized valued at \$2400.00 the majority of donations were daily living with some seating & mobility
- Alison Amshoff, SLP supervised a student from the University of Louisville for the spring semester during her internship
- enTECH is working with Anchorage Schools and conducted seven vision training sessions in April, and staff also completed 3 AAC evaluations on-site

#### May 2021

- enTECH generated nine AT loans in May, all seating and Mobility to First Steps Children, the equipment: reverse walkers, mini-pacers, and a creepster crawler
- Speech therapists completed 6 AAC evaluations in May

- The CARAT program donated 47 items with an estimated value of \$17,789 including two power chairs which is a substantial increase over May of 2020
- Laura Starck retired from enTECH after serving Project CARAT for 4-years
- Wednesday Open Lab remains canceled until further notice (center covid protocol)

### June 2021

- enTECH produced 12 AT loans in June with a mix of speech communication, environmental adaption and, learning, cognition, and development
- Alison Amshoff, SLP supervised a student from the University of Louisville for the spring semester during her internship
- enTECH completed three vision training sessions at Anchorage Schools
- The CARAT program reutilized 49 items with an MSRP of \$3266.00, donations including daily living as well as mobility, seating, and positioning
- enTECH will post a part-time position, Client Relations Associate for Project CARAT

### Direct AT Services provided during Reporting Period:

- a. Device Demonstrations – **0** Participants; **0** Demonstrations
- b. Device Loans – **37** Items loaned to **15** individuals
- c. Reuse – **131** Items distributed to **50** individuals, valued at **\$29,514.00**
- d. Information and Assistance – Estimated number reached: **0**
- e. Training – **0** Participants, **0** Events

### Barriers/Obstacles during reporting period, if any:

enTECH is actively seeking a part-time Client Relations Associate to assist in the Project CARAT Program

### Additional Information, if any:

Following internal Covid-19 protocol of reduced capacity, ASOT student volunteer hours to Project CARAT and our open to the community lab on Wednesdays continue to be suspended until further notice.

# FFY 2021 Quarterly Narrative Report

## HDI CATS

**Reporting period:** April – June 2021

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

During this quarter, HDI CATS was open by appointment, via curbside drop off and pickup, to the public to provide assistive technology services. These services provided include: training, reutilization, information and assistance, short term loans of equipment, device demonstrations and public awareness activities. We made loans to First Steps during this quarter. We have continued to purchase items for the lending library, loan items by appointment and provide training and technical assistance through the phone and video conferencing. Services to children and adults were provided by Director Christina Espinosa Bard, David Flechler, and Joan Hager.

### Highlight of Activities provided during the Reporting Period:

#### April 2021

- Hosted the 4th Thursday ADA Talk
- Loaned 14 items through the lending library.
- Reutilization distributed 39 items with a total MSRP of \$57,495
- Live presentation and service tour to Pediatric Resident
- Provided Information and Assistance
  - Provided information to parent regarding Communication Apps for Autism, for child. Gave parent the information regarding our iPads, the communication apps, and our process for loaning out iPads. Also, researched and recommended several apps that we did not have but could possibly add, that were specifically targeted to communication struggles with children with autism.
  - Provided information to parent who was looking for an adaptive bicycle for her daughter. We did not have the type of item she was looking for. Researched and provided the parent with information regarding various types of adaptive bicycles as well as potential funding resources.

## **Spotlight Story April 2021**

CARAT/Lending Library

Leonard Romaine

Mr. Romaine is a paraplegic. He was injured in an accident several years ago but has continued to live an independent and active life. A friend of Mr. Romaine's, James Caughlin, reserved the hand operated car controls for Mr. Romaine, so that he could be able to drive independently. Mr. Romaine wanted to try them out before purchasing a set for himself.

When Mr. Romaine and Mr. Caughlin arrived at HDI CATS, they had been driving for several hours and were ready to get out of the car and visit. I was able to explain our program to them and show them around the center. I noticed that Mr. Romaine was not sitting on a wheelchair cushion and that he was shifting his weight frequently. I asked if he would be interested in a new cushion, to which he was thrilled to accept. He said his previous cushion was several years old and he hadn't been able to purchase another one.

In the process of talking with Mr. Romaine and Mr. Caughlin, I was able to learn a lot about them. Mr. Caughlin mentioned that Mr. Romaine's residence has a step up that was difficult to get over. We just happened to have a small section of a larger ramp that was the perfect size.

