

Kentucky Autism Training Center

College of Education and Human Development



**Training. Support. Resources.
It's Happening Here.**

2008 – 2009 Annual Report

The mission of the Kentucky Autism Training Center (KATC) is to enhance supports for persons with autism by providing information and technical assistance to families and service providers across Kentucky.



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NEW KATC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

G. Richmond Mancil, Ph.D, will the staff at the KATC in July 2009. Dr. Mancil has an appointment in the Department of Special Education, College of Education and Human Development

G. Richmond Mancil, Ph.D. graduated from the University of Florida with an emphasis on autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and behavior analysis. Prior to assuming the role as Director of the KATC, Dr. Mancil was the assistant director at the Kelly Autism Program. In the past, he has worked on several research grants related to examining the social communicative behaviors of young children with ASD and training grants focused on improving education for all children with ASD. In addition, he has trained parents to teach nonverbal children communication systems and how to socially interact within the family network and with peers. Dr. Mancil also has provided consultation on working with adults with ASD. He has taught courses on the characteristics of autism, behavior management for children with autism, assessment and diagnosis of autism, and communication for children with autism. He has numerous publications in journals such as the Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders and Focus on Autism and Developmental Disabilities. Dr. Mancil presents nationally and internationally on topics related to improving services for individuals on the autism spectrum at such conferences as the Council for Exceptional Children and the International Meeting for Autism Researchers.

KATC ADVISORY BOARD

The KATC has an Advisory Board that advises the Director in matters of policy, staffing, and operation. Board members are committed to the growth of the Kentucky Autism Training Center as it strives towards its mission to enhance supports for persons with autism by providing information, training and technical assistance to families and service providers across Kentucky. Board members are actively involved in the development of collaborative relationships.

Members also provide input and expertise in the development, implementation, and evaluation of services provided by the KATC. Unless restricted by their employment, members assist the KATC to procure funding, in addition to state general funds, to accomplish its mission.

The composition of the board consists of parents (50 percent), professionals (40 percent) and lay members (10 percent) from across the Commonwealth, as outlined in KRS 164.9811(2).

Parents

Individuals that are the parents of an individual with an autism spectrum disorder.

Professionals

Individuals with professional experience and knowledge specific to autism spectrum disorders.

Laypersons

Individuals active in the community, not currently serving in a parent or professional role.

Advisory Board Members

Rita Brockmeyer, Parent

Tricia Bronger, Professional, College of Education and Human Development, University of Louisville

Kristina Davis Christensen, Professional, Friends School

Diane Cowne, Parent, Vice Chair

Cathy Durkan, Parent

Carol Estes, Professional, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

Anne Gregory, Parent

Bev Harp, Layperson, Self-Advocate

Rhonda Hedges, Professional, Chair, Jefferson County Schools

Joseph Hersh, Professional, Weisskopf Center for the Evaluation of Children, University of Louisville

Sara Hite Ballard, Parent

Barbara Lewis, Parent

Linda Linville, Professional, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education

Nat McKay, Parent

Kelly Morris, Parent

Thomas Pinkstaff, Layperson, Physician, Medical Home for Coordinated Pediatrics

Laurie Spezzano, Parent

Peter Tanguay, Professional, Physician, Bingham Child Guidance Center, University of Louisville

Larry Taylor, Professional, Kentucky Department of Education

Norma Thomas, Parent

GRANTS SUBMITTED

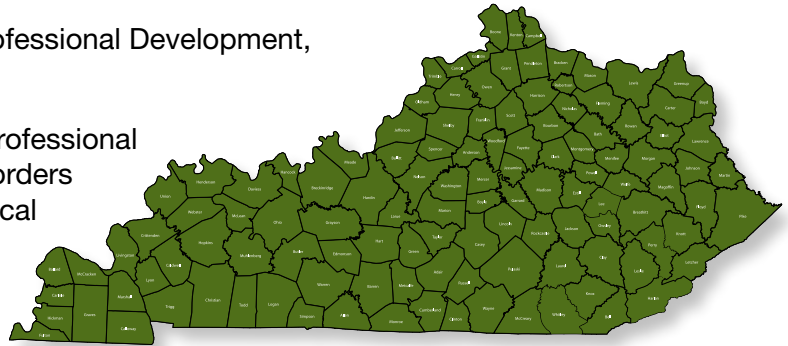
Funding in the amount of \$24,865 is being requested through the Family Service Community Grants program through Autism Speaks. Debbie Lorence, LCSW is developing the Eastern Kentucky Autism Training Project. The project will be undertaken by the Kentucky Autism Training Center (KATC), a part of the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Louisville. The primary goals of this Training of Trainers (TOT) project are 1) to provide families and providers in this rural region with access to practical research-based information; 2) to provide comprehensive workshop modules based upon the needs of local providers as well as parents/caregivers with children diagnosed on the autism spectrum; and 3) to develop a network of local service providers with ASD-specific training to build the capacity for support of families in the region. This project will seek to increase knowledge surrounding ASD-related issues as well as identify and train potential Trainers representing a variety of family service professionals across this 37-county region of Eastern Kentucky.

