



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.*

March 11, 2026

Easterseals Redwood

71 Orphanage Rd.

Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017

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Agenda | KATS Network Advisory Council Meeting

Meeting Information:

Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. EST

Place: Easterseals Redwood, 71 Orphanage Rd., Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017

Agenda:

- I. Welcome, Roll Call, and Introductions of Attendees
- II. Approval of the Minutes from December 10, 2025
- III. New Business:
 - a. Updates of KATS Network Activities:
 - i. Updates of KATS Coordinating Center
 - ii. Updates on Regional AT Resource Centers/Project CARAT Sites
 1. ACAT
 2. HDI-CATS
 3. Easterseals/Redwood
 4. Wendell Foster
 5. CALTech
 6. Carl D Perkins-Project CARAT
 - b. Updates from Agency Representatives
 - i. OVR
 - ii. IL
 - iii. Education
 - iv. KWIB
 - v. KCDHH
 - vi. CCDD
- IV. Sub Committees Discussion

- a. Explanation of sub committees
 - b. Discussion about what sub committees are needed and who shall serve on each
- V. Open discussion from Advisory Council
- VI. Announcements
 - a. Tour of Redwood following the meeting
- VII. Future meeting dates and Locations
 - a. Wednesday, June 10th, 2026, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. ET, Location TBD
 - b. Wednesday, September 9th, 2026, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. ET, Location HDI CATS
 - c. Wednesday, December 9th, 2026, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. ET, Location Wendell Foster
- VIII. Adjournment

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

- Gerry Gordon Brown – gordonbrowng@bellsouth.net;
- Nancy Perry – njperry80@gmail.com;
- Melanie Peskoe – melanie.peskoe@ky.gov
- Joe Cowan – nawoc2002@yahoo.com
- Traci Burks – tracilburks@gmail.com
- Brett Bachmann- bbachmann@thehearinginstitute.org
- Sherry Pickett – sherrypickettll@icloud.com

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: December 10, 2025

Time: 10 AM – 12 PM, Eastern Time

Place: Center for Accessible Living, Louisville, KY / Microsoft Teams (Virtual)

Welcome & Introductions

Andre Ryssemus, the meeting Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested that all attendees turn their cameras on. He asked all speakers to introduce themselves before speaking so the captioner could accurately record who was speaking.

Roll Call

Name	Role/Organization	Attendance	Notes
Lisa Staub	ATRC Director - KATS Coordinating Center	Present	In person
Carol Weber	Director - OVR AT/KATS Coordinating Center	Present	In person
Samanthia Farthing	Coordinating Center Director - KATS Coordinating Center	present	
Brandi Roberts	Easterseals Redwood	Present	Virtual
Keisha Wells	ACAT Hazard	Absent	N/A
Christina Espinosa	HDI CATS	Present	virtual
Darrin Breeding	Carl Perkins	Absent	N/A
Pat Kitzman	ACAT Hazard	Absent	N/A
Crystal Hignite	ACAT Hazard	Absent	N/A
Cindy Huston	Wendell Foster	Present	virtual

Name	Role/Organization	Attendance	Notes
Kassandra Hester	Wendell Foster	Present	Virtual
Sandy Hayden	Wendell Foster	Present	Virtual
Robb Caldwell	equipment specialist - CALTech	Present	In person
Sierra Potter	associate director - CALTech	Present	In person
Keisha Allen	CFO - CALTech	Present	In person
Joe Cowan	Co Chair - KATS Council Member	Present	Virtual
Jessica Endler Smith	Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, KATS Council Member	Present	Virtual
Nancy Perry	KATS Council Member	Present	Virtual
Traci Burks	KATS Council Member	Absent	N/A
Brett Bachmann	KATS Council Member	Absent	May join later, currently in a meeting
David Allgood	Independent Living Rep – CAL, KATS Council Member	Present	In person
Nicole Maher	KATS Council Member	Present	Virtual
Sarah Richardson	KATS Council Member	Absent	N/A
Kevin McCormack	KATS Council Member	Absent	N/A

