

**HDI Consumer Advisory Council  
Coldstream Training Room  
Monday December 3, 2018 9AM – 1 PM**

**In attendance today...CAC members**

Jennifer Hicks  
Kathy Sheppard-Jones  
Cathy Lerza (for Claudia Johnson)  
Donna Littrell  
Vivian Lasley  
Walt Bower  
Lee Gordon  
Vickey Reilly  
James Roethler  
Joe Cowan  
Jessica Whitehead  
Traci Brewer

**Guest:** Valerie Cowan

**Presenter:** Chithra Adams

**Technical and other assistance:** provided by Maurice Dawson and Judy Johns

1) Welcome & Introductions Jennifer Hicks

Jennifer Hicks began the meeting. All members introduced themselves.

2) Review and Approval of September minutes Jennifer Hicks

The CAC reviewed the September minutes. There were no questions regarding the September minutes. Joe Cowan made a motion to approve the minutes and Cathy Lerza seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted.

3) AUCD update – Council on Leadership in Advocacy (COLA) Walt Bower

Walt provided a COLA (Council on Leadership in Advocacy) update from the 2018 AUCD (Association of University Centers on Disabilities) conference as Sherece Cole was not able to attend the COLA annual meeting this year.

Walt reported that he attended the COLA annual meeting on Sunday afternoon, November 11 and participated with a small group in a visioning activity. He also participated in the reporting out and sharing of all the small groups with the entire group.

Walt announced the next conference call for the full COLA council is scheduled for Thursday, February 14, 2019.

4) AUCD update – 2018 AUCD conference update Walt Bower

Walt provided an update from the 2018 AUCD conference in Washington, D.C. from November 11 to November 14. He reported HDI staff and trainees attended this year and two University of Kentucky undergraduate students taking an HDI course in Universal Design were able to attend as well.

The theme of the 2018 AUCD conference was “We All Belong Here! Achieving Inclusive Communities.” Walt reported that registration was up considerably at the 2018 AUCD conference relative to previous AUCD annual conferences. HDI staff presented on their research and projects during the concurrent sessions and the poster sessions.

5) Wellness Edge - Project Spotlight Chithra Adams

Chithra Adams introduced a new project called Wellness Edge, a project from the Administration on Community Living to support a Paralysis Resource Center State Pilot program grant. The project builds connections within local communities to enhance and facilitate access to recreational programs to improve health outcomes and better serve people with paralysis and their support networks.

The project provides grants of up to \$10,000-\$24,999 to community organizations for organized recreational activities that are intentionally designed to benefit individuals, groups or communities. The project focuses on paralysis patients and adapting their environments through various projects.

Community organizations and groups that apply for funding in the first year of the grant will have a shorter cycle (8 months) than those in years two and three due to the development of the application and conditions of awards.

Wellness Edge is led by a ten-person advisory committee made up of advocates who understand the importance of recreation in the overall quality of life for people with paralysis. Smaller review teams from that group grade the applications and decide on awards.

The project is going to start the process again in February of 2019 and they want people and community organizations to learn how to apply and utilize the funds within the timeframe. The project is in the second year of a three year project. Community grant applications and tips for applying are now available at <https://www.wellness4ky.org/wellnessedge/>.

6) HDI and UK Giving Day Kathy Sheppard-Jones

The Human Development Institute has been given the opportunity by the UK Development office to participate in UK Giving Day, to be held on April 17, 2019. This is a 24-hour campaign with 35 different units at the University of Kentucky participating in the event.

The Development office has challenged HDI to find donors for a match amount. Please contact Kathy Sheppard-Jones at [kathleen.sheppard-jones@uky.edu](mailto:kathleen.sheppard-jones@uky.edu) if you would like to serve as an

ambassador or can think of any donors who might be able to contribute to HDI and UK Giving Day.

The Consumer Advisory Council then watched a short HDI overview video. A lively and engaging discussion followed. The CAC discussed what HDI should focus on in terms of promoting HDI and UK Giving Day. It was widely agreed among the CAC members that the HDI overview video was a good place to start. A CAC member suggested including what HDI would be specifically funding with the donations from the HDI and UK Giving Day.

Another CAC member suggested developing a statewide infographic that demonstrates how HDI impacts persons with disabilities across the state of Kentucky. The CAC members also discussed that most of the participation and involvement in HDI and UK Giving Day would be in an online format.