Collaborative Activities

NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER ON AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS (NPDCA)

PROJECT AREA: Product Development, Professional Development, Technical Assistance and Collaboration.

Kentucky has been selected by the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders to be one of only three states to receive technical assistance related to autism. Of nine grant applications nationwide, Kentucky, Michigan and Minnesota were selected to receive the assistance. The National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders operates under a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).



State-wide Impact: Promoting Systems Change

The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) and KATC) partnered on the grant application. KDE and KATC will work in collaboration with the FPG Child Development Institute at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the Waisman Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the M.I.N.D. Institute at the University of California Davis Medical School to implement the two-year project. KDE and KATC also will partner with the statewide network of Special Education Cooperatives and Early Childhood Regional Training Centers, Kentucky's Infant-Toddler Program (First Steps), the Parent Training and Information Network (KY-SPIN), the Kentucky Council on Developmental Disabilities, institutions of higher education and many other state partners. Key feature of NPCDA:

- Takes systems change perspective
- Promotes use of data to drive instructional planning, implementation, continuous progress monitoring
- Promotes development of measurable, observable IEP/IFSP goals and objectives
- Provides a model for sustainable professional development and technical assistance
- Provides flexible resources that can be used for ongoing training
- Links use of EBP to IEP/IFSP goals

The National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders will provide professional development and technical assistance to help Kentucky promote implementation of evidence-based practices for early identification, intervention and education for children and youth with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). These practices should produce the best possible outcomes for families and students with ASD, spanning the age range from infancy to early adulthood (21 years). In addition, the center will help Kentucky establish model sites demonstrating evidence-based practices for ASD and in evaluating and measuring child, family, practitioner and system-level outcomes.

PROJECT STATISTICS:

- 2-day planning meeting with key agency stake-holders to plan for sustainability of partnership
- Approximately 120 educators, administrators, mental health professionals and early childhood professionals, family members and university personnel completed on-line course Foundations of Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Approximately 120 educators, administrators, mental health and early childhood professionals, family members and university personnel attended intensive an 5-day summer institute to receive training on evidence-based practices, NPDCA resources and supports

GOALS

1. Increase the number of highly qualified personnel (particularly teachers and practitioners) serving children and youth with ASD in Kentucky
2. Establish a sustainable system of professional development in evidence-based practices in ASD
3. Provide technical assistance support for early childhood practitioners, educational leaders, teachers and school-based personnel

OUTCOMES

Product Development

- Identify/define criteria for evidence
- Identify evidence-based practices
- Develop online introductory course on ASD
- Develop briefs/modules on evidence-based practices
- Content of summer institute
- Assessment and evaluation tools

Professional Development

- Online introductory course on ASD
- Intensive five day hands-on training for state autism training team

Technical Assistance

- Development of state strategic plan
- Development of model sites
- Use of goal attainment scaling
- Development of community of practice
- Onsite coaching/mentoring
- Development/evaluation of high quality programs use of EBP
- Progress monitoring of target students

COLLABORATION

Work with KDE, cooperative, district and school staff in the development of model sites for evidence-based practices at the early intervention/preschool, elementary and middle/high school levels. KATC, KDE and NPDCA staff will collaborate with each state's interagency autism planning group of key stakeholders, including families, to develop, implement, and continuously monitor an outcome-based state strategic plan for professional development and technical assistance and to identify a state training and technical assistance team. Through web-based and hands-on professional development resources and activities, Center staff and state personnel will provide professional development for a selected group of practitioners in the first year, followed by provision of technical assistance and consultation. During the second year of the project, state personnel will plan, implement, and continuously evaluate professional development and technical assistance to expand early identification and the use of evidence-based practices with support from Center staff. Center staff will assist in assessing and monitoring child, family, practitioner, and systems-level outcomes.

Model sites will be used as demonstration sites for the KATC, cooperative and district professional development. Model sites will be located near universities to provide pre-service opportunities in settings that have demonstrated the use of evidence-based practices. The KATC/CEHD will work to develop collaboration among Institutes of Higher Education (IHE) to encourage the use of resources and supports provided by the NPDCA as a means to build local capacity.

Collaborative Activities

LEARN THE SIGNS. ACT EARLY.

The KATC is collaborating with the Kentucky's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service and Division of Birth Defects (at the University of Kentucky), National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to promote the early identification of Autism Spectrum Disorders in Kentucky utilizing the materials developed to support the Learn the Signs. Act Early. campaign. A workgroup comprised of key state leaders from the healthcare community, the early intervention and early childhood communities have developed an initial state plan. The function of this workgroup is to enhance relationships and collaborations among these key stakeholders, provide a forum to share information and insights on the opportunities, challenges, and barriers for families and children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD).



