**TASP ANNUAL REPORT—2014**

**Susan Yuan, President**

While TASP cannot claim credit for all that has been achieved in this past year to ensure the rights of parents with disabilities and their children, we have worked collaboratively to move our agenda forward. Below is a summary of things our **members** have accomplished in the past year. We know that this is not a complete report, but want to acknowledge the efforts of everyone this year! Thank you, advocates, researchers, and parents.

**ORGANIZATIONAL PROGRESS:** Now that we are a legitimate non-profit, we have worked through our nine committees to further our functioning as an organization and to address research and advocacy. We have worked without paid staff, but with the dedication of tireless volunteers to move forward.

**LEGISLATIVE PROGRESS:** resulting in bills passed in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, and introduction of legislation in Massachusetts.

**REDESIGN OF OUR WEBSITE:** [www.achancetoparent.net](http://www.achancetoparent.net) This was accomplished with heroic efforts of Bernadette Irwin and her husband, Denice Mock (chair of Technology Committee), and contributions from Traci LaLiberte.

**PRESENTATIONS AND MEETINGS TO FORWARD TASP’S AGENDA**:

Southwest Disability Conference, Albuquerque, October, 2014. Progress Since the Rocking the Cradle Report. Virginia Cruz and Susan Yuan

AUCD Conference, Washington, DC, November, 2014. Report to the Family Support Special Interest Group. Bernadette Irwin and Susan Yuan

AUCD Conference: Progress Since the Rocking the Cradle Report. Bernadette Irwin, Kara Ayers, Susan Yuan

TASH Conference, Washington, DC, December, 2014. Progress Since the Rocking the Cradle Report. Bernadette Irwin, Susan Yuan, Ricardo Thornton (invited).

Meeting with AIDD Commissioner, Aaron Bishop, to discuss AIDD role with parents with disabilities, Washington, DC, December, 2014. Bernadette Irwin, Tony Antosh, Susan Yuan.

TASP New England A Chance to Parent Summit,  Northampton MA, June 5, 2014. Sue Jones & Leslie Kinney, with several presenters from among TASP members.

NASW conferences in Atlanta, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Indiana presentations on working with parents with learning difficulties. Denice Mock.

Policy meeting between DDD and DCF (in Illinois) to discuss training for caseworkers on working with parents with i.d., set for Dec. 10, 2014. Denice Mock.

ParentsWithPromise, recognized as forefront provider by DCFS to parents with learning difficulties in the Northern Illinois Region and tripled population of families served. Added two additional therapists and have collaborated with private agencies in another region to begin working with clients utilizing PWP program staff. Denice Mock.

Florida Early Childhood Conference, “Skill Building to Identify and Support the Individual Needs of Families,” Leslie Pokres. Emerging interagency collaborative meeting monthly, including U. of South Florida. Leslie Pokres.

Monthly meetings with child welfare agency, school system, regarding case planning. Leslie Pokres.

Working on local committee in S. Florida involving child welfare, judge and attorneys for evidence-based parenting curricula for parents at risk of having their children enter the child welfare system, Leslie Pokres.

Statewide meeting hosted by MA Department of Development Disabilities regarding Discussion on Parents with Intellectual Disabilities Worcester MA, November 7, 2014, Sue Jones and Leslie Kinney.

TASP Board of Directors Strategic Planning meeting, Turners Falls MA, June 6. Hosted by Sue Jones and Leslie Kinney

Presentation for Associates for Human Services Inc. Taunton MA, May 28, Sue Jones.

Meeting with Liz Mahas The (national) Arc’s Program Manager for Individual and Family Support, Washington D.C., July 25, 2014, Sue Jones and Bernadette Irwin.

Attended NCD Congressional Forum, Washington D.C., July 24, 2014, Sue Jones and Bernadette Irwin.

Presentation for MA Children's Trust, Milford MA, May 15, 2014. Sue Jones and Leslie Kinney.

Attended CWLA's National Advocacy Summit, Washington D.C., May 6, 2014. Sue Jones and Bernadette Irwin.

Presentation for Parent Child Development Center, Northampton MA, May 5, 2014. Sue Jones and Leslie Kinney.

Presentation for Central Western Office of Learning and Development DDS, Springfield MA, April 15, 2014. Sue Jones and Leslie Kinney.

Presentation with for MA Children's Trust, Pittsfield MA, April 10, 2014. Sue Jones and Leslie Kinney.

**LaLiberte, T.** (2014, July). Parents with Disabilities in the Child Welfare System. Congressional Forum. National Council on Disability, Washington, DC. *Invited*

**LaLiberte, T.** (2014, June). State of the knowledge: Adoption and Parents with Disabilities. Congressional Briefing. National Council on Disability, Congressional Coalition on Adoption, Bipartisan Disability Caucus, National Association of Social Workers, Child Welfare League of America, and the American Psychological Association. Washington, DC. *Invited*

Coordinated several phone conference calls, starting in November,  2013 with TASP officers and Chris Smith (MD UCED) on research possibilities, Bernadette Irwin

Presented to 30 individuals at MD Family Network Conference, Nov. 2013, Bernadette Irwin.

