**EFOC Data Committee Report**

Committee members:  Wendy Parent-Johnson, Rocky Nichols, Robert Hull

1. During a conference call on October 6, 2014, we discussed two sources of data that are particularly relevant to the EFOC mission. The first is the data compiled by the Institute for Community Inclusion at UMass-Boston (<http://www.statedata.info/>). The 2013 edition provides data from 2012; when compared with the 2010 data, it shows that employment and related data outcomes for Kansas have regressed between 2010 (pre-EFOC legislation) and 2012 (post-legislation). A second data source is from the Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities at the U. of Colorado (<http://www.stateofthestates.org/>).  The 2012 edition shows funding for SUPPORTED LIVING, FAMILY SUPPORT AND SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT SPENDING declining by 11% between 2009 and 2011 ($61.5M to $54.3M) while the number of participants in DAY/WORK AND SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT grew by 4% (from 11,567 in 2009 to 11,992 in 2011); this includes those receiving supported employment services, which are 10% of the total (1,169 of 11,992).

 The main issue we discussed is that, although the state is investing money in the federal/state program, data are reported only in the aggregate by each agency. The data are not commonly shared between agencies, thus making comparisons difficult and tracking impossible. For example, while the Department of Education reports numbers of students in its Transition programs and numbers of graduates, and Kansas Rehabilitation Services report the number of individuals receiving its services, the two databases are not shared with some common identification. This eliminates the possibility of tracking individuals graduating from high school and receiving KRS services and their employment record subsequently. Many graduated Transition students do not receive KRS services, and if they receive employment services from nonprofits in the DD network, or other nonprofits working under fee-for-service contracts with KRS, their progress is not identifiable. Thus the federal/state investment does not receive the data to effectively measure its outcomes.

 We believe this issue of “shared data” needs thorough review and discussion in our Annual Report, and a recommendation that state agencies cooperate in naming key individuals to a workgroup to facilitate data sharing be included in the report.

 2.       Recognizing that the third-round RFP had recently been released by United Healthcare (one of the three Managed Care Organizations contracted to KanCare), and that it has a new priority for “system change and system change planning,” we recommend that the Employment First Commission submit a proposal to UHC by the November 3, 2014 deadline to support creation of a “Shared Data Systems Change Workgroup.”  This workgroup might seek to include representatives such as the following, with other appropriate representatives to be named. Hopefully, each agency will agree in advance to be represented and we can include a letter of agreement with the grant proposal.

 a.     KDHE – Mary Ellen Wright?

b.      KDOC – Jeff Schroeder or Susan Weidenbach?

c.       KS Department of Education – ?

d.      KRS – Mike Donnelly or Peg Spencer?

e.      KCDD – Steve Gieber or Craig Knutson?

Robert Hull, Note Taker