7) Underserved Populations Engagement Committee (UPEC) - Liberating Structures Chithra Adams  
Walt Bower

Walt and Chithra began by describing how Liberating Structures functions to fully include and engage everyone in a community or organization. Additionally, Liberating Structures can be used to generate participation and allow groups to brainstorm ideas. They also added that Liberating Structures is a free application. Chithra and Walt introduced one of the microstructures within Liberating Structures called 1-2-4-All.

The first step in 1-2-4-All involved the CAC members silently self-reflecting (on paper) as individuals on the question, “Who do you think we need to engage in your community?” Once the CAC members had enough time to self-reflect on the question, the second step involved CAC members dividing into pairs and generating thoughts building on their ideas from the self-reflection activity.

In the third step, CAC members shared and developed ideas from their pair in groups of four. In the final step, the groups of four shared their important ideas from their conversations with all the CAC members.

The CAC members divided into 3 groups and each group reported their specific recommendations for who they think they need to engage in their community. An insightful and collaborative discussion of recommendations followed. The following is the report out of the work by each small group:

**Group 1** – The first group identified homeless and dual diagnosis clients that need to be engaged in the community. They suggested reaching out to churches, drug rehabilitation centers, jails, correctional facilities, juvenile detention centers, and pediatric offices to provide services to underserved populations.

**Group 2** – The second group identified adults with severe intellectual disabilities to engage in the community. They suggested providing social support after high school and post-school employment, including higher education, for adults with intellectual

disabilities. They also suggested supporting the person's aging caregivers by providing resources to the caregivers.

**Group 3** – The third group discussed immigration and migrant students, not only Spanish speaking migrants, but recently arrived migrants to Kentucky from Nepal and West African countries (i.e., Senegal).

8) Election of New CAC members

The CAC Nomination committee met last week and reviewed the applications to HDI's Consumer Advisory Council. The committee nominated Tracie Howard, Raina Birchfield-Ford, and David Merdian for election to the Consumer Advisory Council.

Walt passed out biographical sketches of each of the nominees to the CAC members. The candidates were nominated to replace the following CAC members - Jennifer Mynear, Frank Huffman, and Jessica Whitehead. The motion passed unanimously.

9) Election of New CAC Vice-Chair, Chair and  
Setting of 2019 Meeting Dates

Joe Cowan was nominated and elected to serve as Chair of the CAC for 2019. Vivian Lasley was nominated and elected to serve as Vice-Chair of the CAC for 2019.

The dates for the CAC meetings in 2019 are March 4, June 3, September 9, and December 2.

10) Agency Updates (DD Council, DDID, OVR, OCSH) Each Agency

**Council on Developmental Disabilities** – Jennifer Hicks reported that they had new staff join, including Paige Harder, and as a result are now fully staffed. Jennifer also reported they are getting ready for the next legislative season. Additionally, she announced they are participating in the 874K rally which takes place March 6, 2019. They are also beginning to work on their 5 year work plan.

**Division of Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities** – Cathy Lerza reported that Medicaid has been working on waiver forms and making them better and more navigable. She reported there was an investigation of multiple states and they are attempting to find which incidents are being reported. There have been issues with problems not being reported. However, there are a few providers that are doing personal tracking of incidents and reporting it to the state.

**Office of Vocational Rehabilitation** – Vickey Reilly reported that the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation merged with the Office for the Blind on October 1, 2018. Vickey stated Becky Cabe is the new executive director of Blind services. OVR has

received many new staff members, including Dorothy Jenkins with pre-employment transition services.

**Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs** – Lee Gordon reported that the office has a new name – the Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs. He stated they are still moving along with providing services. Lee reported working with the foster centers across the state and that they had a disability resource fair that over 300 people attended.

- 11) New Business and Announcements Jennifer Hicks

Donna Littrell announced that she created a non-profit for Autism awareness and intellectual disabilities called Spectrum Journeys of Kentucky.

- 12) Special Recognition Walt Bower

Walt presented a framed certificate of appreciation to Jessica Whitehead for outstanding service as a CAC members from December 2012 to December 2018.

Walt presented a framed certificate of appreciation to Jennifer Hicks for outstanding work as the Chair of the CAC for 2018.

- 13) Lunch and Further Discussion about CAC Members' Involvement in HDI Projects All

Jennifer Hicks motioned to adjourn the meeting and Joe Cowan seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 AM.

NEXT CAC MEETING: Monday, March 4, 2019, Coldstream 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, followed by a working lunch.