

Kentucky Interagency Transition Council For Persons with Disabilities (KITC)

Quarterly Meeting
October 25th, 2024

Welcome & Introduction:

- Newest member: Abbigail (Abbie) Morris is the Program Coordinator within the Education Administration Program at Murray State University.

Set Dates for Future Meetings:

- 4th Friday's every quarter. Calendar invites will come soon from Chelsea Bocard.

Ideas for Supporting the Work:

- Develop a Community of Practice to bring thought partners together every quarter.
- Divide the state into educational coops and invite Directors of Special Education (DOSEs) from schools to discuss with colleagues in their region what they are doing regarding transition or to brainstorm.
- Find opportunities to increase braided-funded opportunities to improve support services and student outcomes across WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) core partners.
- Sustainable activities that can be used to support system change and development.
- Send a monthly newsletter to inform partners and stakeholders of upcoming initiatives/conferences/trainings.
- We need to connect with the medical community regarding the medical transition from Pediatrics to Adult doctors. I know medicine is out of our realm, but students with educational and medical needs will be making this transition simultaneously. It is worth touching base and starting the conversation. Even if we come together to become familiar with each other's processes. As educators, we could then help guide families to resources needed in that area of their lives. It is a huge need and barrier for many families.
- Promote/support the Regional Interagency Transition Teams (RIITs). If we can get them up and running that will be helpful. The Human Development Institute (HDI) did a lot of work with this several years ago.
- We want to encourage RIITs to invite KITC to participate.
- **Tony** – a reminder that KITC is the advisory group for the Kentucky Post School Outcomes Center (KYPSO). Thank you for your input. We will work with our other partners to see what we can get done.
- **Debbie** – to summarize:
 - 100% are interested in developing a statewide guide for understanding transition in Kentucky.

- 82% are interested in a conference involving Kentucky organizations.
- 82% are interested in a conference on key research from the National Technical Assistance Center on Transition: The Collaborative (NTACT:C)
- 75% are interested in a Special Education Regional Technical Assistance Center (SERTAC) or DOSE-focused leadership conference on system change.
- 71% are interested in bringing together students and adults with disabilities.
- 65% are interested in a mini-grant application for innovative transition activities with meaningful outcomes from SERTACs, DOSEs, or schools.
- 65% are interested in a stipend for teachers to attend a series of virtual professional development and coaching sessions.

2024 YOYO Data – Preliminary Results (Tony LoBianco):

- Access 2024 YOYO Data on KYPSO's [Data for Public Use](#) page.
- Check out our narrative report ([2023 Annual Report](#)). We are currently working on the 2024 Annual Report.
- What we found in 2024:
 - Higher education is up to 19.2% (1.1% increase over last year).
 - Employment is at 45%, which is down .5 points from last year.
 - Non-engaged students are at 29.4%, which is 1.5 points higher than last year. This is due to the other employment category which went down. This year, other employment was 16.2%, and last year, it was 17.8%.
 - We continue to see a trend of African American students doing better in terms of higher education (3 points higher than white students). However, African American students are 3 points lower in competitive employment.
 - Hispanic students are 3 points higher than white students in higher education and 4 points higher in competitive employment.
 - We have always seen that women go into higher education at higher rates than men and that men go into competitive employment at higher rates than women. This year, even more so. Men are 11% lower in higher education and 7 points higher in terms of employment. How are we preparing people for higher education and employment? Something to think about.
 - Outcomes for moderate to severe disabilities (Autism, Functional Mental Disability [FMD], Multiple Disabilities) are a lot lower (13% in terms of higher education and 14% in terms of competitive employment). This is markedly different than what we see in our full population of students with disabilities. Higher education rates are not horrible because the Autistic group is leading this.
 - We're stuck at 37% of students who go on to higher education and contact Disability Support Services (DSS). Same as last year. It was at 50% when we started looking at this. Hope we can do something about that.
 - We looked at guardianship again, and 24% of the overall population had guardians (more than last year). Among students with alternate diplomas, 78% had guardians. You can see a big difference with students who had guardians and were on the alternate diploma – 1% went on to higher education, and 3% went on to competitive

employment. If there was no guardianship, 13% went on to competitive employment. The non-engagement rate for students on the alternate diploma and guardianship was 80%. 73% of alternate diploma students are not in guardianship. We may make guardianship an interactive report in the future.