Name	Role/Organization	Attendance	Notes
Andre Ryssemus	Co Chair - OVR AT	Present	In person
Gerry Gordon Brown	KATS Council Member	Absent	N/A
Melanie Peskoe	KATS Council Member	Absent	N/A
Suhas Kulkarni	KATS Council Member	Absent	N/A
Tracy Lundergan	Captioning and CART services	Present	In person
Missy Miller	Interpreter - OVR	Present	Virtual
Tara Eversole	Interpreter - OVR	Present	Virtual
Whitney Hayse	Protection & Advocacy	Present	Virtual

Approval of Minutes from Past Meeting

The minutes from the **September 10th** meeting were presented for approval.

- **Motion to Approve:** David Allgood made a motion to approve the minutes.
- **Second:** Joe Cowan seconded the motion.
- **Status:** The motion was moved and seconded, and the minutes were approved.
- **Note:** Lisa Staub clarified that the current CALTech quarterly report (July-Sept) was missing from the meeting book and would be distributed via email.

New Business

Updates of KATS Network Activities

KATS Coordinating Center

- **Ramp Building:** Partnering with Holmes High School (Covington) to build ramps. Progress has been slightly limited due to school remodeling.
- **Conferences:** Successfully held the AT and Pre-ETS conference in October with 80–100 daily attendees.
- **Personnel:** Samantha Farthing was introduced as the new Director (as of November). She is currently assessing program needs.
- **Digital Accessibility:** Carol Weber reported high demand for assistance regarding the new ADA digital accessibility updates effective April 2026.

Updates from ATRCs

HDI CATS (Lexington)

- **Social Media:** A recent post featuring adaptive equipment (tricycles, gait trainers) reached 15,000 people.
- **Metrics:** Reutilized 337 items (\$96,000 value) to 130 individuals; 105 items loaned to 47 individuals. public awareness: 8 events that reached a little over 17 and a half thousand people
- **Pediatric Needs:** Significant overabundance of pediatric equipment; looking for more referrals to redistribute these items.
- **Community Work:** Working with Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government to simplify the permitting process for residential ramps.
- **Digital Accessibility:** working hard to ensure all materials meet WCAG 2.1 guidelines

Easterseals Redwood

- **Renovations:** Completed a new "smart kitchen" featuring adaptive cooking tools, which is being used for promotional video content.
- **Maintenance:** Hosted a wheelchair repair clinic with Numotion, conducting 86 safety checks.
- **Personnel:** Brandie Roberts joined as the new representative following Betsy's departure.

Wendell Foster

- **Metrics:** reused ten items to ten individuals that was valued at \$2,700; 154 loans to 39 different borrowers; 2 AAC evaluations; did a training for early intervention for KEIS about AT for younger kids with 20 participants; 84 I&A's; public awareness around 3,000.
- **Equipment Upgrades:** Utilized \$25,000 in KATS funds to purchase new low-vision AT. A "Low Vision Corner" open house is planned for early 2026.
- **Public Awareness:** Exhibited at three local events, a Health and Wellness Fair, Senior Day Out and Veterans Fair
- **Impact Story:** Provided a donated Gladiator mobility scooter to a Kentucky Wesleyan student who had been denied insurance coverage, allowing her to navigate campus.

CALTech

- **Growth:** Donations increased by 43 items this quarter.
- **Education:** Conducted AT demos for 70 JCPS teachers and 30 U of L speech-language pathology students.
- **Partnerships:** Engaging the Speed Engineering School (U of L) and Spalding University for future student/intern involvement.

Perkins Center

- continue to field calls for durable medical equipment requests and donations
- remain the only site able to accept hospital beds

Agency Representative Updates

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) (ANDRE RYSSEMUS)

Received the award letter; status quo remains regarding applications and order of selection.