State-wide Impact: Promoting Systems Change

PROJECT AREA: Professional Development, Product Development, Information Dissemination and Collaboration

PROJECT STATISTICS:

- 3 presentations have been delivered to the Kentucky Developmental Disabilities Council and the Regional Training Centers/Early Childhood Conference
- Presentations scheduled for 2009-2010 include the Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD), Infant Toddler Kentucky Medical Association Annual Meeting and Kentucky Association for Psychology in the Schools (KAPS) Annual Conference

GOALS

1. Increase awareness of developmental milestones and early warning signs
2. Increase knowledge in the benefits of early action and early intervention
3. Increase parent-provider dialogue on the topic of developmental milestones and disorders
4. Increase early action on childhood developmental disorders

OUTCOMES

Professional Development

- 3 presentations that provide an overview of Learn the Signs. Act Early. Campaign have been delivered
- Intensive five day hands-on training for state autism training team

Product Development

- PowerPoint and presentation materials were developed to:
 - Promote the awareness of campaign materials and ideas to utilize materials in medical practices, childcare centers and the community
 - Provide an overview of common screening instruments
 - overview of the benefits of early intervention

Information Dissemination

A SharePoint site was developed to share information, resources and support efforts to develop a community of practice for diagnosticians.

COLLABORATION

Partners include Eastern Kentucky University, First Steps-KY Part C, Kentucky Autism Training Center-College of Education and Human Development, Kentucky Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs, Kentucky Department for Public Health, Kentucky Department of Community Based Services, Kentucky Department of Education, Kentucky Developmental Disabilities Council, Kentucky Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, KY-SPIN Parent Training and Information Center, Weisskopf Child Evaluation Center - University of Louisville and Western Kentucky University

2009 AUTISM INSTITUTE

The Kentucky Autism Training Center (KATC) celebrated the 10th anniversary of their Autism Institute by offering three special seminars for 2009. The seminars are designed for families, educational and vocational professionals, and employers.

PROJECT AREA: Professional Development, Information Dissemination and Collaboration

PROJECT STATISTICS:

The first seminar, **"Perspectives on Autism Supporting the Family and Empowering the Individual,"** was held April 24-25. 62 attendees came from 23 counties.

Seminars:

Dealing with Representations of Autism in Pop Culture and Media

Lost (and Found) in Translation: Understanding and Not Understanding the Logics of Autistic Communication

Tony Baker

Out and About: Preparing Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders to Participate in their Communities

Prescriptions for Success: Supporting Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders in a Medical Environment

Jill Hudson

Let's Have a Conversation: Reframing the Communication Deficit in Autism

Bev Harp

Panel: Promoting Collaboration between Home and School

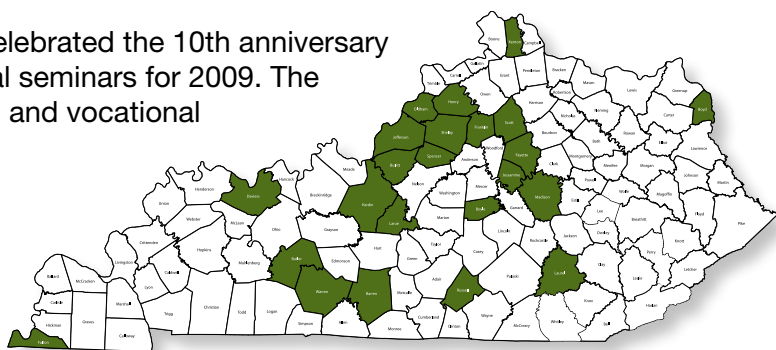
**Becoming an Obstacle Remover:
A Dad's Perspective**
Eric Blackwell

Implementing the Comprehensive Autism Planning System (CAPS) in the Home

Emily Kirkham, Katie Carnazzo, Debbie Lorence, Tina Bernstein with Mel Thomas and Norman Thomas

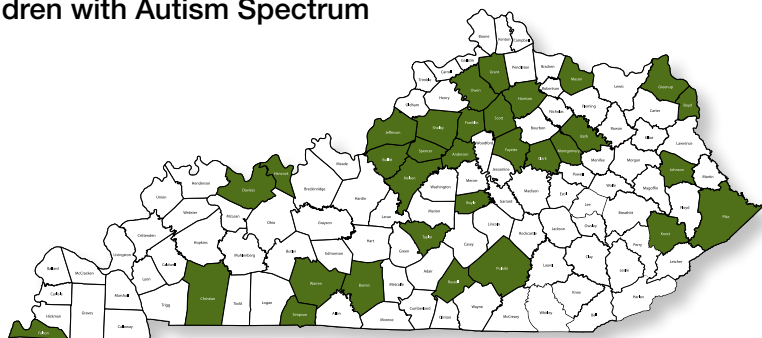
The second seminar, **"Fundamentals of Structured Teaching" and "Practical Strategies for Students with High Functioning Autism,"** was held June 17-18, the workshops were presented by Treatment and Education of Autistic and Related Communication-Handicapped Children (TEACCH). Day 1: Fundamentals of Structured Teaching and Day 2: Practical Strategies for Students with High Functioning Autism. 225 attendees came from 31 counties.

The last seminar, **"Improving Employment Outcomes at any Age,"** will be held July 29-30, and presented by Dr. Peter Gerhardt and Sherry Moyer. The seminar is designed for middle and high school educators, vocational professionals and employers who work with individuals with autism.



