Kansas Commission on Disability Concerns (KCDC)

Director’s Report

For November 1, 2013 Commission Meeting

1. I participated in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) training in St. Pete Beach, Florida. I passed the ADA Coordinator Certification test this week.
2. The KCDC brochure is completed.
3. The KCDC website is moved to its new address. The kcdcinfo.com address will still work, but the actual address is now kcdcinfo.ks.gov. The Disability Service Maps are updated, but suddenly more errors are coming to light, so the website and the file are being updated as time allows.
4. The Employment First Oversight Commission has been holding regular meetings. They are beginning work on their annual report of recommendations. If you have recommendations you would like to suggest, please email them to Martha.gabehart@ks.gov and I will forward them to the commissioners.
5. The Statewide Independent Living Council of Kansas (SILCK) completed their state plan for independent living (SPIL). The new SILCK office is located in the Ramada Inn Hotel at 6th and Monroe in Topeka
6. I continue to represent people with disabilities on the Governor’s Commission on Emergency Planning and Response (CEPR) meetings.
7. The Kansas Relay Services, Inc. (KRSI) board made its recommendation to the Kansas Corporation Commission for the new relay service provider. That announcement will be made in the next month or two.
8. I was elected chair of the Kansas Partnership for Accessible Technology (KPAT). This is a group of agency representatives from information technology services as well as representatives from the Schools for the Blind and Deaf, Kansas Rehabilitation Services and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) coordinator.
9. I am still on the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) advisory committee. We advise Kansas DADS (KDADS) about things we feel they could do to improve or provide better service. We also have reviewed their website and made some suggestions for modifications.
10. The Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) has contracted for services that will help states implement Employment First. They have a platform where the states can share information and participate in webinars about changes states are making in policies and payments the implement Employment First. I have participated in three webinars and spoken with Steve Gieber and state representatives in Tennessee about their policy changes specifically. Steve and Shelly May will be speaking with representatives afrom Kentucky and Wisconsin about their progress.
11. The Subcabinet on Disability has been meeting quarterly with disability leadership to update them on KanCare and what the agencies are doing with regard to employment initiatives.