Independent Living (David Allgood)

- Continuing to provide disability sensitivity awareness training for fixed route and paratransit drivers
- Focusing on affordable/accessible housing. Meeting with commission for persons with disabilities, Metro Government, and state government, pushing for a 20% accessibility standard in new builds (currently 5–8%).
- David Allgood was recently appointed as chair of the Housing Policy Advisory Committee for Kentucky Housing Corporation
- Lexington at Independent Place received a technology grant from Lexington government, urban government to improve the technology services
- Advocacy Summit at the Center for Accessible Living in Louisville in October, had close to 100 people,
- Expressed concern regarding potential changes to the Affordable Healthcare Act tax credits and rising insurance premiums.
- The Center in Murray provided a ramp for an individual who was having issues trying to get to dialysis

KCDHH (Jessica Endler Smith)

Noted an increase in first-time applicants for equipment. Partnering with the Health Department to improve services for those with hearing loss.

CCDD (Nicole Maher)

Currently conducting federal reporting and five-year state planning. There is a public survey on the website. Reminded all to sign up for the mailing list and check out the Statewide Resource Guide available on the website. Austin Nugent has been hired as the new Policy Coordinator.

Paducah Region (Robbie Proctor)

Working to expand the KATS footprint in Western Kentucky through partnerships with Heart USA and Goodwill.

Open Discussion

David Allgood asked Brandi Roberts about the process of having Numotion come out to work with them. Brandi said that she thought Betsy had reached out to them to set it up.

2026 Meeting Schedule (Proposed)

The following meeting dates (10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.) were confirmed:

Date	Location
Wednesday, March 11th, 2026	Easterseals Redwood, Fort Mitchell
Wednesday, June 10th, 2026	Location to be announced (Potential A Conference)
Wednesday, September 9th, 2026	TBD
Wednesday, December 9th, 2026	HDI CATS or Wendell Foster - TBD

Action Item: Robbie Proctor will coordinate a Survey Monkey poll to gather feedback on meeting locations and whether members prefer travelling to different centers or centralized locations.

Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn: David Allgood
- Second: Joe Cowan
- Status: Approved by vote.
- Time Meeting Adjourned: 10:49 am

KATS Coordinating Center Quarterly Report

October 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025

KATS Network

On December 10th, the KATS Network held their Advisory Council meeting at the Center for Accessible Living (CAL) in Louisville, KY. In addition to the regular meeting business, a tour of the ATRC at CAL was provided for those in attendance.

State Level Activities

Loan

323 items were loaned to 195 individuals statewide through our participating programs. An item is counted as a loan upon return of the item to the lending program site.

- 82 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.
- 105 loans were made for short-term accommodations.
- 6 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 and education purposes.
- Types of devices loaned by federal category: Recreation, Sports, and Leisure (124), mobility, seating, positioning (70), speech/communication (21), daily living (45), computers and related (24), learning, cognition and developmental (27), Vision (4), Hearing (1), and Environmental Adaptations (7).

Demonstration

5 Device demonstrations were reported during this quarter. During the quarter, demonstrations were made for community living and employment purposes. Participants included individuals with disabilities and family members. Device

demonstrations were provided in the areas of speech communication; and mobility, seating and positioning.

Reuse: Statewide Project CARAT Program Update

In this period across all sites, Project CARAT managed 404 reuse items valued at \$134,686.36. Devices were given out through reuse to 224 individuals. The largest category of items provided through reuse were daily living items (196); followed by mobility, seating, and positioning items (193). Seven items categorized as environmental adaptations were reutilized. One item categorized as computers and related was reutilized, along with four items which fell under the recreation sports and leisure items category, one vision item, one hearing item and one learning, cognition and developmental item.

Five items were recorded under open-ended loans in the areas of computers and related; and mobility, seating and positioning; and hearing. These five items were valued at a total estimated current purchase price of \$1,108.89.

One item was recorded under device exchange in the area of mobility, seating, and positioning. This one item was valued at \$3,500.00.