Family Seminar

Perspectives on Autism Supporting the Family and Empowering the Individual



Educational Seminar

Fundamentals of Structured Teaching and Practical Strategies for Students with High Functioning Autism

GOALS

1. Provide a forum in which ideas will be exchanged that will enhance services and supports for autism in Kentucky
2. Build networks and communities of practice across the state of Kentucky
3. Assemble regional and nationally renowned speakers to equip Kentucky professionals and parents with knowledge, research and practical application

OUTCOMES

Professional Development

Offered workshops designed to meet the unique needs of families, educators, administrators and vocational rehabilitation professionals

Collaboration

KATC's 2009 Autism Institute was a collaborative effort with the Kentucky Department of Education, Community Employment, Supported Employment Training Project and Kentucky' Department of Vocational Rehabilitation

SCHOOL-BASED TEAM CONSULTATIONS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

PROJECT AREA: Professional Development, Technical Assistance, Information Dissemination and Collaboration

PROJECT STATISTICS:

9 districts across the state received on-site professional development and individualized coaching for 16 teams. Teams consist of building staff, district or special education cooperative administrators, general and special education teachers, related service providers, school psychologists, para-educators and parents



GOALS

1. To foster collaboration in program planning for individuals with autism spectrum disorders
2. To build capacity of school teams regarding underlying characteristics of specific disabilities and their impact on success within the school setting, particularly in the areas of communication, social competence, academic performance, physical functioning, sensory skills, vocational skills, daily living skills, and transition
3. To build capacity of school teams regarding underlying characteristics of specific disabilities and their impact on success within the school setting, particularly in the areas of communication, social competence, academic performance, physical functioning, sensory skills, vocational skills, daily living skills, and transition

OUTCOMES

Professional Development

KATC Field Training Coordinators provided individualized training to 16 teams.

Technical Assistance

KATC Field Training Coordinators provided technical assistance to teams in the form of observations/consultations related to comprehensive program planning for individuals with autism.

Product Development

KATC staff developed visual supports, social scripts, and methods for data collection

Information Dissemination

Resources on comprehensive program planning and strategies (books, DVD's, power points, websites and products) have been shared/given to teams. Visual supports and example of modified curriculum have been provided.

Collaboration

The team training has been a collaborative effort between KATC, local school districts, related service providers and parents.

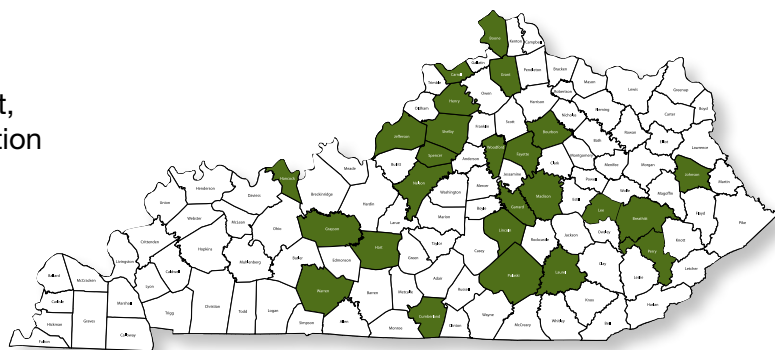
FALL REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

Hosted 5 regional workshops in the fall 2008

PROJECT AREA: Professional Development, Product Development, Information Dissemination and Collaboration

PROJECT STATISTICS:

- 144 attendees came from 25 counties across Kentucky



Counties Served

Workshops:

- **Positive Behavior Support: Addressing Challenging Behavior Effectively**
Terry Scott, and Peter Alter
September 9, 2008
Carroll County
- **Listening to Students with Challenging Behaviors: Assessment and Intervention Techniques for the Practitioners**
Robert Pennington
October 22, 2008
Madison County
- **Applied Behavior Analysis for Educational Professionals**
Robert Pennington
October 29, 2008
Jefferson County
- **Morning Session: Social Skill Interventions and Peer Supports**
Afternoon Session: Literacy Learning for Students with ASD
Monica Delano and Trish Bronger
November 5, 2008
Breckinridge County
- **From A-Z structuring your classroom to meet the needs of students on the Autism Spectrum**
Katie Carnazzo, Emily Kirkham, Tina Bernstein and Debra Lorence
November 11, 2008
Whitley County

OUTCOMES

Professional Development

- Offered 5 full-day workshops
- Format was both lecture style and small group to promote team building
- Participants were given numerous resources regarding adapting curriculum and developing classroom supports

Product Development

KATC/CEHD staff developed visual supports, social scripts, and methods for data collection

Information Dissemination

Resources on comprehensive program planning and strategies (books, DVD's, power points, websites and products) have been shared/given to teams. Visual supports and example of modified curriculum have been provided.

Collaboration

The team training has been a collaborative effort between KATC, local school districts, related service providers and parents.

