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August 2017 State Rehabilitation Council ATP Report

Marketing Update - Nancy Noha

ATP continues to build the listserv of consumers, agencies, educators, and employers. Recent newsletters featured Helen Keller Deaf-Blind Awareness Week and a solicitation for new advisory council members. The links to the web site in messages drives visitors to the ATP web site.

Outreach events include the Nebraska School Nurses School Health Conference and the Beginning Teachers Symposium coordinated by Nebraska ChildFind. ATP was represented at several sites for the Enable Savings Plan's first anniversary held at local banks.

AT4ALL- Kristi Berst

System updates are in progress and anticipated to be completed by October 1, 2017. Approved updates primarily will impact Equipment Managers processing loans and general users will not be impacted.

Reuse-Kristi Berst

Equipment Reuse Summits were held in Lincoln, Kearney, Scottsbluff, and Omaha in the Spring of 2017. Reuse partners identified ways in which to market the network's services, develop a Reuse Directory for providers, and further expand the group of partners across the state.

iCanConnect-Kristi Berst

Previously a pilot program under the FCC, beginning July 1, 2017 iCanConnect, or the National Deaf Blind Equipment Distribution Program, adopted permanent program rules and will continue to be coordinated by ATP under the new program guidelines. July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017 Nebraska served 15 consumers with 20 unique service requests using iCC funds. Equipment included CCTVs, Braille displays, computers, laptops, smart phones, tablets, signaling devices as well as training for the consumers to use the purchased devices. ATP continues to strengthen partnerships with both the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired and the Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing as well as other community partners to continue to serve the unique technology and accessibility needs of the deaf-blind community.



Financial Programs Update –Peg Hansen

UNMC/MMI Part B Independent Living Funds (Part B)-

The Part B funds arrived May 30, 2017. We are currently working on getting projects authorized. We have all but a small amount obligated. This funding serves every part of Nebraska and is for persons who have a major physical disability and have fully utilized other funding options available to them.

Enrichment Foundation Grant (EFG)-

The EFG program is now in full swing; we currently have 45 active cases and have the funding obligated. This funding serves the Sarpy and Douglas County areas for persons who have a major physical disability and have fully utilized other funding options available to them.

DHHS Program Update –Jackie Rapier

During the third quarter of FY 2017 (4/1/17 through 6/30/17), 137 HHS projects were authorized, utilizing \$620,818.26 in AD Waiver funding, \$10,895.00 in DD Waiver funding, and an additional \$12,399.50 with other funding sources, totaling \$644,112.76 in funding.

These projects assisted 137 consumers with greater independence and accessibility in their homes and communities.

ATP/Education Activities –Alie Kropp

ATP/Education has started another school year with the education specialists providing trainings, demonstrations, awareness activities, and consultations to the schools within their regions. Besides providing these services, listed below are some of the activities in which ATP/Education has been involved since the start of the new fiscal year (July 1, 2017).

July

Administrator Days (annual start-up meeting of all school administrators)

August

Start-up Meeting for Education Specialists

The annual start of the year meeting of all the education specialists.

Early Development Network

All of the education specialists attend regular meetings throughout the year hosted by the Regional Early Development Networks.



Nebraska VR Title 1 Program Update – Brooke Harrie

ATP received 118 service requests from 4/26/2017 to 7/24/2017. (This reflects only the number of service requests received since the last SRC report.) Requests include worksite AT/ergonomics (18), cognitive aids (35), ADL/DME/mobility devices (15), computer software/hardware (5), home modifications (7), vehicle modifications (19), hearing devices/communication (9) and other/information (10).

The ATP Program Coordinator completed team tours across the state visiting all VR offices to discuss policy updates, reminders and answer questions. Other partners including Easter Seals, CAP and 3 VR program directors attended the tour as well. There was great feedback from VR and overall, they enjoyed having the group come out and meet with each office individually. This will continue to be an annual activity coordinated by ATP. The new ATP Program Coordinator has also started meeting with VR program directors monthly to discuss policy and specific case issues to help ensure a smooth transition and continue to build the partnership.

ATP technology specialists have been busy participating in activities with Project SEARCH sites throughout the state. Before the end of the school year, each site held a Skills Day to assess potential incoming students to see if they would be a good fit for the program next year. Technology specialists are a part of this process to help identify students who may benefit from assistive technology to help them be successful in the program. Graduation ceremonies were also held at the end of the year to honor the students who completed their internships successfully this year. Congratulations to all the 2016-2017 Project SEARCH graduates and we look forward to working with another great group of students next year!

Resource Update – Angie Ransom

ATP received approximately 65 Service and Device (S&D) applications from 4/1/2017 to 6/30/2017. Of those new S&D's received, 26 receive active medicaid.

ATP Resource Coordinator Angie Ransom and Nebraska VR Specialist Tonisha Jorgensen presented a Lunch-n-Learn at Southeast Community College-Milford Campus. The focus of the presentation was to discuss post secondary services with both Nebraska VR and ATP, in addition to highlighting technology that can be useful to anyone.

General Update –Tobias Orr

Coming into the 4th quarter of FY17 all of ATP's programs are moving in the right direction. Earlier this year we did a marketing blast to recruit new ATP Advisory Council members. Pending Board of Education approval, we will have 4 new members joining us this fall.

ATP's new database (ATTIE v2.0) went live last month. This new system will greatly improve our ability to track and manage our caseloads, which in turn will help us to better serve our consumers.