Financing Activities:

- Information on AATLF was provided in October 2025 to 26 individuals. 13 were individuals with a disability, 6 were representatives of allied health, 4 were family members, two were representatives of community living and 1 was listed as other. Thirteen of these were in response to assistance with ramps, two involved requests for hearing aid assistance, three were looking for a scooter, and four were looking for accessible vehicles or lifts for vehicles. Other requests included AAC Device, power generator, recumbent bike, and chair lift. Individuals reported their counties as: Jefferson (3); Fayette (2); Warren (2); Jessamine (1); Bath (1); Carroll (1); McLean (1); Pike (2); Perry (1); Harlan (1); Scott (2); Christian (1); Webster (1); McCracken (1); Whitley (1); Martin (1); Edmonson (1); Shelby (1); Madison (1); not reported (1).
- Information on the AATLF was provided in November 2025 to 20 individuals. 9 were individuals with a disability, 9 were family members, one was a representative of allied health, and one was a representative of community living. Eleven of these were in response to assistance with

ramps, while three involved requests for hearing aid assistance. Other requests included: lift chair, transfer lift chair, vision equipment and software, mobility scooter, electric bariatric wheelchair, replacement battery for power wheelchair. Individuals reported their counties as: Jefferson (3); Kenton (2); Clark (1); Fayette (2); Christian (1); Hardin (1); Lewis (1); Knott (1); Perry (1); Green (2); Boyd (1); Oldham (1); Rowan (1); Franklin (1); Boone (1).

- Information on the AATLF was provided in December 2025 to 33 individuals. 18 were individuals with a disability, 7 were family members, 4 were representatives of allied health, one was a representative of community living, one was a representative of education, and two were listed as other. Twenty-one of these involved assistance with ramps, while two involved requests for hearing aid assistance. Other requests included: bathtub conversion, sleep safe bed, computer (Mac), wheelchair repairs, grab bars on front porch, lift chair (2), a communication device, handicap/accessible van (2). Individuals reported their counties as: Jefferson (3); Fayette (4); Allen (1); Bell (1); Boone (1); Bracken (1); Breathitt (1); Casey (1); Daviess (1); Estill (1); Grant (2); Franklin (1); Kenton (1); Knox (1); Lincoln (1); Pike (1); Madison (2); Christian (1); Hardin (1); Hart (1); Logan (1); Mason (1); Pulaski (1); Scott (2); Trigg (1).

State Leadership Activities

Public Awareness Activities

KATS public awareness activities during the quarter reached approximately 112,738 individuals through social media, tours, and presentations.

Information & Assistance

- The Coordinating Center provided I&A to 323 individuals in 73 counties across the state.
- The Coordinating Center provided I&A to 100 individuals wishing to donate items. 11 individuals contacted the KATS Network regarding hearing aid donations, 11 individuals had hospital beds available for donation, and 25 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 (34) and Jefferson (29).

- Coordinating Center provided information and assistance regarding 189 individual's requests. 37 of the requests involved the need for a wheelchair, scooter or track chair, or repairs/charger/battery for a power wheelchair. We continue to receive a significant number of calls and e-mails from residents of Fayette (26) and Jefferson (23) counties.
- Funding resources for hearing aids were provided to 8 individuals.
- Ramp access to residences continues to be a significant need. The Coordinating Center provided resource information regarding 63 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 continues to coordinate with Holmes High School in Covington. They completed one ramp build during their fall semester. Renovations to their workshop space were done during the fall and completed by the end of the year. The carpentry instructor hopes to complete several builds by the end of the school year.

Technical Assistance

- Jimmy Brown provided resources to KCDHH to help their IT and LRC teams to make their website accessible by July 2026. The response provided several helpful resources: the KATS Network's Accessible ICT section for best practices on documents and web content, a series of ADA and accessibility testing trainings on KATS' YouTube channel, Accessibility Quick Tips from KATS and Minnesota's Office of Accessibility, self-paced free trainings from Oklahoma ABLE Tech on accessible web design, documents, and image descriptions, additional trainings and resources from Minnesota's Office of Accessibility, and the Texas HHS Accessibility Center. These resources are intended to help guide their teams in making content and websites accessible.

- Jimmy Brown provided technical assistance to the KY Personnel Cabinet regarding a form they remediated.
- Jimmy Brown provided technical assistance to UK HDI regarding accessibility issues in the CRP quarterly bulletin
- Jimmy Brown provided technical assistance to Able Opportunities LLC (Jennifer White) regarding her powerpoint presentation for the Pre-ETS conference.
- Jimmy Brown provided technical assistance to the KY Personnel Cabinet regarding the structuring of performance evaluations section of a form

Training

The KATS Coordinating Center worked with the OVR Transition Services Branch to hold the 2025 Assistive Technology in Pre-Employment Transition Services Workshop on October 21st, 22nd, and 23rd at the Harold R. Benson Research and Demonstration Farm in Frankfort. The first day of the workshop was a hands-on opportunity to try out assistive technology in 8 rotating small group sessions, along with a lunch and learn session on ADA vs 504 vs IDEA. Presenters included staff from the Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL); OVR Rehab Tech Branch, the Appalachian Center for Assistive Technology (ACAT), Easterseals Redwood, and Raising the Floor (national organization). Participants included individuals with disabilities, representatives of education, representatives of employment, representatives of technology and a representative of allied health. Seventy-nine individuals attended these sessions. The second day was a full day session on Innovative School to Work Transition Tools and AT by Jennifer White with Able Opportunities (national speaker). Eighty individuals, including representatives of technology, representatives of employment, representatives of education, and one individual with a disability, attended and participated in this interactive full-day session. The third day provided sessions on assistive technology funding in Kentucky, the Pre-ETS program at ACAT which incorporates AT into their Pre-ETS program, and a roundtable discussion on transitioning AT from high school to adult life for seventy-two participants

ACAT

FFY 2025 Quarterly Narrative Report

Reporting period: October 2025 to December 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. The ACAT team participated in a public health fair, distributing 3D-printed assistive items and sharing information about the resources offered through our programs. The event provided an opportunity to connect with other professionals and consumers in the community. ACAT hosted students from Perry Central in the lab. The students were introduced to ACAT through a tour of the facility, including the Maker Space. We discussed the work we do and the roles we serve within the organization. Students then participated in a hands-on learning experience with the CARAT program, where they learned about the program and how it benefits our communities. They also took part in washing and assessing equipment in preparation for distribution.

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

Device Reutilization

Anecdotal Story: A consumer reached out after a decline in health of her husband, with a needed ramp.

Device Loan

Anecdotal Story: A consumer wanted to try out the scan marker pro for a student and it has been working out great and more class participation.

Device Demonstration

Anecdotal Story: Demonstrated adapted 3D printed items at a local nursing home to allow residents to participate in activities.

Alternative Financing

Anecdotal Story: None provided.

Training

Anecdotal Story: None provided.

Technical Assistance

Anecdotal Story: None provided.

Public Awareness

Anecdotal Story: The ACAT team participated in multiple community 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 the ACAT expansion site at UK St. Claire.
- We have kicked off our HRSA planning grant.

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

- a) Reutilization: **35** items distributed to **0** individuals; valued at: **\$5,328.00**
- b) Device Loans: **6** items loaned to **6** borrowers.
- c) Device Demos: **1** demonstration provided to **10** participants.
- d) Training Participants: **0** participants across **0** event(s)
- e) Information & Assistance: **75** individuals reached.
- f) Public Awareness: estimated **111** individuals reached.

Barriers/Obstacles during the reporting period, if any:

Low stock on certain DME.

CALTech

FFY 2025 Quarterly Narrative Report

Reporting period: October 2025 – December 2025

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

- Received 3 items with a total value of \$3,414.00 (Donations)
- Loaned out 8 items with a total value of \$ 1,454.78
- Gifted 42 items with a total value of \$13,001.66

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

Device Reutilization

Anecdotal Story: During this reporting period, the CALTech Coordinator received the return of a shower chair and walker from an individual who had borrowed the equipment following a knee replacement. The items were returned after the individual's recovery and will be available for future loans to others in need.

Device Loan

Anecdotal Story: During this reporting period, the CALTech Coordinator received the return of a shower chair and walker from an individual who had borrowed the equipment following a knee replacement. The items were returned after the individual's recovery and will be available for future loans to others in need.

Device Demonstration

Anecdotal Story: During this reporting period, an individual experiencing severe knee pain due to arthritis came in seeking a cane. The CALTech Coordinator assessed the individual's needs and recommended a knee brace to provide additional support and pain relief, along with a walker to increase stability and safety. The coordinator properly fitted the cane to the individual's height and provided instruction on the safe use of the walker, including how to operate and fold it for transport.

Alternative Financing

Anecdotal Story: CAL is currently awaiting approval to begin providing Medicaid services. This additional revenue would allow us to expand the CALTACH program and begin offering delivery services for individuals who are unable to come to the office to obtain equipment.

We are also exploring fundraising opportunities, such as bingo nights and raffles, to generate additional support for the program and help increase access to assistive technology within the community.

Training

Anecdotal Story: We did not have any device training activity during this reporting period.

Technical Assistance

Anecdotal Story: The CALTech Coordinator met with an individual to discuss mobility challenges and provided guidance on assistive technology options. The coordinator demonstrated different mobility aids and helped the individual identify the best solution for their needs.

Public Awareness

Anecdotal Story: In October, CAL hosted its Statewide Advocacy Summit. As part of outreach efforts, staff prepared goody bags for attendees that included rack cards highlighting the CALTech program to increase awareness of available assistive technology services.

Additionally, our Associate Director met with the State's Access & Functional Needs Program Coordinator at the Summit to further discuss the CALTech program.

Information and Assistance

Anecdotal Story: We did not have any device information and assistance activity during this reporting period.

Additional Information or Activities

- We are pleased to share that we officially have a Capstone student from Spalding University who will be supporting the CALTech program. The student will begin working on a project remotely in January and will

transition to in-person support starting in May. This partnership will help strengthen program capacity and support ongoing CALTech initiatives.

- Our Marketing and Philanthropy Officer recently applied for a Google Ad Grant to support outreach and marketing efforts for the CALTech program. We are pleased to share that we have been awarded the grant, which will help increase visibility and connect more individuals to assistive technology services.

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

- a) Reutilization: **42** items distributed to **22** individuals; valued at: **\$13,001.66**
- b) Device Loans: **8** items loaned to **4** borrowers
- c) Device Demos: **4** demonstrations provided to **4** participants
- d) Training Participants: **0** participants across **0** events
- e) Information & Assistance: **0** individuals reached
- f) Public Awareness: estimated **75** individuals reached

Barriers/Obstacles during the reporting period, if any:

Marketing has been a significant challenge during this reporting period. In response, we have developed a strategic marketing plan for the next six months aimed at increasing awareness of the CALTech program and expanding community outreach.

Easterseals Redwood ATRC

FFY 2025 Quarterly Narrative Report

Reporting period: October, 2025 to December, 2025

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

This quarter we saw Betsy leave her role and Sammie stepping into her role in the ATRC. Brandie was able to join a couple of conferences and be apart of some interviews to promote the KATS Network and the ATRC. Through a company goods and bake sale, we were able to show possible ways we can 3D print assistive technology for anyone in the community as well.

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

Device Reutilization

Anecdotal Story: There is a toddler that has been borrowing several different pieces of AT through the KEIS program but the family needed something that would allow the child to be involved with those around them after the loans ended. We were able to work with the child's therapist and family to find a wheelchair that was previously donated that with only a few minor adjustments allows the child to be more connected to family and friends. When seen in the wheelchair, there is always a smile on the child's face.

Device Loan

Anecdotal Story: Our Guided Hands was loaned out to a local high school for a month so that a high schooler could enjoy some fall art activities at the school. The art teacher said that the student was so joyful to be able to join in on the art projects with their fellow classmates.

Device Demonstration

Anecdotal Story: This quarter the ESRW ATRC received some sensory devices that are for demo in the room. When they went up, they caught the eyes of nearly everyone that walked by. Once they stopped in to see the sensory items, they got

a tour of the other AT in the room. On one such occasion, a parent came back in to test a few items and get some Christmas ideas for their kiddo.

