HDI Consumer Advisory Council Minutes
Coldstream Training Room
Monday June 2, 2014: 9 AM – 12 PM

In attendance today…CAC MEMBERS
Harold Kleinert
Malkanthie McCormick
Hazel Forsythe
Megan Baker
Jessica Wolfe
Jennifer Crawford
Elaine Brown
Jennifer Mynea
Allie Rhodes
Shannon Caldwell
Paula Caldwell
Prema Rapuri
Marylee Underwood
Claudia Johnson
Cathy Jo Edwards
Norb Ryan
Morry LaTour
Lee Gordon

Guests: Ruth Caldwell and Nellie Jones
Presenters: Beth Harrison, Jacqui Kearns, and Nick Gibson
Technical and other assistance provided by Dave Flechler and Judy Johns

1) Welcome & Introductions (9:00) Paula Caldwell
The new members introduced themselves, as did all other members.
   New Board Members:
   Ms. Jennifer Mynea
   Dr. Prema Rapuri

2) Review and Approval of March Minutes Paula Caldwell
The minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve by Morry and seconded by Malkanthie.

3) AUCD Update – Council on Community Advocacy Shannon Caldwell
Shannon described updates. The AUCD Council on Community Advocacy (COCA) has submitted a presentation for the AUCD Conference on employment, and examples of involving Consumer Advisory Council members in the happenings of university centers. Andy Imparato is the new executive director of AUCD. He is an individual with a disability who has been an advocate in many different capacities.

4) Brief Updates: Putting Faith to Work, KY Peer Support Network Project Harold
Harold described the Putting Faith to Work Project, a collaboration of Vanderbilt, the University of Minnesota, University of Texas, and UK-HDI, and how this project is working with faith communities to identify potential career opportunities for individuals with disabilities in their congregations.

Harold also discussed the Peer Support Network and the project’s regional trainings coming up across the state, as well as the schools that will be pilot sites. In addition, he described the collaborative Summer Institute between TAALC and the Peer Support Network Project coming up. Jessica Wolf described a need in her county to help students with the most severe disabilities in developing friendships, etc. Jennifer Mynear and Malkanthie McCormick described the need for anti-bullying initiatives to also improve school climate, if peer networks are to flourish.

5) College and Career Readiness Initiative    Beth Harrison

Beth described the work of the College and Career Readiness Initiative. She described the model framework, the accountability model for students participating in alternate assessment. The accountability measure is in draft form and includes both what “college ready” means and what “career ready” means. Malkanthie McCormick and Lee Gordon asked about whether the actual concepts taught will be considered (the ‘who is teaching what idea’) and gathering hard data to present to the schools. A copy of the PowerPoint from Beth will be available to Council members.

Beth mentioned the need for extensive professional development once the model is approved. Hazel Forsythe described the need for parents AND teachers to be involved, as well as the CAC. Norb described the need for ADA legislation to be integrated into the framework and Malkanthie described the need for professional development for parents. Jennifer Crawford also described the importance for students to be involved in bolstering the need for the program. Elaine Brown noted that the goals from the model should be integrated into the IEP. Jennifer Mynear described making this translate to jobs and future employers.

6) In-Depth Review of Our Yearly Progress –HDI     Harold and Allie

Dashboard! With Case Examples

Harold and Allie Rhodes discussed HDI’s yearly progress in terms of presenting stories related to two projects, the Kentucky Supported Employment Project and the Community Based Work Transition Project. Every member of the CAC was given 1-2 minutes to react to the stories presented, questions they have, etc. Many, many themes came out during this discussion. Some of these themes were:

1) Benefits analysis and understanding the impact of wages on SSI, Medicaid, etc.
2) Educating parents, teachers, students, employers about benefits and how employment affects those benefits,
3) Integrating peer supports in order to assist students in the younger grades who will become employers later in life to increase their acceptance of their peers with disabilities,
4) Emphasizing social role valorization and self-determination,
5) Holding schools accountable for student success,
6) Training job coaches in reducing their on-site presence in jobs- less “following around”,
7) Really involving parents more in professional development.
7) Break

