

# Grant Advisory Council Meeting

## Minutes

November 9, 2022 10:00am -  
12:30pm Via Zoom

Attendees:	Tammy Koger	Karen Fraller	Rene Cummins
	Frank Harden	Kathleen Wood	Kim Harrell
	Kimberly Williams	Latrell Broughton	Julie Dutchess
	Joshua Barton	Monique Cox	Tara Mueller
	Sam Westrich	Sonya Clark	Lisa Grafstein
	Sandy Johnson	Mose Dorsey	Kendal Rasor
	Mark Steele	Philip Woodward	

### Introduction & Member Updates

**Tammy Koger, Director**

- GAC member Annette Lauber suffered a fall and broke her arm, so unfortunately, she won't be joining us today.
- Lisa Grafstein with Disability Rights of NC is joining us today as a presenter.

### Samantha R., et al. v North Carolina & NC DHHS

**Lisa Grafstein & Tara Muller**

The ruling concluded the State of NC was in violation of the Olmstead Act based on not meeting the needs of individuals with IDD by failing to provide services in the most integrated settings appropriate to their needs. The judge mandated a 10 year plan be implemented by NC DHHS which focus on:

- Address the 16,000 plus individuals on the Innovations Waitlist
- Address the gap in direct service providers
- Transition 3,000 of the 5,000 individuals living in institutions back to the community within the next 8 years
- Quarterly reporting required from the State and DHHS on benchmarks

### GAC Mentorship Program

**Sam Westrich & Kathleen Wood**

The purpose of this program would be to mentor an individual with a disability who is starting out with Assistive Technology and is seeking support. Ideally, the mentor has a similar disability and experience with using AT. Much can be accomplished virtually and the program can be a peer-to-peer dynamic. GAC would be supporting, but not in charge of running the program.

The first step would be to see who's interested and that's where the Interest Questionnaire comes in. They have a goal of getting 10 mentors and see how it goes.

## **AT Expo Recap**

**Sonya Clark**

The Virtual AT Expo on September 29th, 2022 was a great success! We had 8 sessions, a keynote speaker, and testimonials. 532 individuals registered for the event and around 240 people were online at any given time. 21 different states and several countries participated.

The next AT Expo will be in-person on **October 5th, 2023** at the McKinnon Center in Raleigh. We are exploring hosting the event virtually as well. Many people remarked the Expo was more accessible virtual vs in-person. We are looking for new, innovative vendors. Reach out to Sonya or the Expo Team if you have an ideas or have any questions.

## **AT Pop Ups**

**Tammy Koger**

We are hosting pop-up events again next year focusing on access to recreation and gaming. Below are the locations and dates with more info to come.

- March 25th in Winston-Salem
- April 21st in Wilmington
- May 19th in Sanford

Mark Steele will be helping us with our Winston-Salem event. Solutions for Independence hosted an Adaptable Sports Expo back in March and will be hosting it again in 2023. Read more about it in [The Independence Gazette](#), which is included in the attachments.

## **AT Videos/Online Demos**

**Latrell Broughton**

Latrell has been traveling to each of our NCATP centers across the state and recorded videos. He's now working on editing, captioning, and posting the videos to DHHS's YouTube channel. These videos are multi-purpose, designed to be easily digestible and enticing to watch.

His newest project will be talking to grant or loan recipients about their AT devices in their own home. The goal is to identify individuals willing to speak on camera and capturing their success stories.

Latrell and the group discussed ideas of how we can increase the number of views of the videos on our channel.

## **Partner Updates and Announcements**

**Philip Woodward**

The NC Council for Developmental Disabilities recently hosted a virtual information session on competitive and integrated employment. Different organizations, individuals with IDD, and family members were involved. There were over 200 participants.

The monthly self-advocacy discussion series continues on the 3rd Wednesday each month from 1-2pm.

NCCDD also hosts a monthly public policy meeting on the 2nd Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 12:00pm.

**\*MARK YOUR CALENDARS -Next GAC Meeting scheduled on  
Wednesday, February 8th, 2023 from 10:00am - 12:30:pm**