

TASP ANNUAL REPORT October 2018 – October 2019

OUTREACH

- **Website development and design:**
Continued improvements have taken place this year through the work of the Development Committee and Chelsea Tighe, TASP Administrative Assistant.
GO AND CHECK IT OUT! www.achancetoparent.net

- **Trainings, Presentations, Articles and Conferences (a sampling):**
 - Bernadette Irwin and Susan Yuan presented at TASP Conference on the Peer Navigation Model implementation in VT and Washington DC, October 28-29, 2019
 - July 12 2019 – research presentation to Capella University dissertation committee Social Workers by Julie Clockston
 - Julie Clockston and Ginny Cruz presented at TASP Conference on the TASP Nationwide Curriculum—October 28-29-19
 - Jackson Clockston, J. M. (2019). *Perceptions of human service professionals and parents with intellectual disabilities: Action research* (Order No. 22585013). Available from ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global. (2300629945).
 - Brisson, N., Yuan, S., Ayers, K. *Research, Policy and Practices Supporting Parents with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, AAIDD 2019 Conference, St. Paul MN, June, 2019. (R)

- **Participation and collaboration on boards, commissions, or other systems work:**
 - Bernadette Irwin served as a member of Home Visiting Services for Parents with ID – Stakeholder Advisory Group – Johns Hopkins -- Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health
 - Julie Clockston participated in Colorado advisory council for persons with disability June 4th, 2019
 - Susan Yuan—Member of Needs Assessment Workgroup of VT DS Payment Reform Initiative—relevant, because kept Parents with Disabilities as one of the areas to assess for Developmental Services and kept it as a Priority in the Vermont System of Care Plan for DS.
 - Susan Yuan and Nicole Brisson: Dec. 25, 2018—Consultation/technical assistance phone call with Florida DCF
 - Susan Yuan participated in bi-monthly calls of NCIL Parenting Task Force
 - Susan Yuan represented TASP on planning group for submission for NIDILRR grant, in conjunction with 4 UCEDDs. TASP was put forth to be Advisory Board for grant, as well as trainers. Grant was submitted but was not funded.

- January 11, 2019, Susan Yuan interviewed by magazine in relation to Oregon case.
- Susan Yuan consulting on case in Broward Cty., Florida (also w/Nicole Brisson)
- **Other work of TASP members:**
 - Nicole Brisson became a 2019 Fellow of AAIDD.
 - Susan Yuan was nominated for a 2020 AAIDD fellowship
 - Julie Clockston was the Principal Researcher in action research with professionals who work with parents with intellectual disabilities and parents with intellectual disabilities Nov 2017-2019
 - Julie Clockston remains an ongoing direct service provider in Colorado for individuals diagnosed with developmental/intellectual/cognitive disabilities 1996-current
 - Julie Clockston was a Continuum of Colorado Host Home Advocacy Honoree 2018
 - Susan Yuan continued conducting Competence-Based Assessments of Parenting Skills—3 families

TASP 2019 INTERNATIONAL CHANCE TO PARENT CONFERENCE

TASP, lead by the Conference Committee (a subcommittee of the Education Committee), spent much of 2019 planning and holding the 2019 International Chance to Parent Conference in Seattle, WA October 29-29, 2019, with a theme of *Turning the Tide: Improving Outcomes with Inclusive & Interdisciplinary Practices*.

TASP welcomed over 100 attendees from 3 countries over the two days. This was TASP's first west coast conference and allowed for several new and exciting connections.

The conference offered social workers, legal professionals, policy makers, researchers, direct service providers, parents, and others, an opportunity to learn about new and innovative practice, policy and research taking place at local, state, national and international levels. It included plenary sessions highlighting inclusive and interdisciplinary practices to create positive outcomes for families. Sessions focused on a wide range of topics, including the application of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in relation to child welfare cases. Through a parent panel presentation, breakout sessions, keynote presentations, and a reception, attendees were able to share knowledge and network among a broad scope of stakeholders, gaining knowledge and connections that can be applied across all disabilities.

Despite the cost of the conference and TASP having to contribute funds, the conference was a success. There were more than one hundred people attending from multiple states and countries, including Iceland and Canada. Presenters came from all over the country and Canada to speak on promoting rights of parents with

disabilities, reflect on best practice in direct services, person centered planning, advocacy, fair assessments, challenges in serving parents with intellectual disabilities, technology, and other topics. A highlight was a coalition building workshop led by Molly Burgdorf and Traci LaLiberte. Surprisingly, participants did not rush out of the workshop at the end (which so often happens at the end of a long conference) and instead asked to stay longer. As a result, participants from Washington gained traction in forming their own coalition and have made plans to continue to meet. Other highlights from the conference include hearing from a fantastic parent panel, keynote speakers, Dr. Monika Mitra, Ivanova Smith, and Frank Ordway, and congratulating our Alexander J. Tymchuk award winners, Dr. Susan Yuan, Betsy Misch, Aaron Bishop, and Nicole Brisson (Carrie Ann Lucas Disability Rights Legal Advocate Award). People raved about the food and showed enthusiasm to participate in another conference.