I truly enjoyed talking with and assisting Mr. Romaine and Mr. Caughlin. Our center was able to provide the hand operated car controls from our lending library as well as giving him a seat cushion and ramp from our CARAT project

## **May 2021**

- Hosted the 4th Thursday ADA Talk
- Reutilization distributed 34 items with a total MSRP of \$16,261
- Loaned 13 items through the lending library.
- Live presentation and service tour to Pediatric Resident
- Provided information and assistance
  - Assisted consumer with identifying the types of repair parts needed for her wheelchair. Researched and located items via the internet and forwarded that information to the consumer so that she could order the parts.

- Assisted consumer with power chair from our CARAT project. Attached joystick, made adjustments, and installed batteries that consumer purchased.
- Assisted consumer with hearing impairment with amplified phones and amplified devices. Was able to test out amplified phone on follow up visit with consumers Cell2Jack device they purchased.

## **June 2021**

- Hosted the 4th Thursday ADA Talk
- Reutilization distributed 75 items for a total of \$47,541
- Loaned 23 items through the lending library.
- Provided information and assistance
  - Assisted PT, parent, and 9-month-old child with spina bifida and multiple developmental delays with switch adapted toys and Tumble Forms seats. Tried out multiple toys with child to find which ones she enjoyed and engaged with.
  - Provided information to parent of child with global developmental delays, CVI, and who is non-verbal at 33 months. Gave information regarding our program, what devices we have available for children, and how to access our website and seek items that were referred to her.
  - Assisted parent of child with autism and who is non-verbal with utilizing the AAC apps that we have on our iPads. Provided loaner iPad and case for daughter to use at home.
  - Participated in the coordinating of transporting of an adaptive car seat from our center to McDowell and on to Redwood.

## **Spotlight Story June 2021**

CARAT

Darrell Mattingly

Darrell Mattingly is a web designer and developer with the University of Kentucky's Human Development Institute. He has cerebral palsy and uses a power wheelchair to get around his home, work, and town. He is very active in martial arts and serves on various national, statewide, and local councils, advancing the disability community. Darrell often stops by here on Fridays after his karate class to cool off and visit before heading back home.

We had recently received a Stand Assist Patient Transport from a donor who had originally gotten the item from us. The donor no longer needed the item and wanted to re-donate to us so that someone else could benefit from its use. My co-worker Dave, who is also a good friend of Darrell's, told Darrell about it and asked if he wanted to try it out. Darrell tried the item here in the office and loved it. We arranged to have it delivered to his house. He has reported that he has been using the Stand Assist frequently and that it has really helped with his back and legs.

### **Direct AT Services provided during Reporting Period:**

- a. Device Demonstrations – **0** Participants; **0** Demonstrations
- b. Device Loans – **50** Items loaned
- c. Reuse – **150** Items distributed, valued at **\$121,297**
- d. Public Awareness – 397 Facebook Followers, 385 Page likes
- e. Information & Assistance: (from call log) logged contacts
- f. Training – **244** ADA Talks, **2** Pediatric Residents, **2** PM&R Residents

### **Barriers/Obstacles during reporting period, if any:**

Covid-19 continues to be a barrier to providing demonstration and service as usual. We are glad to have been able to resume receiving donations, and continued to distribute as much as we safely can.

### **Additional Information, if any:**

None to report.

# FFY 2021 Quarterly Narrative Report

## Redwood Assistive Technology Resource Center

**Reporting period:** April 1 – June 30, 2021

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

This quarter Redwood celebrated National Assistive Technology Awareness Day with clients and staff at Redwood using many of our favorite AT items in our program rooms and publicizing the event on Facebook. We accepted donations from 6 different individuals and reutilized 24 items over the 3-month period. ATRC staff transformed our existing library area to make it a more organized and welcoming space as we began to allow a limited number of visitors back into our building. ATRC staff created equipment booklets detailing seating, positioning, mobility, communication devices, and adapted toys available through the ATRC, which were shared with First Steps providers and service coordinators via e-mail and were made available on our website. Redwood staff received an in-house loan guide booklet containing pictures and detailed information about items available in a technology cabinet in the ATRC to help them better utilize our resources.

### Highlight of Activities provided during the Reporting Period:

#### April 2021

- Redwood celebrated National AT Awareness Day on April 14th. Flyers were placed throughout the building to publicize and build understanding. ATRC staff worked with staff and clients in program rooms to test out some of our favorite assistive technology. Information on the role and impact assistive technology can play in the lives of individuals, along with photos from the activities was shared via e-mail, and on Redwood's Facebook page.
- ATRC staff created a booklet featuring photos and descriptions of seating, positioning and mobility equipment available at Redwood and shared via e-mail with First Steps providers and service coordinators to build awareness and knowledge. Printed copies are available at Redwood.

- Redwood accepted several donations this month. We received a walker with wheels that was used for a short time by an adult client, but it was not working well for her, a motorized wheelchair that a child had outgrown, and a donation from a man whose father had passed away of crutches, a walker and a grab bar.
- Six items were reutilized in April. A manual wheelchair was given to a man whose existing wheelchair was falling apart. A Kid Kart with stroller and high-low base was reutilized to a physical therapist for use with one of his clients. A Dreamer Design special needs stroller was reutilized to a family whose child could not walk and needed an option to better participate in family outings. Hearing aid batteries were reutilized to a consumer with hearing aids. A pair of crutches were reutilized to a woman with sporadic knee problems. A walker without wheels was reutilized to the adult client who was not able to safely use a walker with wheels.
- A demonstration of two manual wheelchairs that were available for reuse was provided to a parent. She was bringing her 13-year-old son home from the hospital after a 4 month stay, and needed an option to allow him to go outside of his home to join his siblings in their yard. She was able to select a chair that provided options to tilt and recline for her child.
- Three ramps were loaned to consumers this month. A 6-ft. tri-fold aluminum ramp was provided for a woman who was in a wheelchair following a car accident in which she broke her hips. A 10-ft. and a 7-ft. tri-fold ramp were loaned to consumers in need.

## **May 2021**

- ATRC staff created a booklet highlighting equipment available for program rooms at Redwood in the Andy and Jordan Dalton Technology Hub. This guide contains pictures and detailed information on robots and their accessories, OSMO iPad learning activities, adapted music, beginning communication tools, and a LightAide teaching tool, and iPad switch interfaces and mounting systems. This was provided for Redwood staff to help them better utilize resources available through the ATRC to help their clients grow and learn.
- A Communication Device Loan Guide containing photos and descriptions of the equipment available at Redwood was sent out via e-mail First Steps



providers and service coordinators to help them better meet the needs of their clients.

- Three items were provided for reutilization. An iPad and case were reutilized to a young woman who needed a digital solution for scheduling and reporting on events. A second iPad with case was reutilized to a family of a child with autism who is non-verbal and had trouble attending to activities. The iPad will be used as a first step in providing access and helping him learn cause and effect and will hopefully lead to using a communication app. A bath chair was reutilized to the family of a 20-month-old child with complex medical care needs.

## **June 2021**

- ATRC staff created an adapted toy booklet containing photos and descriptions of equipment available at Redwood to First Steps providers and service coordinators and shared via e-mail.
- Training was provided to a First Steps physical therapist who wanted to fit her client in a Rifton Dynamic Pacer and needed training in the set up and accessories available.
- Redwood accepted a large number of donations this month. A 6-ft ramp, 2 manual wheelchairs, Maxi Sky Ceiling Lift, Hoyer Advance-E portable lift, IV pole, Daessy mounting bracket, Tobii-Dynavox i-12+ with eye tracker, Connect-IT Floor Stand, suction machine, feeding tubes, and personal care items were donated by the family of a Redwood client with disabilities who passed away. A man in Covington donated 2 scooters from his mother, who had passed away. A family whose young daughter passed away donated her stander and tray, seating system and tray, suction machine, cough assist machine, IV pole, and Bruno lift. A manual wheelchair was donated by an individual who no longer needed it.
- Fifteen items were reutilized this month. Two suction machines and accessories, a feeding pump and accessories, and personal care items were reutilized to Redwood's nursing program to be used by other Redwood clients. A seating system on a high low base was reutilized to the family of a toddler with arthrogyrosis at Redwood. The child had outgrown his Rifton toddler chair but did not have the strength to sit independently. This reutilization was made possible through partnership with our Louisville CARAT center. A Bruno Lift was reutilized to a man who

used a power mobility chair and needed to be able to transport it. The same man has the loan of a 6 ft. ramp to allow him to get in and out of his home. A wheelchair was reutilized to a woman returning home after hospitalization who was too weak to walk on her own. An iPad 2 was reutilized to a school age child who had an iPad for communication but needed a separate iPad for learning activities.