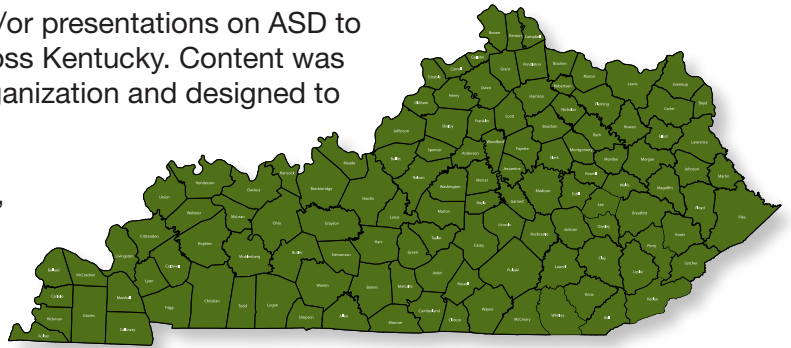
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

As part of the ongoing effort to improve services for those affected with ASD in Kentucky, KATC staff provided workshops and/or presentations on ASD to agencies/organizations and parent groups across Kentucky. Content was developed in collaboration with the hosting organization and designed to meet their specific training needs.

PROJECT AREA: Professional Development, Information Dissemination, Product Development and Collaboration

PROJECT STATISTICS:

At the request of local, state and regional organizations, the KATC conducted 23 workshops to approximately 580 attendees. Participants included administrators at the state and local district level, special education cooperative staff, special and general educators, higher education, related service providers, students and families



Available to all Kentuckians

GOALS

1. To provide Kentucky organizations content and resources regarding best practices for serving individuals affected by autism spectrum disorders.
2. To build capacity among school district personnel, private providers, public service providers, parents, and other educators throughout the state.
3. These professionals will have the knowledge to assess and design specialized interventions and positive behavioral supports to meet the specialized needs of persons with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

OUTCOMES

Professional Development

Offered 23 workshops to the following organizations:

Adanta Regional Service Program
Archdiocese of Louisville
Bluegrass Regional Mental Health
Bluegrass Regional Mental Health Board
Cabinet for Families and Health Services Foster Care Adoptions
Cabinet for Health and Family Services Recruitment and Training of Foster Parents
Champion Supports and Services
Community Living Services of Louisville
Council on Mental Retardation
Department Mental Health and Mental Retardation
Faith Temple Church
Hope Center for Growth
Kentucky Counseling Association
Kentucky IMPACT Program
Kentucky Rehabilitation Association Conference
Kentucky School Counselor Association
Kentucky Valley Educational Cooperative
Lexington Community Action Council
South Oldham Rotary Club
Taylor County Schools
Western Kentucky University-Child Care and Referral Agency

Information booths and networking at the following professional conferences

Council for Exceptional Children Conference
Early Childhood Education Conference

Kentucky Association of School Business Officials
Kentucky Association of School Superintendents
Kentucky Counseling Association
Kentucky School Counselor Association Conference
River Region Cooperative Transition Fair

Information Dissemination

Resources on comprehensive program planning and strategies (books, DVD's, power points, websites and products) have been shared/given to teams. Visual supports and example of modified curriculum have been provided.

Product Development

KATC staff developed visual supports, social scripts, and methods for data collection

Collaboration

Parent support groups, universities, community organizations, special education cooperatives and other disability & child-serving agencies collaborated in the development of training to ensure local that needs were addressed.

WORKSHOPS FOR FAMILIES

To increase support and training for parents and caregivers, KATC significantly increased the number and scope of workshops provided to Autism Parent Support groups all across Kentucky. New workshops have been developed to meet the needs of parent groups. The creation of a listserv for leaders of parent support groups allows an increase in information dissemination from KATC as well as the opportunity for parents to network with each other. In addition, individual family consultations were provided to assist parents in addressing unique and specific issues.



Available to all Kentuckians

PROJECT AREA: Professional Development, Information Dissemination, Product Development and Collaboration

PROJECT STATISTICS:

At the request of Parent Support groups around the state, 33 family-focused workshops were provided for a total of 497 participants

GOALS

1. Provide content and resources regarding evidenced-based practices to parents and caregivers of individuals diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder
2. Support parents and caregivers across Kentucky through increased training and increased opportunities to connect with each other
3. Increase connection with parents and service providers, the network of support for families is enhanced

Three most requested workshops and learning objectives for these workshops

1. **Simple Strategies to Start the School Year off Right**
Learning Objectives:
 - Identify aspects of the morning routine that work well as well...and those that do not
 - Examine how to utilizing visual supports for the morning routine
 - Discuss toileting issues at school
 - Identify ways to increase home/school communication
2. **Autism at Home: Managing Family Stress**
Learning Objectives:
 - Identify sources of family and marital stress
 - Discuss positive and effective communication techniques
 - Examine sibling issues and discuss ways to handle these issues
 - Discuss the importance of good self-care in parenting a child with autism
3. **Puberty and Autism**
Learning Objectives:
 - Identify factors to consider before having “the talk”
 - Discuss issues related to the physical changes associated with puberty
 - Take a reality check to assess comfort levels in having “the talk”
 - Identify tools that can be used at home to address issues related to puberty

OUTCOMES

Professional Development

Provided 33 workshops to the following support groups:

Allen County Autism Support Group
Autism Society of the Bluegrass
Autism Support of Letcher County
Autism Awareness and Research Foundation of Edmonson County
Autism Group of Cumberland County
Autism Society of Kentuckiana
Autism Support Group of Union County
Autism Support 4 Lake Cumberland
Bell County Autism Family Conference
Bowling Green Autism Asperger's Support Group
Barren River Area Autism Support Group
Christian County Special Needs Autism Parent Support
Comforting Ties Autism Support Group of Northern Kentucky
Danville/Boyle County Autism Parent Support Group
Families for Effective Autism Treatment (FEAT) of Western Kentucky
Fort Knox Autism Support Group
Franklin County Autism and Related Disorder Support Group
Hart of Autism of Hart County
Mothers of Special Children in Northern Kentucky
Parent and Professional Autism Support Group of Powell County
Parents of Autistic Children of Southeast Kentucky
Parents United for Support and Help (PUSH) of Boyd County

Information Dissemination

Resources on comprehensive program planning and strategies (books, DVD's, power points, websites and products) have been shared/given to teams. Visual supports and example of modified curriculum have been provided.

Product Development

KATC staff developed visual supports, social scripts, and methods for data collection

Collaboration

Parent support groups assisted in the development of training to ensure local needs are addressed

KENTUCKY FAMILY GUIDE TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

The Kentucky Family Guide to Autism Spectrum Disorder was developed to assist parents of individuals with autism spectrum disorders. In addition to valuable information for parents and caregivers on a wide-range of topics, this guide includes information about evidence-based practices along with web-based resources and identified books and journal articles for further reading. The guide will be updated on an annual basis. The Guide is available on the KATC's web-site and several disability related agencies. Printed copies are available upon request. The KATC is seeking funding to distribute the Guide systemically across the state.



Available to all Kentuckians

PROJECT AREA: Information Dissemination, Product Development and Collaboration

PROJECT STATISTICS:

The 225 page guide for families addressing the following topics:

- Autism Spectrum Disorders: What is ASD, Diagnosis, and Screening
- Living with ASD: You Are Not Alone
- Interventions: A Review of Therapies, Models, and Strategies
- Accessing Educational Services: Navigating Through The School System in Kentucky
- Social Service Programs: Kentucky Resources
- Advocacy: Raising Awareness and Influencing Service Delivery
- Future Planning: Growing into Adulthood
- Introducing Your Child to ASD: How and When to Talk to Your Child About the Diagnosis

GOALS

Participants will be able to:

1. Provide comprehensive content for parents and caregivers designed to answer to the question: "When your child was first diagnosed, what information did you need most?"
2. Provide comprehensive content to parents, service providers, educators, and family agency staff about utilizing evidence-based practices
3. Increase the ability parents and professional to provide support to meet the needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorder

OUTCOMES

Information Dissemination

Resources on comprehensive program planning and strategies (books, DVD's, power points, websites and products) have been shared/given to teams. Visual supports and example of modified curriculum have been provided.

Product Development

KATC staff developed visual supports, social scripts, and methods for data collection

Collaboration

Parent support groups, universities, community organizations, special education cooperatives and other disability & child-serving agencies assisted in the development of this guide to ensure optimum relevance and usability.

AMANDA L. KING RESOURCE LIBRARY

The Amanda L. King Resource Library is a collection of materials available for checkout at no cost to families and professionals across the state of Kentucky. The Amanda L. King Resource Center is the only resource on autism, special education, and vocational information available to all citizens of Kentucky. In addition, the KATC holds the largest and most current collection of autism-related information in the state.

PROJECT AREA: Information
Dissemination and Collaboration



Available to All Kentuckians

PROJECT STATISTICS:

- Approximately 200 patrons
- KATC loans books, videos, DVDs and other materials focusing on ASD, disability, education, transition, parenting and child development
- Only resource that gives educators, therapists, and families across the state free access to materials

GOALS

1. Continue to facilitate the growth of the statewide lending library
2. Increase the circulation of the resource center
3. Develop relationship with public libraries across the Commonwealth to increase the availability of current research-based information specific to autism
4. Support efforts of local autism related support groups to develop lending libraries for members
5. Support efforts of Special Educational Cooperatives to create lending libraries for local educators and families
6. Procure funding for return postage for patrons
7. Develop an online searchable database of materials

OUTCOMES

Information Dissemination

- Add materials based on feedback from patrons
- Reorganization and classification of current materials

Collaboration

Work with local libraries, autism related supports groups, Community Mental Health Centers, First Steps and diagnosticians to promote the awareness of the Resource Center

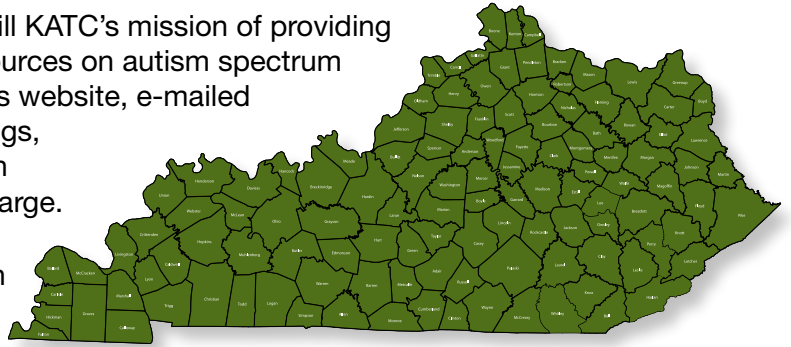
KATC NEWSLETTER

The overall goal of KATC's newsletter is to fulfill KATC's mission of providing Kentuckians with current information and resources on autism spectrum disorders. The newsletter is posted on KATC's website, e-mailed through distribution lists, distributed at meetings, seminars and conferences, and provided upon request. The newsletter is provided free of charge.