TASP RETREAT

As TASP continues to mature as an organization, we determined that we needed some time for another retreat. With Aaron Bishop of the American Psychological Association (APA) as our facilitator, we identified different areas to explore by conference calls in the months before the 2019 TASP Conference, starting last spring and continuing monthly until October 27 when we met face-to-face for a one-day retreat in Seattle. We developed an action plan to achieve the following outcomes: 1) Increase/strengthen membership in TASP; 2) Strengthen TASP's outreach and collaboration; 3) Increase the diversity of the TASP Board; 4) Enhance TASP's sustainability; and 5) Enhance development of TASP's products and resources. This plan (attached below) included strategies, tasks, a timeline, entity or person responsible for carrying out activities, and organization or people with whom we will collaborate.

This plan provided guidance to committees for the work we will carry out this year as we continue to move TASP forward.

TASP deeply appreciates the on-going help that Aaron Bishop has given us over time. We particularly thank him for his facilitation of this retreat!

PROJECT WORK

Successful Parenting –DC Project, in collaboration with CFSA and DDA, Washington, DC, with the assistance of Mat McCullough, Office of Disability Rights, DC, the DC DD Council, and NCIL. Bernadette Irwin serves as Project Manager, supervising the work of 5 Peer Navigators working with 14 families served by both DDA and CFSA. In addition, the project provides at least 4 trainings a year to CFSA and other human service workers in DC.

TASP was informed on 12/26/18 that DDA funding for the DC Project would end in one month. That left SP-DC with 2 families, served through CFSA. Two Peer Navigators were retained through May to work with those two families, and TASP vacated SP-DC Office in DC in October 2019.

COMMITTEE WORK

- **Education Committee**

Members: Nicole Brisson (Chair), Susan Yuan, Lindsay Brillhart, Susan Jones, Ginny Cruz, Julie Clockston, Tom Robinson, Chelsea Tighe

The Education Committee has worked diligently to revise Ginny's curriculum, "Parents with Developmental Disabilities" to roll it out as a train-the-trainer curriculum to be taught nationally. Interest and requests for the training were generated when an overview was presented at the 2019 Chance to Parent Conference: Turning the Tide: Improving Outcomes with Interdisciplinary and Inclusive Outcomes in Seattle in October.

The Education Committee oversaw the Conference Committee, which planned the conference. Additional info about the conference reported on above.

- **Developmental Committee**

Members: Cathy Haarstad (Chair), Chelsea Tighe, Kara Ayers, Denice Mock, Bernadette Irwin

Activities this year have included:

- Added to the range of technology supports available to TASP to support social media.
- Developed and obtained board approval of website policies
- Developed training materials for board members on using Facebook.
- Made extensive revisions to the website content and format.
- Positioned TASP to take direct donations via the webpage using BOA features.
- Provided the board with extensive information about being a membership organization.
- Created a prototype newsletter – not yet viewed by the entire board.
- Developed a board orientation documentation – ready for usage by entire board.
- Developed a Google Docs site with an easy to access link.
- Drove increased traffic to the website as evidenced by Webixi reports.
- Significantly expanded sign up to the TASP email list.
- Near successful completion of the application process to become a Medicaid Provider.

- **Advocacy Committee**

Members: Ellen Gilmartin (Chair), Lindsay Brillhart, Kara Ayers, Maggie Butler, Molly Burgdorf

The Advocacy committee was chaired by Kara Ayers until her resignation from the TASP Board in February 2019. After her resignation, the committee did not have a leader in place, and during the 2019 TASP Retreat Susan Yuan and Bernadette Irwin were named co-chairs of the committee. TASP expects the work of this committee to increase this year.

- **Executive Committee**

Update provided during the annual meeting.

- **Fiscal Committee**

Members: Cathy Haarstad (Treasurer and Chair), Ellen Gilmartin, Chelsea Tighe

The Finance Committee has had a series of phone meetings this year, and activities have included:

- Transition of bank accounts from previous treasurer to new treasurer and staff.
- Transition of signer authority on 2/3 bank accounts from previous to new treasurer.
- Established new conference bank account with board approval at BOA.
- Purchase and set up of online QuickBooks systems for accounting and reporting purposes.
- Establishments of preliminary internal control and documentation processes.
- Written contract established with Joe Brusak, CPA for a minimal fee (\$100 per month).
- Development of written finance policies submitted for board approval in November, 2019.
- Establishment of finance committee with 5 meetings held (see minutes).
- Establishment of BOA Merchant Account to process credit card payments.
- Establishment of Eventbrite account to process conference registrations and payments
- Collection of board dues from 13/15 members.
- Establishment of annual budget which was reviewed and approved by all board members.
- Downloaded BOA app allowing us to deposit checks from remote locations.
- Transition of non-profit agent in Colorado from Carrie Ann Lucas to Julie Clockston.
- Renewed non-profit status with state of Colorado.

- Maintained insurance coverage (Officers and Directors, General Liability, Worker's Comp).
- Paid taxes and completed 990 report on time.
- Continued to pay quarterly payroll taxes on time via Valley Payroll company.
- Maintained an office in Washington, DC for the purpose of becoming a Medicaid provider.
- Established a financial reporting system including directions on how to read the information for the bimonthly board meetings.
- Systematized record-keeping of essential financial information and passwords.