### **Direct AT Services provided during Reporting Period:**

- a. Device Demonstrations – **1** Participants; **1** Demonstrations
- b. Device Loans – **121** Items loaned to **41** individuals
- c. Reuse – **24** Items distributed to **14** individuals, valued at **\$15,206.78**
- d. Information and Assistance – Estimated number reached: **5,153**
- e. Training – **1** Participants, **1** Events

### **Barriers/Obstacles during reporting period, if any:**

One barrier to providing services continues to be the COVID 19 pandemic. Redwood is only allowing limited visitors to enter the building. Additional barriers include space for storage of donated items, the need for a cleaning tool, such as a HubScrub to allow for more efficient sanitization of donated items, and availability of batteries for power wheelchairs/scooters to allow us to check the working status, and if at all possible, provide for consumers.

### **Additional Information, if any:**

None to report at this time.

# FFY 2021 Quarterly Narrative Report

## Wendell Foster Technology and Resource Center

**Reporting period:** April 1 – June 30, 2021

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

Services provided during this period include device demonstrations, information & assistance, short-term loans, public awareness, reuse program, training & outreach. Wendell Foster contracts with First Steps to provide technical assistance statewide to early intervention providers about how to access Assistive Technology (AT) resources, chair the state's AT Review Panel, and maintain a social media page.

### Highlight of Activities provided during the Reporting Period:

#### April 2021

- **Device Demonstrations (3). Success stories:**
  - Occupational Therapist (OT) at Wendell Foster (WF) needed a device that would allow an individual to control their TV through an app on their iPad. The features of several devices were compared and OT decided on a trial with the AMAneo BTI and Pretorian iSwitch.
  - Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) from WF completed an Alternative & Augmentative Communication (AAC) assessment for an 11-year old child with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Dysarthria, Anarthria, and Apraxia from Warren County. The child already has a speech-generating device but it is an older model. His skills have advanced and he is ready for one that can support literacy and has more access to core words. Demonstrated the I-110, NovaChat 10, ProSlate, & Prio. The family decided on the I-110 for trial.
- **Information & Assistance (1,661)**
  - AT staff – 108
  - WF Therapists – 1,553 (This # reflects how many times (36) therapists used AT with a patient).
- **Loans (47 items returned during this month). Success stories:**

- A teacher in the Caverna School System (Hart/Barron Counties) trialed the STACS system (Standardized Tactile Augmentative Communication Symbols) with a student and determined she needed a more progressive communication method. The complimentary trial allowed the teacher to try the system without having to purchase it.
- Speech Language Pathologist at WF borrowed a pediatric feeder seat to use for a swallow study. The study was conducted at a facility equipped for adults so the feeder seat was essential to provide necessary supports for the child to consume food.
- A parent in Daviess County trialed a portable desktop magnifier with her daughter who has low vision. She determined the magnifier was too bulky and required a three-pronged outlet, which they did not have in their house. The complimentary trial allowed them to discover the equipment was not a good fit.
- **Public Awareness:**
  - Made twelve posts on the First Steps Facebook page about AT for infants/toddlers.
  - On WF's Facebook page, shared a video about our center for National AT Awareness Day (April 18) and promoted our reuse event.
- **Reuse (68): Held a Reuse event on April 23. Success stories:**
  - Reused an electric scooter to a consumer in Hancock County whose daughter needed an alternative mode of transportation. The mother has had multiple surgeries and has difficulty walking long distances while pushing her daughter in a manual chair. The scooter allowed the daughter to navigate her environment without mom's assistance.
  - Reused a talking watch to an OT in the Henderson County School system who needed a replacement for a student with a visual impairment whose watch had broken. The OT was able to acquire the watch immediately without having to incur the cost.
  - Reused a floor sitter to a First Steps provider in the Pennyryle District that works with low-income Amish and Mennonite families.
- **Training & Outreach:**
  - Jana provided three training sessions that reached 106 First Steps service coordinators and providers across the state, educating them on First Steps Policy & Procedures, types of AT that are available for infants/toddlers, and how to access resources within the state.