PROJECT AREA: Information Dissemination

PROJECT STATISTICS:

- KATC Newsletter is published quarterly and available on KATC website
- Newsletter is disseminated electronically via the KATC's listserv
- Newsletter is sent to the listservs of disability and education organizations across Kentucky
- Provided free of charge



Available to All Kentuckians

GOALS

1. To provide Kentuckians with a quarterly electronic newsletter published each January, April, July, and October
2. To continue KATC's mission as a leader on current research-based needs and issues in the autism community
3. To provide Kentuckians with resources, strategies, techniques and support for improving outcomes for those affected by autism
4. To connect readers with available professional development and training opportunities
5. To inform readers of recent publications relevant to the autism community

OUTCOMES

Information Dissemination

The KATC will continue to publish the newsletter as an online resource with print copies available by request

KATC WEBSITE

PROJECT AREA: Information Dissemination

PROJECT STATISTICS:

- Hub of all KATC work
- Enhanced information on “best practices” and research-based interventions
- Free lending library
- Online supports and service database
- Information regarding KATC services



Available to All Kentuckians

GOALS

1. Support the KATC's mission to enhance supports for persons with autism by providing Kentuckians with information, and resources on autism spectrum disorders, disabilities, education and KATC services.
2. Provide Kentuckians with a user-friendly, online environment that offers current news and research based information for the autism community.
3. Ensure that the website is compliant with accessibility standards
4. Align format of external links to conform to categories of Family Guide and evidence based practices

OUTCOMES

Information Dissemination

The KATC will continue to expand content and will strive to develop additional online applications to support the autism community in Kentucky

KENTUCKY AUTISM SERVICE AND SUPPORTS DIRECTORY

The KATC's Autism Service and Supports Directory is a project that has been in development for several years. Originally, information regarding services was available in a printed service directory that was available upon request. During this past year the information was formatted on the KATC's website in a dynamic searchable database. There is no cost to access the directory.



Available to All Kentuckians

PROJECT AREA: Information Dissemination, Product Development and Collaboration

PROJECT STATISTICS:

- 417 service providers have listed their services in the KATC database
- To build local capacity and promote regional collaboration, the database is organized by the Kentucky Department of Education's 11 Special Education Cooperatives
- Users can search by age, county, service, and region
- Free access to database

GOALS

1. Increase information about community resources available to support individuals with autism and their families
2. Develop a system for informing families, professionals, and community members about the availability of the database
3. Create a network of providers and resources

OUTCOMES

Information Dissemination

KATC has developed a document outlining the services database that is disseminated at all activities sponsored and attended by the KATC.

Product Development

- The KATC's Autism Service and Supports Directory was developed in response to feedback from families regarding the difficulty locating services.
- This database is a unique gathering of information regarding service providers interested in serving individuals with autism.
- To promote collaboration with the Department of Education and support the efforts of the complex needs consults within the Special Education Cooperatives, the database is searchable by cooperative regions.

Collaboration

During the next year, the KATC will continue to contact providers (i.g. First Steps, Medicaid, Support Employment and physicians) to increase the number of participating providers.

KENTUCKY AUTISM LISTSERV

The KYAUTISM Listserv is hosted by the Kentucky Autism Training Center, housed at the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Louisville. The purpose of the KATC listserv is to share information, services, resources, and training opportunities in a positive and respectful way. Information on autism, disabilities and education issues are relevant topics. The KYAUTISM listserv is unique in that subscribers include: families and professionals from across the commonwealth that care about individuals with autism. There is no charge to access the listserv.



Available to All Kentuckians

PROJECT AREA: Information Dissemination

PROJECT STATISTICS:

- Approximately 350 subscribers
- Subscribers include administrators at the state and district level, special education cooperative staff, special and general educators, related service providers, students, persons with ASD and their family members.

GOAL

Provide subscribers with a forum to share information, services, resources, and training opportunities.

OUTCOMES

Information Dissemination

Empower subscribers to develop networks, foster relationships and share information

KATC STAFF

Tina Bernstein, OTR/L, M.Ed., (.80FTE) Field Training Coordinator

Tina Bernstein is an occupational therapist who recently joined the staff from the Boston, metro area. Tina has spent the last 15 years working with autistic children and their families initially at The Developmental Disabilities Institute in New York, and for the past 11 years with The Special Start Preschool Team of The Cambridge Public Schools in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Tina brings extensive training in Sensory Processing/Integration issues and their impact on school function and family dynamics. Tina received her master's degree in Education at Lesley University's Creative Arts in Learning program where she concentrated her focus on the interrelationship between the arts, multicultural and special education. At the KATC, Tina will focus on providing support and direct training to education staff, and the families across the state regarding strategies to address sensory challenges of children within a school setting.