Alternative Financing

Anecdotal Story: An ESRW adult client was having trouble storing their over ear headphones. They wanted to be able to reach and store the headphones on their own and not just have them laying around. They asked if we could 3D print them a headphone stand that would allow for them to do so and was stable enough that they wouldn't have to worry about knocking it over easily when they went to store the headphones at the end of use. After some research and discussion with the client, we found a solution. They have since requested 3 more of the stands to place in various locations.

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: In December, Easterseals Redwood's ATRC was featured by PBS' Kentucky Edition. The clip was aired on the local news and shared on PBS and our organization site.

The clip is still viewable at: <https://to.pbs.org/4u5hxcn>

Information and Assistance

Anecdotal Story: There are plenty of tours that come through the ESRW ATRC. Usually people are excited to see what we have to offer, but never follow through with any loans or demonstrations. We had one volunteer group that came through to learn about what we do in the ATRC and had so many questions about devices that could be used in workplaces and by family members. It has lead to a possible meeting with a company about available tech to help individuals in the workplace. Hopefully more to come about this next quarter.

Additional Information or Activities

During this quarter, Easterseals Redwood held two Nuts and Bolts (wheelchair clinics). During these clinics there were over sixty repairs or safety checks done on wheelchairs. During these safety checks, there were a few repairs that were deemed of extreme importance and were able to be handled on the spot. These potentially saved the individuals from getting injured or unable to participate in activities in the community.

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

- a) Reutilization: **9** items distributed to **9** individuals; valued at: **\$13,262.00**
- b) Device Loans: **45** items loaned to **28** borrowers
- c) Device Demos: **7** demonstrations provided to **7** participants
- d) Training Participants: **0** participants across **0** events
- e) Information & Assistance: **41** individuals reached
- f) Public Awareness: estimated **1,290** individuals reached

Barriers/Obstacles during the reporting period, if any:

With the transition between AT Coordinators, there were some delays in connecting with community stakeholders and less opportunity for outreach, as the focus of the quarter was on ATRC maintenance and administration.

HDI CATS LEXINGTON KY

FFY 2025 Quarterly Narrative Report

Reporting period: October, 2025 – December, 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 equipment, and giving away CARAT items. We are still actively involved in loaning items to First Steps families. Services were provided by Christina Espinosa, Joan Hager, and Nancy Savage. Our consumer volunteer is still, thankfully, with us and continues to be a huge asset to our team.

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

Device Reutilization

In October 2025, we were able to help a couple who are care givers for their adult daughter who has multiple physical and developmental disabilities. The last year, she has been in and out of the hospital. As both she and her parents get older, it is getting more difficult to transfer her. We were able to give them a patient lift, sling, and tub transfer bench to help make things easier and safer.

Device Loan

During the reporting period we loaned several devices to a Visual Impairment Teacher with Fayette County Schools. The teacher borrowed a Big Mac Switch, Joggle Switch, Adapted Puppy Fan, Adapted Music Box, and Adapted Racetrack. These devices were used with various students in order to evaluate capabilities and to trial before making a purchase.

Device Demonstration

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

Training

In October 2025, we held a training for 49 University of Kentucky Doctor of Physical Therapy students and one professor. The training included a information on how are program works, federal legislation, types of assistive technology, available resources, view of AT available in our lending library, tour of facility. It was also explained how AT can benefit their patients.

Public Awareness

In November we posted on Facebook information regarding several upright walkers we had available in our CARAT project. We received multiple calls and requests in response to the post. We gave away all of the upright walkers we had and now have a waitlist for when we receive more donations. We had 3933 viewers of this post.

Information and Assistance

During the reporting period we had several requests for ramps that were longer than what we have in our lending library. I explained the ADA guidelines for length of ramps and helped determine the size and type of ramp that would be the most appropriate. I also mailed Ramp and Home Modifications resources, AATLF info, as well as local resources if available.

