

Kentucky Interagency Transition Council For Persons with Disabilities (KITC)

Quarterly Meeting

July 26th, 2024

Welcome and Introductions:

- Deborah Taub is the new KITC chair.

Presentations:

Adrienne Bush; Executive Director at Homeless & Housing Coalition of Kentucky (HHCK)

[Presentation Recording \(Vimeo\)](#)

- [HHCK](#) is a statewide nonpartisan advocacy organization.
- One in four families who qualify for housing assistance actually get it.
- New data on Kentucky's housing crisis shows shortages across the board. Housing construction and development have not kept pace.
- Six out of ten extremely low-income Kentuckians who rent are paying more than 50% of their income toward housing.
- The National Low Income Housing Coalition's [Out of Reach](#) report is a good resource. Kentucky ranks #38.
- [The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\)](#) requires states to count homelessness every two years. Kentucky does this annually.
 - In 2013, Kentucky hit a high point for homelessness and then started declining because of the use of federal resources. During the pandemic, it dropped significantly and has been increasing ever since as pandemic-era programs expire.
 - More than half of the homeless population counted in January were in counties other than Jefferson and Fayette. Not just an urban phenomenon.
- There has been uncertainty since the debt ceiling agreement was reached in 2023.
- At the federal level they have also created additional uncertainty and detrimental policy.
 - The Supreme Court decided under the 8th Amendment that it is legal to criminalize homelessness. Our work continues.
- Kentucky State Legislative updates:
 - Policies that harm: House Bill (HB) 5 and 18. HB 18 is now law.

- Asked for significant investment into housing supply. Created Rural Housing Trust Fund in 2023.
- HB 100 – will implement no-cost birth certificates for people experiencing homelessness.
- HB 21 – will reduce ID costs from \$10 to \$5. Personal ID cards for people with no fixed/permanent address will be \$0.
- Kentucky Housing Task Force
- Housing as a 3-legged stool (housing supply, reduce barriers to housing, renter protections)
- Resources related to housing and youth are in PowerPoint.

Zach Stumbo; State Homeless Coordinator, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE)

[Presentation Recording \(Vimeo\)](#)

- In the education definition, we include families that are doubled up and living in substandard houses and things like hotel/motel designations.
- Despite the category, students tend to face the same barriers, struggles, and successes.
- We just held a competitive subgrant for the [McKinney-Vento Act in Kentucky](#). This is the largest source of funding that districts can compete for nationally. Each state receives a grant that we parse out as 3-year subgrants, and each state creates its own process.
- Grant is authorized under Title IX, Part A of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Received \$1.9 million to parse out. Our goal was to fund at least ten districts.
- At least one objective must address the KDE priority of transition readiness to get the grant.
 - District goals are in PowerPoint.
- 2024-2027 Subgrantees: Bath, Campbell, Covington, Dayton Independent, Jefferson, Jessamine, Newport independent, Paducah independent, Spencer, Whitley.

Agency Updates:

TAALC - Lou-Ann Land

- Lou-Ann will talk with the [Teaching Age Appropriate Learning through Communication \(TAALC\)](#) project about continuing updates.

OVR - Jonathan White

- The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) is putting together a pre-ETS conference (Sept. 25-26) in Georgetown, KY
 - Audience—educators, special education directors, etc.
 - Goal: ensure people are aware of services and funding options
 - 99.9% sure it will happen.
 - Save the Date coming soon.

OVR - Beth McDaniel

- [Community Work Transition Program \(CWTP\)](#): So far this year, 83 schools have applied to be CWTPs. Yesterday, we started our annual training for Employment Specialists.

KDE - Zach Stumbo

- Working on transition goals and grants will go out in October.
- Sometime during the three-year grant, they will be monitored for the goals.

KDE - Allison Johson

- Working closely with Jonathan and his team on joint guidance to support collaboration between OVR and transition staff.
- Kentucky Transition 360:
 - Collaborating with all three state Centers for Independent and statewide Independent Living Council, KY-SPIN, and OVR.
 - Establishing KDE mentors across the state to mentor students and families (developing service plan); will be advertising family mentor positions in the next couple of months.
- Kentucky Transition 360 for Educators:
 - For school staff in public schools in Kentucky
 - Providing statewide professional development focused on transition.
 - Working with diverse curriculum committee
 - Pushing out this info in the next few weeks.
 - Plan to have mentors around the state and have them be involved in what is already happening in the community.

NKCES (ARP Grant) - Jackie Alexander

- Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Educational Services (NKCES) has been working with forty different teachers in nineteen schools and collecting resources in Northern Kentucky

- Purchased interest inventories and curriculum to give to teachers (currently in a 3-day summer workshop with these teachers)
 - Looking at the [taxonomy of transition](#), indicator 13 compliance issues, and person-centered planning.
- Had transition fairs and reverse career fair. One student was hired on the spot.
- Looking to re-establish the Regional Interagency Transition Team (RITT)
- Partnered with the University of Kansas to do training on self-determination.
- Purchased pre-ETS curriculum through [Attainment](#) (wages, interest inventories)

WKEC (ARP Grant) - Tara Harmon

- The ARP grant position at the West Kentucky Educational Cooperative (WKEC) is ending.
- Hosting a transition fair September 4th and 5th for our 26 districts.
 - Targeting juniors and seniors
 - Open invitation
- Indicators 13 and 14 – boosted compliance, longevity of goals of post-secondary readiness
 - Indicator 13 trainings - 46 teachers participated in the transition academy.