- KVEC:
 - Doing well in terms of higher education (22.8%). This is higher than the state average.
 - Regarding employment, they're a little below the state average at 44%.
 - The gender gap jumped out for the KVEC region. Men are 17% more likely to achieve competitive employment. Women are 25% higher in terms of going on to higher education.
 - KVEC also had a very high YOYO response rate this year (87%). This is great because we can have more confidence in these numbers. The state rate went down from last year (this year was 61.5%, and last year was 66%). The decrease may have been because we couldn't include contact information this year.
- **Debbie** – we can help support you if you want to formulate other ways to use the data. With student ID numbers, we can see if a certain program, such as the College for Technical Education (CTE), is effective. We can compare students who have used a program and those who haven't to see if there are different outcomes.

Presentation:

Will Kayatin; Kentucky Valley Educational Cooperative (KVEC)

[Presentation Recording \(Vimeo\)](#) – Will Kayatin invites various staff in the KVEC region to share their projects and outcomes regarding transition-aged youth.

Ideas for Guest Speakers/Topics:

- **Sherri** wants to learn more about Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary Programs (CTPs).
- **Zach** - Medicaid/[KYNECT](#) could be good for becoming more familiar with how students access benefits if they do not have insurance after high school. Also, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is finishing a big change.
- **Will** – Feature staff consistently from NTACT (like Charlotte Alverson) and OVR. Also, it's always good to hear from Beth Metzger with Kentucky Protection & Advocacy (KY P&A) and different projects at the HDI.
- **Teresa** - Tony discussed the increase in students going to higher education. Maybe hearing more about how they connect to college disability services?
 - **Kacy** - Interested in how we can get students the "adult measure testing" before students graduate so that they have that ready for accommodations at colleges. At the high school level, they're getting their last test at 8th or 9th grade, then go to college, and they say testing is too old and you can't get accommodations. We need

to talk about this early on in ARCs. [Bluegrass Community & Technical College Accessibility Services Documentation](#)

- **Dorothy** – Have high school students apply with OVR before they graduate.
- **Beth** – Transition discussion needs to start at age 14, and it needs to be in the plan when a student is 16. Unfortunately, the plans I've seen have simply been checklists. Discussions should be held about the fact that Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) do not exist post-secondary. Talk about 504s.
- **Teresa** – [University of Kentucky Disability Resource Center Documentation Guidelines](#)
- **Michelle** - The Local Education Agency (LEA) shall not be required to conduct an evaluation described in 707 KAR 1:300 Section 4 before termination of a child's eligibility due to graduation from secondary school with a regular diploma or due to exceeding the age of eligibility for a free, appropriate public education. 707 KAR 1:300 Section 4(20)(21); 34 CFR 300.305(e) (3). High school is not required to do an evaluation, so students have documentation for higher education.
- **Allison** – It would be good to hear from the Statewide Independent Living Council (Megan Coleman, megan@kysilc.org) or any/all of the three [Centers for Independent Living](#) (CILs) on the work they're doing.
- **Debbie:**
 - [GEAR UP Kentucky](#) - Their mission is to increase the number of students in low-income Kentucky communities who are ready to transition to and through postsecondary education successfully
 - Person-centered planning
 - Self-determined learning model of instruction (SDLMI)
 - [Path Forward Kentucky](#)
 - [My Choice Kentucky](#)
 - Reverse Career fairs
 - Student-led IEPs
 - Working with law enforcement

Agency Updates:

OVR - Jonathan White

- In September, we held a pre-Employment Transition Services (ETS) Summit in Georgetown.
 - Targeted board members and superintendents.
 - 120 people attended (including OVR staff).
 - Want to do this again next year and may try to do multiple events in different areas (take a regional approach).

GRREC – Michelle Blick

- In July, there was a 6-hour training on person-centered planning at OVEC. Covered self-determination skills and individualized transition planning for students with disabilities.

- In August and September, had video professional development coaching related to implementing person-centered planning practices for teachers with students with extensive support needs.
- The September RIIT meeting had 27 attendees from districts/agencies. Jenny with KEDC presented on reverse career fairs.
- Wrapped up ARC Grant at the end of September.
- Hosted professional development on October 18th on career readiness opportunities for students on alternate assessment. Covered employability and foundational academic standards, work-based learning opportunities, and instructional practices. 14 participants, including middle and high school Moderate and Severe Disabilities (MSD) teachers, DOSE's, and school counselors.
- Upcoming:
 - Another person-centered planning event
 - Indicator 13 compliance training
 - Stacie presenting at the Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) conference in November
 - Next RIIT meeting December 10

OVR - Beth McDaniel

- Expanded Pre-ETS within the Community Work Transition Program (CWTP) to include any student with a disability.
- CWTP still requires participating school districts to provide "Transition Services" related to job search and placement for those students who need the assistance of an Employment Specialist with finding employment and who do NOT plan on attending post-secondary education.
- Five new HDI positions for CWTP statewide support - 1 for each OVR region to help with monitoring, technical assistance (TA), and outreach/other support
- Outreach is ongoing, with a couple of school districts expressing interest in joining this school year.