## May 2021

- **Device Demonstrations (2). Success stories:**
  - Speech Language Pathologist from WF completed AAC assessment for a 6-year old child with Autism from Hopkins County. The child needed a way to express feelings and communicate ID information to others. SLP demonstrated the Prio, Nova Chat 10, and I-110. Therapist showed Mom how he could go to the topics for different language activities and how to use quick chats to tell someone he was upset or happy. The child was able to build sentences using core words and explored the word lists to see what toys, foods, and drinks were on there. Parent & child decided on trial with the I-110.
  - Speech Language Pathologist from WF completed AAC assessment for a 12-year old child with Cerebral Palsy and Expressive Language Disorder from Daviess County. Having made significant progress in PT and OT, the child no longer needed an eye-tracking device. SLP demonstrated the NovaChat 10, ProSlate 10, I-110, and Prio. Family decided on trial with the Novachat 10 since it would offer direct selection, which she now preferred, and would be a more portable option than her previous eye gaze device.
- **Information & Assistance (1,661)**
  - AT staff – 64
  - WF Therapists – 1,424 (This # reflects how many times (36) therapists used AT with a patient).
- **Loans (48 items returned during this month). Success stories:**
  - Speech Language Pathologist from Dawson Springs School System in Hopkins County contacted us about borrowing an iPad with the LAMP program to trial with a student. After a 2-month trial, SLP determined the communication app was a good option for the student. She is working with the school to purchase it.
  - An outpatient at WF was receiving speech therapy via telehealth because of exposure to COVID. Due to the family being in isolation, a Big Mack was mailed to the home so the therapist could coach the family on using the device.
- **Public Awareness:**

- Made seven posts on the First Steps Facebook page about AT for infants/toddlers, including videos on pediatric durable medical equipment and communication devices.
- On WF's Facebook page, shared a video about our center for National AT Awareness Day (April 18) and promoted our reuse event.
- **Reuse (68): Held a Reuse event on April 23. Success stories:**
  - Reused an electric scooter to a consumer in Hancock County whose daughter needed an alternative mode of transportation. The mother has had multiple surgeries and has difficulty walking long distances while pushing her daughter in a manual chair. The scooter allowed the daughter to navigate her environment without mom's assistance.
  - Reused a talking watch to an OT in the Henderson County School system who needed a replacement for a student with a visual impairment whose watch had broken. The OT was able to acquire the watch immediately without having to incur the cost.
  - Reused a floor sitter to a First Steps provider in the Pennyryle District that works with low-income Amish and Mennonite families.
- **Training & Outreach:**
  - Jana provided three training sessions that reached 106 First Steps service coordinators and providers across the state, educating them on First Steps Policy & Procedures, types of AT that are available for infants/toddlers, and how to access resources within the state.

## June 2021

- **Device Demonstrations (2). Success stories:**
  - Speech Language Pathologist from WF completed an AAC assessment for a 4-year old child with developmental delays from Christian County. The child is starting kindergarten in August and has very few words. Grandmother noted that the family wants the child to communicate her needs and be able to learn in school with her peers. SLP demonstrated ProSlate 10, Prio, NovaChat 10 and I-110 for them. Family decided to trial ProSlate 10.
  - Speech Language Pathologist from Henderson County needed AAC devices to use with a few clients in her practice. AT staff demonstrated several devices, Go Talk 4 and 9, Talkable 2 and 4,

Big Talk triple play, Big Mack, and Cheap Talk 4. She decided to trial Go Talks, Talkables, and a Big Talk with her clients.

- **Information & Assistance (1,182)**
  - AT staff – 65
  - WF Therapists – 1,117 (This # reflects how many times (36) therapists used AT with a patient.)
- **Loans (52 items returned during this month). Success stories:**
  - A local advertising agency borrowed a ramp that allowed a person using a wheelchair to enter the building for a job interview.
  - Loaned a Peek-a-boo Mirror to a 2-year old child in First Steps. The therapy team determined it was a successful trial and was able to get it purchased through First Steps.
- **Public Awareness**
  - Made eight posts on the First Steps Facebook page about AT for infants/toddlers.
  - Toured a group of students from Owensboro High School.
- **Reuse (2). Success story:**
  - A Ppod positioning chair was donated from a family in Daviess County whose child no longer used it. Redwood staff from Northern Kentucky knew of a child that needed the chair due to a recent surgery. Family picked it up in Owensboro and was grateful that their daughter gained immediate access to the chair following her surgery.
- **Training & Outreach**
  - Luci Mobility System conducted by representatives from National Seating & Mobility and Target Medical. A Wendell Foster PT worked with reps to get the system funded for a client and was installing it that day.
- **Other**
  - Purchased several new pieces of AT using KATS funds.
  - Staff participated in Summer AT Conference.

