

Kentucky Autism Training Center  
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes  
University of Louisville Autism Center  
1405 E. Burnett Ave, Louisville, KY 40217  
December 12, 2014  
10:00 AM-2:00 PM

1. Welcome and Introductions:

In attendance:

KATC: Heidi Cooley-Cook, Michelle Antle, Mike Miller, Kim Howard, R. Larry Taylor, Diandre Glover-Thomas, Laura Ferguson

Board: Norma Thomas, Kellie Scott, Laurie Spezzano, Diane Zero, Nat McKay, Rob Pennington

2. Recognition of the retirement of Linda Linville, KATC's contact at the Council for Post-Secondary Education and her long time support for KATC.

Linda was unable to attend the meeting. Everyone signed the card and Taylor will send a gift.

3. Office of Autism from the Executive Order

KATC is working in collaboration with Amy Cooper-Puckett on three committees: Early Childhood, School Age and Adults.

Pennington – reported that the school age committee still in the initial stages of getting to know what everyone does. Future areas to work on: how are people prepared to work with individuals, what universities are they getting autism education (will do a survey), development of a policy brief and figuring out everyone's role in disseminating information. Pennington suggested more people should know about and attend the meetings. Taylor suggested that KATC should disseminate information about the meetings. The big group meetings are held three times a year and a conference call is also available.

Cooley-Cook – reported that David Beach is the chair of the committee and the committee is in discussion about creating a website.

Ferguson – reported that the early childhood committee wanted to set up a website to disseminate information. They are currently working with Dr. Barnes on regional diagnostic centers with a main focus on where and when children are being diagnosed, but they are not at the point of talking about services.

Taylor – reported that Amy Cooper-Puckett is wanting to work in collaboration with KATC on an Autism conference in 2015.

4. Review of the KATC Advisory Board Minutes, September 5, 2014

Kellie Scott requested that the agenda and meeting dates are set and sent out a month in advance and for everyone to have a name tent at the meetings. Taylor reviewed the minutes. The minutes were tabled to make revisions and they will be reviewed again at the next meeting.

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5. Staffing – Taylor reviewed staff positions. We now have three school field trainers and Mike Miller, a consultant for families. U of L would not allow CPE funds to be used to pay sub-contracts. Taylor will start next month working on contracts and will attempt to use state funds to save \$38,000 up front. Taylor would like to increase staff in the near future.
6. Financial Report – Taylor reviewed the financial report.
7. Review of the current Advisory Board Membership - - Taylor reviewed the current list of Advisory Board members. The list is available on the website. People to invite to become future board members were suggested:  
Professionals: Harold Kleinert (HDI), Melissa Young (CPE), Dr. Elizabeth Sternberg (from Western KY), Nancy Lovett (Murray St. Univ), Milton Tyree, Jonathan Campbell (Univ. of KY), Jennifer Gray (KY Sound Down)  
Family: Ally Brooks, Janet Godsey, Donna Littrell, Billie Chain

Additional suggestions for board members included having an adult with autism serve on the board and for laypeople possibly from the Coalition for Workforce Diversity.

Taylor called for three people to form an ad hoc committee for board membership. Those members are Diane Zero, Nat McKay and Mike Miller. Motion for the ad hoc committee was made by Nat McKay and seconded by Laurie Spezzano. Notes about membership will be brought to the March meeting.

8. Status of KATC Activities
  - a. Taylor – discussed KATC’s involvement with the KAITTR initiative (a partnership to provide training and support to the commission staff) and the role of KATC after diagnosis from Weisskopf to provide information about school services and EBP’s.
  - b. Glover-Thomas – discussed website changes, webinars and regional workshops
  - c. Miller - discussed his consultation work with families that come to ULAC about school services
  - d. Cooley-Cook- met with DCBS to talk about autism statistics and KATC services. Taylor discussed KATC’s involvement in providing training for foster families.
  - e. Antle - discussed that neurological services were now being provided in Owensboro and Paducah offices not diagnostic services. Antle mentioned billing concerns with getting autism assessments and Medicaid denying payment for services. The project is still in the early planning stages.
  - f. Howard and Ferguson – discussed their work in schools. Ferguson suggested that KATC become more stringent in selecting schools and visiting sites first.
9. CEC Presentation – overview of the current work at KATC and presentation given at the CEC conference was reviewed
10. Solicit feedback Regarding Future Work – brainstorming session for future KATC work (notes attached)

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KATC's new contact with CPE is Melissa Young. Melissa Young will assume the duties performed by Dr. Linda Linville pertaining to KATC. Ms. Young's contact information is: [melissa.young@ky.gov](mailto:melissa.young@ky.gov) (502)573-1555, x258

The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for March 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:00AM – 11:45PM