KDE - Zach Stumbo

- We are currently awarding our federal subgrants.

KDE - Allison Johson

- Working closely with OVR to develop best practice resources about interagency collaboration at the local and state levels and how to navigate communication breakdown that happens. Look for that to come soon.
- Will be jointly presenting at CEC on general interagency collaboration pieces.

NKCES – Emily Borchers

- We are creating resources that align with transition services and needs, training on Indicator 13 and IEP development, Summary of Performance training, assisting with planning a career fair for our students in our region, assisting with re-establishing RITT committee, and

Transition Professional Learning Network (PLN) with the Northern Kentucky Transition Institute (NKTl).

KY-SPIN - Kellie Smith

- Social Security will present on November 4th on the differences between (Supplemental Security Income) SSI and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and how to apply. [Register](#)
- Training on November 12th on Executive Functioning: Practical Strategies for Everyday Life presented by Lindsay Eubanks, Family & Community Field Training Coordinator at Kentucky Autism Training Center (KATC). [Download Flyer](#) and [Register](#)
- KY P&A will provide guardianship training for youth on November 19th. be providing guardianship training for youth. Presented by Camille Collins and Stephanie Willis. [Register](#) and [Download Flyer](#)

KEDC - Jenny Hogg

- Held a transition kickoff event, ongoing transition cadre, indicator 13 support, [Division on Career Development and Transition](#) (DCDT) conference.

KYPSO – Chelsea Bocard

- [KYPSO has updated its flyers with new YOYO data](#). One flyer is geared towards students and the other professionals/parents. Feel free to share!

OVEC – Carrie Stith-Webster

- I'm going part-time this year because my 22-year-old son got a job, and we have no way to get him to his employment. This speaks to the challenges that we have in rural areas with no public transportation. A new part-time person is helping us with pre-ETS, and several schools want these services.
- OVEC has been fundraising, and we're finally able to purchase our own handicapped-accessible van.
- RIIT is up and running again. We partner with GLEC. Two new chairs this year:
 - Kitty Jones, Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce
 - Rob Stafford, Georgetown College professor

KY P&A - Beth Metzger

- In the process of creating a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on job accommodations which will talk about Title I of the ADA (The Americans with Disabilities Act), what an accommodation is, and the negotiation process.
- Letcher County having a college & technical school event on December 3rd that I will be attending.
- If an adult gets a full guardian, that adult is not allowed a driver's license because that's entering a contract. If a person got their driver's license at age 17 and someone became their guardian at age 19, they must surrender their license. P&A has created a reference tool for VR. Several people went through the Perkins Center driving program and didn't realize they couldn't get their driver's licenses. KY P&A can provide TA to guardians and individuals

about how guardianship can be modified so the person can get a driver's license. If the person is a recipient of SSI or SSDI and transportation is a barrier for them, my office can look at representing them in the court proceeding.

- Even if a person gets guardianship restored for a driver's license, the Transportation Cabinet medical review board requires people to have psychological evaluations first. My office doesn't agree with this, and we are in discussions with our attorneys.

Attendees:

1. Abbie Morris - MSU
2. Allison Johnson - KDE
3. Beth McDaniel – OVR
4. Beth Metzger – KY P&A
5. Brenda Combs - KVEC
6. Carrie Stith-Webster – OVEC
7. Chelsea Bocard - KYPSO
8. Deborah Taub – KYPSO
9. Dorothy Jenkins – OVR
10. Ellen Hoffman - DJJ
11. Emily Borchers - NKCES
12. Jeff White - DDID
13. Jenny Hogg – KEDC
14. Jonathan White – OVR
15. Kacy Midkiff – BCTC/CTP
16. Kellie Smith – KY-SPIN
17. Michelle Blick – GRREC
18. Sherri Craig – KDE/CTE
19. Teresa Belluscio – HDI
20. Tony LoBianco - KYPSO
21. Zach Stumbo – KDE
22. Veronica Dale - OVR
23. Will Kayatin - KVEC

Next Meeting:

January 24, 2025