Met with Sylvia Long and Ann ? from U.S. Dept. of Justice, March, 2014, Bernadette Irwin.

Attended with Sue Jones a two day CWLA conference in DC - while there met with Arc Staff to discuss collaboration./webinars, March, 2014, Bernadette Irwin.

Presented at a Conference in Washington Co. MD to agencies/individuals involved in the foster care system - 30 attended, April, 2014, Bernadette Irwin.

Submitted proposal to CWLA for presentation at their 2015 National conference, Sept. 2014.

**TRAININGS AND WEBINARS:**

The Training Committee developed a Survey for the New England Conference (Denice Mock) on what professionals would like to see in future training.

Training for 20 pre-school teachers from Baltimore City Schools, October, 2013, Bernadette Irwin.

Helped plan and participated in a webinar given by The National Resource Center for In-Home Services (NRC In-Home), a service of the Children's Bureau on Parents with ID, Nov. 14, 2013, Bernadette Irwin.

Presented with Sue Jones at training in Washington Co. MD (primarily DSS workers) - 30 attended, April, 2014, Bernadette Irwin.

Training for Maryland Public Defenders, Sylvia Long, Maurice Feldman, A. J. Ruben.

Competence-Based Parenting Assessment Training, Allegheny County Parenting Assessment Team, Pittsburgh, Pa., Sept. 19, 2014. Nicole Brisson and Susan Yuan.

Webinar on Progress for Parents with Disabilities Since the Rocking the Cradle Report. November, 2014. Robyn Powell (with organizational assistance from Denice Mock).

**PUBLICATIONS:**

Piescher, K., Colburn, G., **LaLiberte, T.**, Hong, S. (2014). Child Protective Services and the Achievement Gap. *Children And Youth Services Review*. 10.1016/j.childyouth.2014.11.004

Kovan, N., Singh, S., Susman-Stillman, A., Piescher, K., & **LaLiberte, T.** (2014)**.** Differences In The Early Childhood Education Needs Of Young Children Involved In Child Protection. *Children And Youth Services Review,* Volume 46, November 2014, Pages 139-145 DOI: 10.1016/j.childyouth.2014.07.017

Hall-Lande, J., Hewitt, A., Singh, S., Piescher, K., & **LaLiberte, T**. (2014). Involvement of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in the Child Protection System. *Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities.* DOI: 10.1177/1088357614539834

**LaLiberte, T**., Lightfoot, E., & Mishra, S. (in progress). Parents with Disability and Permanency Plans for their children TPR.

Aunos, M., Feldman, M., Callow, E., **LaLiberte, T**. & Lightfoot, E. (in revision). Parenting by Persons with Intellectual Disabilities.  In I. Brown & M. Percy (Eds.), *A Comprehensive Guide to Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.*  Baltimore, MD: Brookes Publishing Co.

**LaLiberte, T.** Fier, B. & Simpson, M. (in progress). Utilization of Assessment of Parents with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. [Curriculum Module] St. Paul, MN: Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare, School of Social Work, University of Minnesota.

Lightfoot, E., **LaLiberte, T**. & Cho, M.H. (accepted, 2015). A Case Record Review of Termination of Parental Rights Cases Involving Parents with a Disability. *Society for Social Work Research*. January 14-18, 2014. New Orleans, LA.

McConnell, D., Hoglund, B., Wing Man, E., Hindmarsh, G., **LaLiberte, T.,** Hahn, L., Aunos, M., Emerson, E. (2014). Pushing the frontiers of knowledge [II]: Utilizing population-based and administrative data to push the frontiers of knowledge. *IASSIDD Europe Regional Congress, Pathways to Inclusion*. July 14-17, Vienna, Austria.

Lightfoot, E. & **LaLiberte, T.** (2014). The Prevalence of Parental Disabilities in Termination of Parental Rights Proceedings. *Society for Social Work Research*. January 15-19, 2014. San Antonio, TX.

Guest Editor: **LaLiberte,T**. & Lightfoot, E. (eds) (2013). Special Issue: Child Welfare & Disabilities.Journal of Public Child Welfare, 7(5).471-691. Taylor & Francis

Executive Editor: **LaLiberte,T**. & Crudo, T. (eds) (2012-2014). CW 360°. Center for AdvancedStudies in Child Welfare, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN.2014

Child Well-being in Child Welfare Practice. CW 360°,Vol (10)2013 Parents with Disabilities in Child Welfare. 360°, Vol(9).

2013 Children with Disabilities in Child Welfare. CW 360°,Vol (8).

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** Vermont Parenting Assessment Team (SageHaven Associates), conducted assessments for parents in Vermont, North Carolina, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and consultation and training in Pittsburgh, PA, and Colorado.