

KPAP NEWSLETTER

Kentucky Prescription Assistance Program - Part of the Kentucky Department for Public Health

KPAP RECEIVES DIABETES CHAMPION AWARD!



(from left to right) Dr. Connie White, Jennifer Toribio Naas, