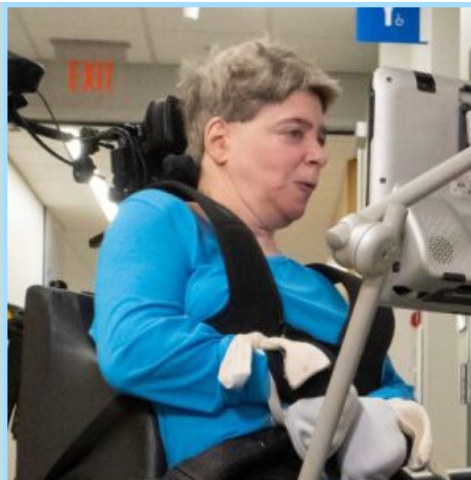


Annual Report

July 2022 - June 2023



Message from the Executive Director

I am pleased to share the Human Development Institute's annual report, for July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. It was a year marked by significant accomplishments. We have experienced notable growth in size -- both in numbers of staff and the number of funded projects doing work that is critical to Kentucky. We have made gains in our priority areas, and we have been a strong partner. We provided leadership and expertise at local, state and national levels. We have helped partners, agencies and our own University make connections in recognition that no matter what we do, we do better together, when inclusion of all people is the expectation and not the outlier.

Despite the triumphs, we have also experienced challenges. HDI has faced the loss of dear colleagues, friends and advocates who played pivotal roles in shaping our Commonwealth, our communities, and our organization. Their contributions to HDI and the causes we champion will be forever remembered, and their absence is deeply felt.

The past year has been a chapter of growth, resilience, and remembrance for HDI. We express gratitude to our dedicated staff, partners, and the memory of those who have left an enduring imprint on our organization. As we have forged ahead into the new year, HDI remains steadfast in our mission. We will be the truth tellers. We will spark positive change. We will contribute meaningfully to a better world. Our success happens because of the dedicated work of everyone at HDI, our Advisory Council, and our partners.

I am thankful to be surrounded by so many who foster an environment of collaboration, of professional growth, and of impact. Our commitment to excellence and innovation continues to propel us forward. We are comprised of staff and students who are not only innately curious about the world around us, but who are actively engaged in building a more inclusive world today. We will always face challenges, but I cannot imagine any team that is better prepared to lead this important work. Let us continue to dream big, and to turn those dreams into reality together.

-Kathy Sheppard-Jones



Project Spotlight

Kentucky Supported Higher Education Partnership

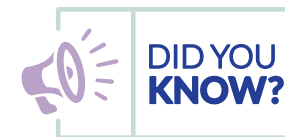


Jake Parsons
Bluegrass Community & Technical College student

The Kentucky Supported Higher Education Partnership ([KSHEP](#)) is focused on increasing higher education options, access, and success for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities across the Commonwealth.

Supported in part through funds given to the University of Kentucky in the state budget, HDI provided ongoing technical assistance to Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary (CTP) programs at Bluegrass Community & Technical College, Murray State University, Northern Kentucky University, Owensboro Community & Technical College and the University of Kentucky (UK). KSHEP also provided learning opportunities, supported a statewide mentoring network, and hosted an unconference.

In Fall 2022, we launched the UK CTP, the College and Career Studies program, with unanimous approval of the University Senate. Five students took classes including UK 101 and Introduction to Universal Design.



Since 2020, 41 students have been enrolled in a CTP program, 9 students have completed a program, and 19 students have had paid employment outside of paid internships.

Project Spotlight

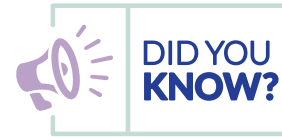
HDI Photo Library

Stock photography is a common tool used by almost all businesses and organizations; however, stock photography lacks disability representation. People with disabilities are often staged using models without disabilities, resulting in misrepresentation, unnatural scenes, and offensive images.