Katie Carnazzo, M.A., (.40 FTE) Coordinator

Katie Carnazzo, M.A. graduated from the University of Kansas with a Masters degree in Human Development and Behavior Analysis. She has worked with children with autism for approximately 15 years in various roles. Ms. Carnazzo did her graduate work at Juniper Gardens Children's Project in Kansas City, KS, designing and implementing programs, which promoted successful integration of children with autism into regular, age-appropriate classrooms. She trained teachers to use such programs as peer tutoring, cooperative learning groups, social skills groups, and social networks. She was an Itinerant Teacher in the Lawrence Public Schools working in elementary schools with children with autism. In her current role at the KATC, Ms. Carnazzo provides direct training and technical assistance to education staff, social and community personnel, counselors, job coaches and families. Ms. Carnazzo also coordinates the KATC's school-based technical assistance activities.

Tonja Craig, (100 FTE) Unit Business Manager

Tonja has been with the University of Louisville since 1999. Previously Tonja worked in the business offices of the Obstetrics and Gynecology department, and School of Business. She joined the Kentucky Autism Training Center as a Unit Business Manager where she oversees the business operations of the Center. Her expertise includes preparing and analyzing the Center's budget for both internal University use and for the Center's Board Members and administering the Center's grants. Additionally, she is the liaison to other University business units.

Kristen Frarey, (.80 FTE) Program Coordinator

Kristen joined the Kentucky Autism Training Center in the spring of 2001 to assist in the coordination and scheduling of KATC's School and Family Services. She coordinates Presentations and Workshops to family groups and organizations across KY, facilitates quarterly billing for KATC Services and assists the Unit Business Manager with financial responsibilities. Most recently Kristen has worked with regional leaders and organizations to develop and facilitate a variety of Regional Workshops across the state and also serves as the conference chair for KATC's Annual Autism Institute.

Rebecca Grau, M.P.A., (100 FTE) Program Coordinator, serving as Interim Director

Rebecca Grau graduated with a Masters degree in Public Administration at the University of Louisville. Ms. Grau coordinates many of the Center's administrative responsibilities and is working to increase collaboration among parents and professionals to develop an efficacious system of care for individuals with autism and their families across the Commonwealth. She is the state liaison with Kentucky's Partnership with the National Professional Development Center In collaboration with the Kentucky's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service and Division of Birth Defects, National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to promote the early identification of Autism Spectrum Disorders in Kentucky utilizing Learn the Signs. Act Early.

Emily Kirkham, B.S., (.08 FTE) Field Training Coordinator

Emily Kirkham graduated from the University of Louisville with a Bachelors degree in Sociology. She has worked with children with Autism for six years. She was the classroom teacher with the Endeavor Program at the Kentucky Center for Special Children's Services and Preschool (Carriage House), a therapeutic program to prepare students with ASD for elementary school. While in this role she developed behavior, communication, social and toileting programs for classroom students. She also served as an Intervention Specialist with Caritas Peace Center in the Innovations Program. This program serves children and adolescents with developmental disabilities, mental retardation, and autism. She assisted program participants when these conditions were accompanied by significant emotional or behavioral challenges that impede meaningful family, social, and community integration. In her current role at the KATC, Ms. Kirkham assists in the development of programs for use across Kentucky. She provides direct training and technical assistance to education staff, social and community personnel, counselors, job coaches and families.

Debbie Lorence, LCSW, (100 FTE) Field Training Coordinator

Debbie Lorence received her Master's Degree at the University of Louisville's Kent School of Social Work and is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. She has extensive experience in working with youth and parents in both professional and volunteer capacities. She previously served as a Child and Family Therapist at Seven Counties Services as well as Executive Director of a non-profit organization in Oldham County. She has also worked at the Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative serving as Coordinator of a Kentucky Parent Information and Resource Center. Debbie is a Fellow of the Pritchard Committee's Commonwealth Institute for Parent Leadership. At the KATC, Debbie will focus on increasing Kentucky families' access to training, support and resources. Also, she has taken on the role of maintaining and expanding the extensive KATC's Amanda L. King Resource Center.

2008 – 2009 KATC EXPENSES

	KY COUNCIL POST SEC ED	GENERAL STATE FUNDS	INCOME	KY DEPT EDUCATION FUNDS	KATC Gift Account	TOTAL
SALARY & BENEFITS	\$ 71,731.39	\$ 101,009.37	-	\$ 178,606.55	-	
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 2,652.19	\$ 54,033.37	\$ 41,926.60	\$ 363.00	\$ 10,202.96	
TRAVEL				\$ 19,072.75		
INDIRECT COST				\$ 16,667.00		
TOTAL	\$ 74,383.58	\$ 155,042.74	\$ 41,926.60	\$ 241,709.30	\$ 10,202.96	\$ 496,265.189