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

- a) Reutilization **270** items distributed to **112** individuals; valued at **\$88,338**
- b) Device Loans: **122** items loaned to **41** borrowers
- c) Device Demos: **0** demonstrations provided to **0** participants
- d) Training Participants: **64** participants across **4** events
- e) Information & Assistance: **109** individuals reached
- f) Public Awareness: **4** events estimated **4,469** 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! One of the barriers our consumers face is the lack of resources for permanent ramp solutions. This is especially true for individuals who rent and have more steps and a higher rise than what would be accommodated with our loaner ramps.

Wendell Foster

FFY 2025 Quarterly Narrative Report

Reporting period: October 2025 to December 2025

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

- Provided Information & Assistance to consumers, addressing inquiries, offering resource guidance, and facilitating access to assistive technology solutions.
- Provided support to consumers in accessing and utilizing assistive technology through equipment loans and reuse programs. Assisted individuals in identifying suitable devices, completing necessary documentation, and coordinating the loan process.
- Managed Kentucky Early Intervention Services-related communications, including handling emails from service coordinators & providers, processing billing, coordinating equipment loans, and overseeing returns to ensure efficient program support.
- Processed donated equipment by evaluating functionality, performing cleaning and maintenance, and accurately logging items into the inventory management system.
- Conducted maintenance on returned assistive technology devices to ensure optimal functionality and safety. This involved thorough cleaning, battery inspections, and minor repairs.
- Exhibited at the Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children's Conference to increase visibility of AT services to educators across the state.
- Coordinated Rewired for Joy, a collaborative initiative with Owensboro Innovation Academy's engineering students aimed at increasing access to adapted toys for pediatric outpatients. This project engaged students in 3D-printing adaptive switches and re-wiring toys. The toys were gifted to children at a holiday gathering where the students were able to meet the child and their families.

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

Device Reutilization

Anecdotal Story: Reused a Kid Kart Express for a child who was terminal and did not have time to wait on insurance to purchase one.

Device Loan

Anecdotal Story: Consumer borrowed an electric wheelchair for his wife who had a stroke. They expressed sincere appreciation, shared a thoughtful note of gratitude, and generously donated \$2,000 to support the Rewired for Joy adapted toy project.

Device Demonstration

Anecdotal Story: SLP conducted AAC evaluation for a 4-year old child with developmental disabilities from Webster County. Child was presented with several speech-generating devices, including the NovaChat 10 Active Case version with MultiChat 15 page vocabulary, Navio, and NovaChat 10. SLP considered the I-110 but mother felt it was too heavy and bulky. Since the child continually navigated to the NovaChat 10, they chose to trial that device.

Alternative Financing

Anecdotal Story: Coordinated Rewired for Joy, a collaborative initiative with Owensboro Innovation Academy's engineering students aimed at increasing access to adapted toys for pediatric outpatients. This project engaged students in 3D-printing adaptive switches and re-wiring toys. The toys were gifted to children at a holiday gathering where the students were able to meet the child and their families. Coordinated registration and travel for professional development (ATIA) and exhibiting at the Council For Exceptional Children's State Conference, to increase visibility of AT Services in Kentucky.

Training

Anecdotal Story: N/A

Technical Assistance

Anecdotal Story: N/A

Public Awareness

Anecdotal Story: Exhibited at the Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children's Conference to promote AT resources to educators across the state.

Information and Assistance

Anecdotal Story: Provided information to Truth Outreach Organization, a mobile outreach program designed to assist homeless and low-income families by identifying needs and connecting them to available community resources and support services.

Additional Information or Activities

NA

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

- a) Reutilization: **4** items distributed to **4** individuals; valued at: **\$3,450.00**
- b) Device Loans: **127** items loaned to **44** borrowers
- c) Device Demos: **4** demonstrations provided to **4** participants
- d) Training Participants: **0** participants across **0** events
- e) Information & Assistance: **73** individuals reached
- f) Public Awareness: estimated **112,387** individuals reached

Barriers/Obstacles during the reporting period, if any:

N/A

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.