Staff from the University of Kentucky Human Development Institute (HDI) wanted to address this problem with the Photo Library Fund for Excellence Project. Haley Potter, Principal Investigator, and her colleagues, Kari Batts, Adam Potter, and Eric Seale worked with approximately 50 self-advocates, family members, and friends who served as models for five photoshoots across four months. All models were paid to participate in a one-hour photoshoot, which resulted in over 1,000 photographs highlighting disability representation.



There have been 374,700 photostream views since the library's debut.



In 2023, image HDIPL-119 shown below, was viewed or downloaded 1,485 times.



Two young adults communicating

These photos are available to view, download, share, and use to create and enhance visual and digital products, social media posts, and project websites.

View the HDI photo library at:

www.flickr.com/people/198826134@N02/

Click photostream to view all photos.

Priority Areas and HDI Leadership Examples



Early Childhood & Education

From expectant parents to lifelong learners, HDI projects support quality transitions. HDI provides information and training to families, early childhood providers, educators and higher education.

Mary Howard; principal investigator of Kentucky's Child Care Aware

Employment

People have jobs for a variety of reasons. HDI projects work to decrease employment disparities that exist between people with and without disabilities. HDI is committed to helping Kentucky fulfill the promise of Employment First, where everyone has the right to work in competitive integrated employment.

Katie Wolf Whaley; chair of the Kentucky Employment First Council

Health

Many people with disabilities experience significant inequities in health, including mental health and wellness. This, in turn, can harm the ability to learn, work, and play. HDI efforts seek to address this through information sharing, education, training, and support.

Shirley Kron; Health Outreach and Engagement, RETAIN

Leadership & Self-Advocacy

We strive to develop leaders with disabilities and allies through an array of training, technical assistance and mentoring.

Bev Harp; co-chair of the Kentucky Advisory Council on Autism

Research & Evaluation

HDI projects include opportunities for research and evaluation. We also promote research and evaluation as an overall priority of the Institute. Many of our research and evaluation efforts are in partnership with other universities and community partners.

Phillip Rumrill; chair of HDI's Research & Evaluation Committee

Universal Design & Assistive Technology

Universal design elements improve access and enhance opportunities for all in physical, learning and virtual environments. Assistive technology provides solutions that maximize function for individuals. HDI offers training and direct service efforts in this area.

