

**HDI Consumer Advisory Council  
Coldstream Training Room  
Monday June 3, 2019 9AM – 1 PM**

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

Joe Cowan  
Sherece Cole  
Cathy Edwards  
David Merdian  
Cathy Lerza (for Claudia Johnson)  
Christina Bard  
Donna Littrell  
Maria Kemplin  
Walt Bower  
Rongxiu Wu

**Guests:** Nellie Jones

**Presenters:** Kevin Fleming, Bev Harp, Stephanie Meredith

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

1) Welcome & Introductions Joe Cowan

Joe Cowan began the meeting. All members introduced themselves.

2) Review and Approval of March minutes Joe Cowan

The CAC members reviewed the March minutes. Cathy Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes and Donna Littrell seconded the motion. The motion passed and the minutes were accepted.

3) AUCD update – Council on Leadership in Sherece Cole  
Advocacy (COLA)

Sherece Cole recently submitted her name and email address to the COLA listserv and she will be added to the COLA listserv soon. Sherece did not have any new updates and will provide a COLA update at the next CAC meeting.

4) Rep Payee Review Program – Project Spotlight Kevin Fleming

Kevin Fleming, the federal program manager for the rep payee review program, provided an overview of the program. Since August 2018, Kentucky Protection and Advocacy (P&A) has received funding to conduct reviews on rep payee performance on behalf of the Social Security Administration. The program provides oversight to rep payees and their services to beneficiaries as well as giving them support to better understand their role and responsibilities.

Kevin shared that P&A organizations are uniquely positioned to provide oversight of the rep payee review program because of their relationship with their local communities and their other work. The program helps both beneficiaries and rep payees. Beneficiaries are the recipients of Social Security or Supplemental Security Income benefits. Rep payees are the individuals or organizations who manage Social Security benefits on behalf of the beneficiary.

Kevin described the five impacts of the rep payee review program: Empowerment, Cost effectiveness, Centralized system, Relationship building, and Needs assessment. He also described the six types of reviews of the program: Periodic onsite reviews, Predictive model reviews, P&A initiated reviews, State mental institutions, Quick response checks, and Educational visits.

Kevin then explained the five steps for the rep payee review process: P&A will call rep payee to schedule review appointment; P&A will interview rep payee and conduct a financial record review; P&A will conduct separate interviews with each beneficiary as well as any legal guardians or third parties; P&A will provide rep payee with a corrective action plan if needed; P&A will close the case. An individual may anonymously report information to start a review of a site.

5) Allyship event update

Bev Harp

Bev Harp provided an update on the Allyship event that was held on January 10, 2019 in Frankfort, Kentucky. The Allyship event, a day of discussions led by self-advocates, was designed for professionals, family members, direct support workers, and anyone else who would like to learn how to better support people with disabilities.

The planning committee for the Allyship event included only those who are people with disabilities. Additionally, the planning committee finalized the event with only one person who was nondisabled. Kelly Knoop delivered an outstanding opening address at the event. The Allyship workshop included five self-advocates as presenters and two HDI staff with disabilities as presenters.

The Allyship event discussed strategies for allyship; listening, supporting the goals and strategies of the marginalized group, amplifying voices, and working with majority groups to spread your new awareness. Bev also discussed intersectional allyship as a way of thinking and what happens when a person has more than one marginalized identity. A discussion of oppression as a systemic problem and not an individual problem followed intersectional allyship.

Bev reported the statements from a “I wish I could have told you” panel at the event. Three self-advocates read statements about aspects they wished they had been able to express earlier in life. Self-advocates from across Kentucky also read statements.

Sixty-five individuals attended the Allyship event, including representatives from Kentucky Protection & Advocacy, the Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities, the Kentucky Autism Training Center as well as other agencies. Nineteen of the attendees identified

themselves as people with disabilities. The Allyship panelists have been invited to present at multiple events since the workshop in January.

Bev shared the results from the evaluation of the Allyship event. Listening, reflecting more deeply on attention, and understanding the dignity of risk were the three most important themes reported by the participants at the event. Future projects for Unpuzzling Disability include a hands-on workshop on self-advocacy strategies and tactics as well as a follow-up workshop to the initial Allyship event.

Unpuzzling Disability is also developing online modules on allyship for families and professionals. The update on the Allyship event generated a lively and engaging discussion. One CAC member questioned the ability of the puzzle piece logo to portray the autistic community. The conversation also included discussion of the puzzle piece logo and varying perceptions of the logo.

6) One Day for UK update

Stephanie Meredith

Stephanie Meredith updated the CAC members on One Day for UK, an event that took place on April 17, 2019. On that day, the University of Kentucky rallied its alumni and friends to support One Day for UK, a 24-hour day of giving where donors supported the college, unit or cause of their choice. HDI exceeded the original goal and raised \$3,616 in one day to make sure people with disabilities have access to adaptive equipment at HDI CATS. Stephanie reported that HDI won third place on the small unit leaderboard to receive an extra \$500!

Stephanie also updated CAC members with the social media plans to celebrate HDI's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. HDI is sharing 50 profiles in celebration of 50 years of HDI. The profiles are of individuals, including self-advocates, families, students, practitioners, researchers, and partners, who have offered important contributions toward accomplishing HDI's mission of inclusion and independence for people with disabilities and their families.

Stephanie encouraged CAC members to share HDI's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary events and announcements on social media. CAC members expressed appreciation for Stephanie's outstanding work in gathering the information and photos for the individuals featured in the profiles.

7) HDI 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary update  
- Input and Feedback from the CAC

Walt Bower

Walt Bower shared information about the HDI 5K Run, Walk, Stroll on Saturday, October 12, 2019 in celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of HDI. The 5K Run, Walk, Stroll will be held at the Coldstream Park, a park in Lexington located on the University of Kentucky's Coldstream Research campus.

A conversation among CAC members for ways to market and promote the 5K Run, Walk, Stroll across Kentucky followed the 5K update. Cathy Edwards suggested sharing the event on Facebook. David commented that sharing the event as radio advertisements and as local

television advertisements might help get the word out about the event. Cathy also suggested distributing the announcement on listervs.

An HDI Gala to celebrate HDI's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be on Saturday, November 2, 2019 at the University of Kentucky's Gatton Student Center. CAC members provided input and feedback on individuals and organizations to invite to the HDI Gala. Cathy Edwards suggested Protection & Advocacy groups. Joe Cowan suggested inviting persons within religious communities as well as state representatives. David Merdian suggested inviting students and staff from local community and technical colleges.

8) Agency Updates (DDID) Each Agency

**Division of Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities** – Cathy Lerza expressed appreciation for the opportunity to work with HDI on the NCI (National Core Indicators) project and the CHEER (Community Health Education and Exercise Resources) project. Cathy also reported that Medicaid will release the waivers for public comment this month.

9) New Business and Announcements Joe Cowan

There was no new business to report.

10) Special Recognition Walt Bower

Walt Bower presented a framed certificate of appreciate to Cathy Edwards for outstanding service as a CAC member.

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

David Merdian motioned to adjourn the meeting and Joe Cowan seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 PM.

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