GRREC - Stacie Hutchison

- Green River Regional Educational Cooperative (GRREC) worked with [Kelly Autism Program](#) to create the Summer Transition Education Program (STEP).
 - Partnered with seven students and their families/teachers.
 - Person-centered planning and self-advocacy
 - Through ARP grant
- Transition training this summer:
 - Visited Behavior Institute, OVR, SESC, and Kentucky Association for Psychology in the Schools (KAPS) to talk about person-centered planning.
- Oct 18 - Career work experience certification training for low-incidence teachers
 - Getting students career-ready.
- Nov 15 – transition training
 - Indicator 13
- Nov 22 - 2nd annual Transition Expo for students
 - Visual diagnosis or deaf hard of hearing
- Jenny Hogg from KEDC coming to meet in September and talk about reverse job fairs.
- Grant ends in September

KY-SPIN - Kellie Smith

- Kentucky Special Parent Involvement Network (KY-SPIN) will start Transition Tuesday webinars in September (IEPs are not BASIC)
 - Target audience – middle and high school students
 - Accommodations vs modifications
- In October will be doing youth-focused supported decision-making training
- In November will be doing youth focused guardianship presentation
- [Youth Thrive](#) is a newly released program.
 - KY-SPIN staff will train professionals.
 - How to work with youth and be intentional.
- In August, there will be a [Youth Cafe](#). We will also be trainers for this across the state.
- New content releases:
 - [IEPs are not BASIC Infographic](#)
 - [Present Levels Infographic & Worksheet](#)
 - [Transition Goals Infographic](#)
 - [Supplementary Aids and Services Infographic](#)
 - [Just what the Doctor Ordered Infographic](#) (reading and understanding prescription labels)
 - [All About Me Worksheet](#)
 - [The Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\) Infographic](#)
 - [Overview of the Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\) Video](#)

KY DDID and Employment First Council - Jeff White

- The Kentucky Division of Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (KY DDID) is focusing on the crisis in the provider base's capacity to supply supported employment to people with disabilities.
- In Kentucky, roughly 17,231 people with disabilities are actively seeking employment. Beyond that, another 266,666 are no longer seeking employment. At KY DDID, we discovered that we could identify 5,620 waiver participants who tell us they want to work in competitive integrative employment but are not doing so.
 - This data is from the [Research & Training Center on Disability and Rural Communities at the University of Montana](#). (2022 study under the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) grant)
- [Employment First](#) Council has identified structural difficulties within funding that are being addressed. We are confident it will create significant demand among provider agencies for the addition of employment services.

- Hold a quarterly [KY DB 101 Lunch and Learn](#) with Carolyn Wheeler. The next webinars are July 29th and September 30th at 12:30 p.m. ET. Help people understand how to use the KY DB 101 tool to determine the impact wages will have on someone's benefits. No registration is necessary.

KEDC - Jenny Hogg

- Finishing up ARP grant
- Transition fair this fall.
- Transition cadre that meets quarterly. Dates are set for '24-'25.
 - Talk about community resources and best practices.
- Working with Transition 360 for Educators.
- We attended the Southeast Post Secondary Education Alliance (SEPSEA) conference to share our knowledge of reverse career fairs. In our session, many participants were involved with Inclusive Post Secondary Education (IPSE) programs.
- Compliance: Working with districts on corrective action plans. Holding regional sessions to be proactive in addressing compliance with indicator 13.

HDI - Teresa Belluscio

- Supported Higher Education Project (SHEP) – Comprehensive Transition Program (CTP). UK's program is called the [Career and College Studies Program](#). Selected fall students and getting new freshmen set up on campus.
- Wrapped up the Summer leadership experience camp.

KYPSO - Tony LoBianco

- SERTAC people please nudge your districts to complete their YOYO interviews. YOYO ends August 31, 2024.
- Released statewide [2023 KYPSO Annual Report](#). Sections on homelessness, guardianship, CTE, etc.
- Today is the [34th anniversary of the signing of the ADA](#).
- HDI is charged with putting together feedback for the [Olmstead](#) Compliance Act. I'm on the housing committee. Opportunity for us to shape what the Olmstead compliance plan is going to look like for Kentucky.

KYPSO – Deborah Taub

- TASH is hosting a [2024 Outstanding Leadership in Disability Law Symposium and Awards Celebration](#) on September 11th.
 - In person and online.
 - The focus is on honoring the work of Steven J. Schwartz JD.
 - Will look at transition and employment.
- [Resources around student-led IEPs that can start in kindergarten.](#)

Attendees:

Adrienne Bush – HHCK
Allison Johnson - KDE
Beth McDaniel – OVR
Beth Metzger – KY P&A
Carrie Stith-Webster – OVEC
Davis Rodriguez – KY-SPIN
Deborah Taub – KYPSO
Dorothy Jenkins – OVR
Jacki Alexander – NKCES
Jeff White - DDID
Jenny Hogg – KEDC
Jonathan White – OVR
Kacy Midkiff – BCTC/CTP
Kellie Smith – KY-SPIN
Lou-Ann Land – TAALC
Stacie Hutchinson – GRREC
Tara Harmon – WKEC
Teresa Belluscio – HDI
Tony LoBianco - KYPSO
Zach Stumbo – KDE

Next Meeting:

October 25, 2024