

**HDI Consumer Advisory Council Minutes  
Coldstream Training Room  
Monday, September 14, 2015**

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

*Jennifer Crawford  
Megan Baker  
Camille Collins  
Cathy Jo Edwards  
Paula Caldwell  
Cathy Lerza (for Claudia Johnson)  
Morry LaTour  
Allie Rhodes  
Walt Bower  
Elaine Brown  
Jessica Wolfe  
Jennifer Mynear  
Jason Jones  
MaryLee Underwood*

**Guest:** *Stephanie Adams*

**Presenter:** *Stephanie Meredith, Laura Smith Butler*

**Technical and other assistance provided by:** *Dave Flechler and Judy Johns*

- 1) Welcome and Introductions (9:00) Walt Bower  
*All members introduced themselves.*
- 2) Review and Approval of June Minutes (9:05) Jessica Wolfe  
*The minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve by Morry and seconded by Jennifer.*
- 3) AUCD Update – Council on Community Advocacy (9:10) Walt Bower

*Walt reported that COCA (Council on Community of Advocacy) had a discussion if COCA wanted to sponsor a concurrent session at the upcoming AUCD (Association on University Centers for Disabilities) in Washington, D.C. The consensus was COCA wants to submit a proposal and the COCA members agreed that a panel format would be best. Walt is registered to attend the COCA council meeting on Sunday, November 15. October 30<sup>th</sup> is the registration deadline for AUCD conference on November 14-19.*

- 4) Brief Update: AAIDD Poster Presentation and Discussion (9:15) Allie Rhodes

*Allie reported the CAC is important to the success of HDI and AUCD. Last year, we wanted to change how to present data to better involve everyone in decision making on the Council. Allie shared how they presented the data at AAIDD, and they were impressed with how data was delivered. Specifically, how data is presented in a round-table discussion to involve everyone. According to interviews completed by Shannon, everyone felt very involved, but would like to be*

*more involved in social media. You may share any suggestions to create further engagement by sending an email to Allie after the meeting.*

*During the feedback part of the update, one CAC member reported enjoying small group work in the CAC meeting formats. Another member seconded the small group work because you are able to share information and experiences more freely. A member added that the small group is also very good and allows everyone the opportunity to contribute. In response to the question to how to be more involved on social media, one member suggested to make sure everyone knows how to make things show up on the social media feed. Another member suggested simple language for social media and to better explain material during the meeting.*

5) Update on redesigned HDI website and Feedback from CAC (9:45) Stephanie Meredith  
Walt Bower

*Stephanie talked us through the newly redesigned HDI website. The front page contains good news, the articles are short, and include quotes and pictures. All articles are archived on the website under News. There is also a quarterly newsletter that you can sign up for on the website. The website is divided to help meet different audience's needs and includes links to social media. Allie suggested a link to directly sign up for the quarterly newsletter.*

*Stephanie shared the staff directory and how to contact different staff members. There are multiple ways to access the different projects and products depending on the audience. If an organization is missing that is helpful, please send an email to Stephanie to have it added. Walt shared the different information you can find on the CAC page on the website. There is a CAC page with up to date information and a picture for all the members.*

*During the feedback portion of the update, members commented that the website is nicely designed and very well organized. The CAC project page is very helpful in providing descriptions that are easy to find and understand. One CAC member suggested seeing more information about the TAALC program added to the website. Stephanie encouraged people to please sign up for the newsletter and to invite others to sign up.*

6) Break (10:15)

7) Project Spotlight – HDI Belonging Project and CAC Activity (10:25) Laura Butler

*The Belonging in Kentucky project looks at the National Core Indicators (NCI) and how well public developmental disabilities systems serve and support people with disabilities. It also allows for states (43) to compare to each other. For the consumer survey, a random sample of people are selected whom are receiving services and then they are interviewed. Interviewers are professionals, family members, or people with disabilities and they are currently looking for more interviewers. Laura presented data for Kentucky's employment, health and exercise, psychotropic medication, and loneliness data for 2013-2014.*

*Laura transitioned from the presentation of the data to asking members what can be done to help people feel more comfortable about participating in the survey. A collaborative and engaging dialogue with feedback from all members followed. In reply to the question, one member*

*commented, “Guardians may be afraid they are going to lose guardianship when giving consent to have the survey completed.” Another member followed up with, “Explain to the guardian that the data will help individuals receive and improve services.” A member suggested “a lack of time and a financial incentive could be an explanation for the low number of people that participate in the survey.” Another suggestion was to “possibly contact other states that conduct the survey to see what works for those states.”*

8) Election of New CAC Members (11:10) All

*Paula and Morry suggested to wait until December to nominate the six candidates. Jennifer Crawford suggested to vote today and Jennifer Mynear described that in the future the Council be more involved in recruiting and nominating self-advocates from Eastern and Western Kentucky. Paula and Morry described that they would be fine with voting today. Paula made the motion, Jennifer seconded the motion, and all members said yes. There were no objections. Motion passed.*

9) Agency Updates (P & A, DD Council, DDID, OVR) (11:15) Each Agency

***Protection and Advocacy*** - Camille Collins reported data from the last completed quarter. P & A provided 11 trainings and trained 450 people with disabilities. They just hired a person to work on their children and youth team and another person for the adult team. The data doesn't look like it changed, but they have been down on staff. Jonathan Martinis will be presenting at the Kentucky Guardianship Association conference and at an HDI seminar on supported decision-making. P & A is working on the 2016 priorities using data from public comment to determine what to focus on.

***Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities*** - MaryLee Underwood announced the hiring of Stephanie Adams, a new public policy coordinator. They are working on their 5-year state plan and the CAC participated in a focus group. HDI conducted a needs assessment survey and there was push to increase participation from people with developmental disabilities, which they achieved. They are partnering with HDI for a Health Partners grant, specifically looking using pairs rather than larger groups to engage in healthy lifestyles. Partnered with HDI for ADA celebration appearing on KET and they are sharing the link on social media. MaryLee reported they are working on the 2016 public policy priorities and they are still working on 2015 priorities, specifically the ABLA Act. MaryLee shared it's important to talk to state congressman and to share the importance of the ABLA Act.

***Division of Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities*** – Cathy Lerza reported CMS has a process for question/answers for the waivers. Testing Experience of Functional Tools grant – there was a low response rate on the interview compared to the National Core Indicators. This could be due to the pre-survey sent to service coordinator and the training of interviewers. Medicaid waiver management system; there will be a second launch in December to include more

*providers. It will be able to direct people to the correct waiver. This will be connected to kynect.*

***Office of Vocational Rehabilitation** - Jason Jones announced the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). We need to use 15 % on PETs allowing them to get involved with high school students. They were able to bring in providers from all over the state to see what services they can provide. OVR will keep consumers informed about what they will be doing to spend the budget.*

- 10) New Business and Announcement (11:25) Jessica Wolfe  
*There was no new business to report.*
- 11) Lunch and Further Discussion about CAC Members' All  
Involvement in HDI Projects (11:30 – 1:00)

**NEXT CAC MEETING: Monday, December 7, Clarion Hotel 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, followed by a working lunch.**

*Allie Rhodes motioned to adjourn, Jennifer Mynear seconded*