8) Project Spotlight: TAALC – Teaching Age-Appropriate Academic Learning Via Communication  Jacqui Kearns and Nick Gibson

Dr. Jacqui Kearns described the goals of the TAALC project. Nick Gibson presented his communication journey. He describes how AAC changed his life - it allows him to do the things he wants to do. Jacqui provided other examples of students developing communication systems that enabled them to access the general curriculum and really show what they can do. We discussed the need for all individuals, including adults with the most severe disabilities, to have a communication system, and the need to develop a TAALC-like initiative for adults in KY!

At 12:15 Paula Caldwell formally adjourned the meeting, so that members could have lunch, and we conducted the remainder of our agenda items during lunch.

9) HDI Website Survey: Harold – will send out to all CAC Members!

11) Agency Updates (P & A, DD Council, DDID, OVR, CCSHN, State ADA Office) (11:45)

Commission for Children Special Health Care Needs – Lee reported continued collaboration on the Peer Mentoring Project with HDI, and making and monitoring matches between mentors and mentees. The Commission’s Family to Family Grant just received funding for this coming year!

State ADA Coordinator – continues to work throughout the state. Norb has worked very closely with P & A in ADA compliance. He has surveyed schools, hotels, and now an adult bookstore! His office is also checking accessibility of post-secondary education programs, rape crisis and domestic violence centers. New website: http://ada.ky.gov/ Norb will be retiring August 31. Jennifer Hicks will be taking Norb’s place as the new ADA Coordinator.

Division of Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities: - full implementation of Supports for Community Living - 2 will be in place as of January 1, 2015. 1,300 folks have transitioned to SCL-2 thus far. Michelle P. has reached full allotment of slots.

For SCL, there will be 200 new slots in fiscal 2015 and 240 new slots in fiscal 2016. For Michelle P., 250 new slots each year, for a total of 500 new slots in the next two years.

Medicaid has submitted a transition waiver to CMS for individuals transitioning out of nursing homes, as well as a renewal of the Home and Community Based Waiver.

A single point of entry for all waiver programs is currently being established by the Department.
Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities - The Council worked diligently on the passage of the Adult Protection Registry this past legislative session. The Cabinet is working to have the registry up and running in July. The Council collaborated with KY Self-Advocates for Freedom and HDI on an Assets-Based Community Development Conference earlier this year. The Council’s Leadership Development Fund is available again; if you want to apply, you must apply early.

Protection & Advocacy (submitted by Jeff Edwards)

The Public Advocate and Deputy Public Advocate conducted interviews with the three candidates that the Director Search Committee had recommended receive a second interview. An exact date when the recommendation will be sent to the Governor’s office is unknown.

P&A met with the Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) about the interim settlement agreement for people living in personal care homes (PCHs). There was also discussion about managed care organizations (MCOs) and children’s services.

The creation of the Michelle P waiver (MPW) waiting list is concerning to P&A. We are researching possible remedies. P&A and the PADD advisory board will be providing comments regarding the proposed new MPW regulation changes.

Vickey Riley from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) met with P&A about the transition process for people as they exit high school and OVR roles/responsibilities.

The historical marker at Frankfort State Hospital & School Cemetery was dedicated at the annual cemetery cleanup on May 22, 2014.

The joint meeting with both P&A advisory bodies was held on May 23, 2014. The State Board of Elections presented Kentucky P&A with special recognition for “achievement in making voting accessible in Kentucky” from the National Association of Secretaries of State. Amanda Stahl of Louisville won the Billy Cox/Victoria Scott award. Dr. Kathy Sheppard-Jones won the Jean Gossick Award.

NEXT CAC MEETING:  Monday, September 8, Coldstream 9 AM - 12 PM, followed by working lunch