Christina Espinosa; director of the Center for Assistive Technology Services

UK Research Award Summary FY 2023

Sponsored Project Grants and Contracts
for the Human Development Institute

**TOTAL
AWARD AMOUNTS**

66 Awards

\$33,188,506

STATE

48 Awards

\$30,084,525

FEDERAL

3 Awards

\$1,244,439

OTHER

7 Awards

\$1,004,950

NON-PROFIT

7 Awards

\$493,686

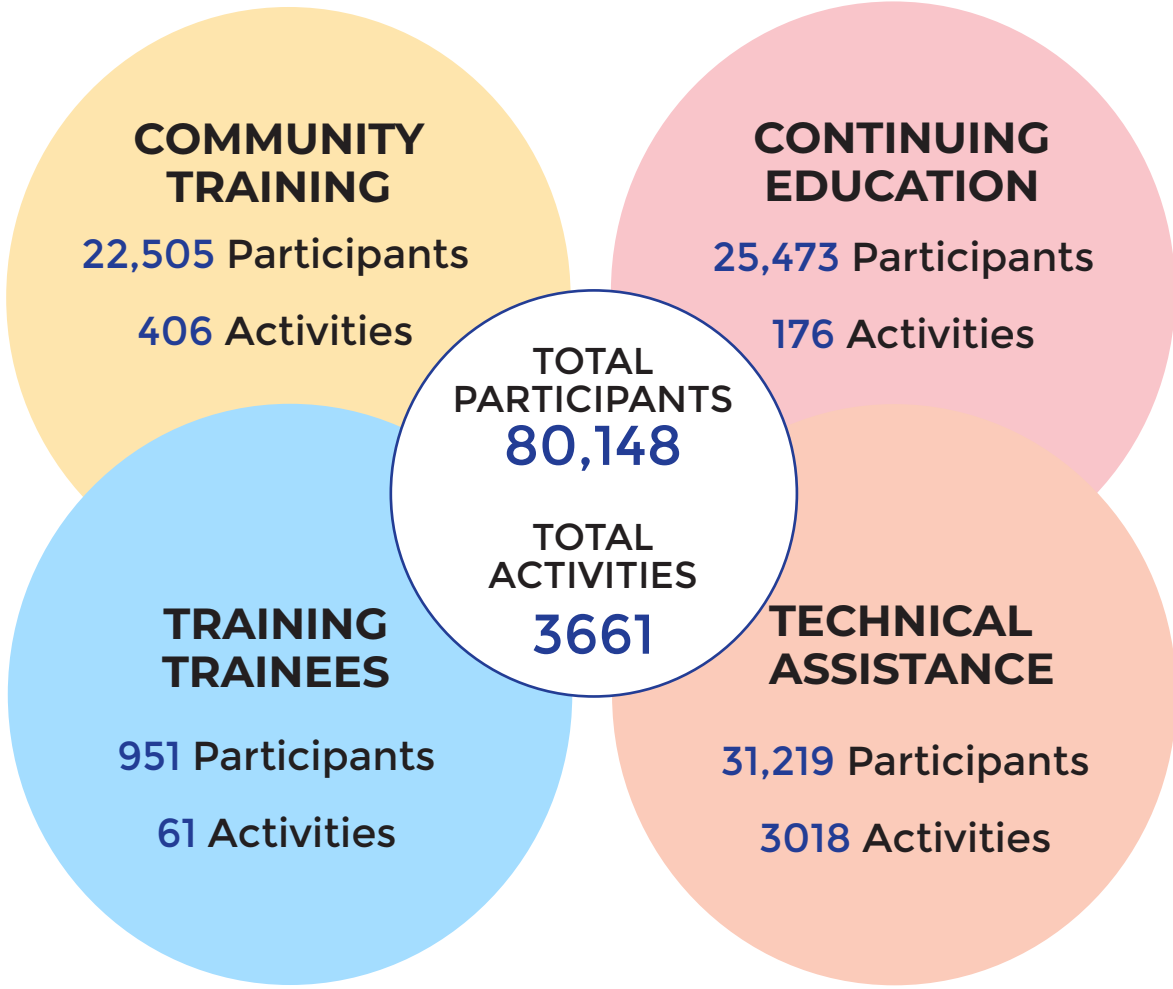
INDUSTRY

1 Award

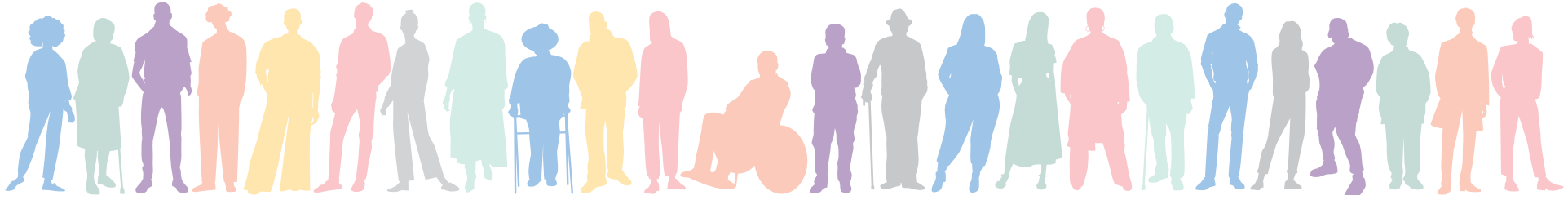
\$360,906



Training and Technical Assistance By the Numbers



Human Development Institute | 2023 Annual Report



Our Vision

HDI's vision is the full participation and contribution of all people with disabilities in all aspects of society.

Our Mission

HDI's mission is to advance efforts that build inclusive communities, address inequities, and improve the lives of all people who experience disability across the lifespan. We achieve our mission through leadership and community partnerships across Kentucky and the Nation.



126 Graham Ave | (859) 309-1444
© University of Kentucky Human Development Institute