### **Direct AT Services provided during Reporting Period:**

- a. Device Demonstrations – **12** Participants; **7** Demonstrations
- b. Device Loans – **147** Items loaned
- c. Reuse – **72** Items distributed to **31** individuals, valued at **\$61,238**
- d. Information and Assistance – Estimated number reached: **4,331**

e. Training – **146** Participants, **6** Events

**Barriers/Obstacles during reporting period, if any:**

None to report.

**Additional Information, if any:**

None to report.



## Project CARAT – Mike

CARAT sites across the Commonwealth managed 985 items valued at over \$340,820.62. That is way up from April through June of 2020 where our numbers were 260 items at a value of \$67,191.70.

New Partnerships: We are more and more finding ways to partner in the community. SOS continues to be a major partner. Darrin, from Perkins Center was able to pick up 10 used power chairs there a few weeks back.

New partnerships include:

Extreme Mobility Lexington: Gifted us with new and lightly used items valued at over \$19,000.

Kentucky / Indiana Paralyzed Veterans of America: donated several used power chairs and will be funneling their member used equipment to us going forward.

Our sites are continuing to do follow up with end-users to look at both satisfaction and demographic information. Close to 100 surveyed have been surveyed so far.

## Coordinating Center Updates- KATS – Mike

Overview of KATS data covering April-June, 2021

308 Short-Term Device Loans during this period, 12 device demonstrations, over 30,000 people reached through public awareness activities (primarily through social media and other electronic media), and over 9000 consumers served with information and assistance.

Update of KATS Activities

Annual AT Conference: there were between 40-50 participants in each session. (Inclusive Higher Education, Student Empowerment, Farming Panel, Accessible Word Docs, AAC devices, AAC Assessments, DIY Home Ergonomics, Wheelchair Repair). There were 9 attendees register for RESNA Credits, and 40 registered for CRC credits. 120 Total overall registrants (registered for 1 or more sessions)

The vision was, at least while we remain virtual, of offering quarterly virtual training opportunities statewide as ongoing AT Conference Events. Once Jimmy's replacement is hied we can discuss implementing that.

OVR Accessibility workgroup - An accessibility Coordinator has been hired (Jimmy Brown) and started on August 1.

Reeve Grant is going live after much delay due to Covid

For discussion: migrating website at4all to version 2 software demo site for review:

<https://demo.at4all.com/>

## KATS Network Advisory Council Proxy Designation Form

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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:**

***Please mail to:***

KATS Network  
Attn: KATS Network Coordinator  
8412 Westport Rd., Louisville, KY 40242

***OR scan and email to:***

Michael.Karman@ky.gov  
Attn: Coordinator, KATS Network

## **Proposed meeting date/s:**

Council has proposed meeting dates for the remainder of FFY 2021. Meetings will remain virtual until further notice.

- December 9, 2021

## **KATS Network Locations**

### **KATS Network Coordinating Center**

(800) 327-5287

8412 Westport Rd., Louisville, KY 40242

### **Carl D. Perkins Training Vocational Center**

(606) 788-7080

5659 Main St., Thelma, KY 41260

### **EnTECH**

(502) 992-2448

812 S. Second St. Louisville, KY 40203

### **HDI-CATS**

(859) 218-7979

2358 Nicholasville Rd., Lexington, KY 40503

### **Redwood ATC**

(800) 728-9807

71 Orphanage Rd. Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017

### **Wendell Foster Regional AT Center**

(800) 209-6202

815 Triplett St. Owensboro, KY 42302

### **CARAT Hazard**

UK Center of Excellence in Rural Health

(606) 439-3557

750 Morton Blvd. Hazard, KY 41701

### **CARAT Paducah**

(270) 538-6844

220 N.8th St., Unit 2, Paducah, KY 42001