



Happenings

Winter 2012-13

News for and about RTC/CL
Partners, Advisors and
Stakeholders

What's here: **Publications** | **Presentations** | **Training** | **Service** | **Honors and Awards** |
Visiting Scholar | **Other Projects**

Publications

Tom Seekins is lead author of [“A systematic scoping review of measures of participation in disability and rehabilitation research: A preliminary report of findings,”](#) which appears in the Oct. 2012 issue of *Disability and Health Journal*. Co-authors are William Shunkamolah, Michael Bertsche, Colin Cowart, Jean Ann Summers, Amanda Reichard, and Glen White.

Charles E. Drum, Willi Horner-Johnson and Emily S. Walsh published [Construction and validation of the Outpatient Health Care Usability Profile \(OHCUP\)](#) in the Oct. 2012 issue of *Disability and Health Journal*.

You can download a copy of the OHCUP to use in your community on our [MICL website](#) under the Community Engagement Initiative project or on our [Disability Resources for Healthcare Providers](#) page.

Presentations

At the American Public Health Association (APHA) annual conference in October 2012, RTC/CL researchers Amanda Reichard, Tom Seekins and Meg Ann Traci were panelists in the Disability Chair's Forum titled “Disentangling Disability and Chronic Conditions.” Charles Drum chaired the Disability Section and organized the panel.

Amanda Reichard made two poster presentations at the APHA conference in October 2012: [“Multiple Chronic Conditions and Health Disparities among People with Disabilities Compared to People without Disabilities”](#) and [“Weight Loss Intervention for Adults with Physical Disabilities.”](#)

Glen White presented the results of an international research project at the June 2012 annual conference of the National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) and at the October 2012

conference of the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL). The title of his presentation was "[Measuring CIL Services that Improve Community Participation for People with Disabilities: A Comparative Study of the United States, Japan and Korea.](#)"

In Sept., White spoke about "Reducing risk to secondary health problems for Peruvians with spinal cord injuries: Enhancing knowledge of physicians, psychologists and therapists" at the Health in Latin America Symposium, which was sponsored by the University of Kansas Center of Latin American Studies.

Dot Nary and Amanda Reichard served as Disability and Health content experts for Healthy Kansans 2020, a project conducted by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to determine objectives for the state-level Healthy People effort. Reichard was also invited to discuss "Disability and Health" with the Healthy Kansans 2020 Steering Committee in September.

Dot Nary presented "In-Visitable Homes: How They Complicate Aging in Place" to the University of Kansas Gerontology Faculty Colloquium on Oct. 4, 2012. On Oct. 25, she made a public presentation on the same topic as part of the "Community Conversation" series sponsored by KU's Life Span Institute.

Andrew Houtenville spoke about Disability Statistics for a SILC-NET national teleconference and webinar series. In Part I on Aug. 21, he presented "The Availability of Statistics on People with Disabilities," followed on Aug. 23 by Part II, "Using Statistics about People with Disabilities to Inform the SPIL." The training was offered to help SILC members and staff learn how to collect meaningful data on people with disabilities in their states.

Training

Glen White made three trips to Perú in 2012 to teach medical rehabilitation professionals how to better care for patients with spinal cord injury (SCI). White has previously delivered a series of workshops to Peruvians with SCI about strategies to prevent or reduce the severity of secondary conditions. He developed this training curriculum in collaboration with health professionals from major medical rehabilitation centers in the U.S.

For one of the trainings, White was accompanied by KU Honors student Sam Ho. [Read more here.](#)

Service

Linda Gonzales is now offering her insights and tips to CILs as a blogger for the [CIL Funding and Development Blog](#). The blog is a project of the New Community Opportunities Center at ILRU. As a founding member and former Executive Director of the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL), Gonzales has recently been venturing into the world of funding through foundations, corporations and other sources.

Glen White was appointed chair of the Kansas Rehabilitation Services Council in January. The Council advises Kansas Rehabilitation Services (KRS) on development of the State's rehabilitation plan and is comprised of consumers of vocational rehabilitation services, service

providers, family members, advocates, employers and others interested in disability issues.

Martha Hodgesmith and Amanda Reichard have been appointed to KanCare Workgroups that are tasked with helping redesign the Medicaid program in Kansas. Hodgesmith is serving on the Member Involvement and Protections group and Reichard is on the Specialized Healthcare and Network Issues Workgroup.

Amanda Reichard is serving on a National Institutes of Health Expert Panel on Adults with Chronic Health Care Needs. The goal of the panel is to provide the field with a new focal point for measurement, surveillance and service. They will craft a formal, population-level definition of adults with chronic health care needs, define key subgroups of this population, develop screening questions that will identify this population and its subgroups in national surveys and clinical settings, and disseminate the screening questions for use by practitioners and policymakers alike.

Honors & Awards

Martha Hodgesmith received the 2012 Chief Justice Kay McFarland Lifetime Achievement Award from the Women Attorneys Association of Topeka, Kans.

Last year, Martha Hodgesmith served on the Kansas Blue Ribbon Commission, a 25-member, state supreme court-appointed panel that is took public comment on how to improve the Kansas court system. In August, the Kansas Bar Association awarded the Philip R. Lewis Medal of distinction to the members of the BRC. The award recognizes individuals and organizations in Kansas who have performed outstanding and conspicuous service at the state, nation or international level in the administration of justice, science, the arts, government, philosophy, law or any other field offering relief or enrichment to others.

Visiting Scholar

Kwancheol Koh is an International Visiting Scholar from Seoul, South Korea at KU this year. Koh has been involved in the rehabilitation and independent living field for more than 10 years. He established several centers for independent living in South Korea and has expertise and experience in developing, managing and overseeing peer counseling at Korean CILs. While in the U.S., he will research peer support systems.

Other Projects

Fabricio Balcazar is on the research team of Project Intersect: Addressing Health Disparities at the Intersection of Race, Ethnicity, and Disability, which is based at Oregon Health & Science University.

RTC on Community Living Staff

Research Team

The University of Kansas

Glen W. White, PhD, RTC/CL Director
Martha Hodgesmith, JD, Associate Director
Megan O'Brien, PhD, Research Director
Amanda Reichard, PhD
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David Keer, Program Specialist

Scientific and Consumer Advisory Panel (SCAP)

Scientific Representatives

Tony Cahill, PhD
Al Condeluci, PhD
Catherine Graham, MEBME
Margaret (Peg) Nosek, PhD
Phillip Rumrill, PhD

Consumer Representatives

Gwen Gillenwater
Linda Gonzales
Stan Holbrook
Bob Michaels
Jamie Simpson

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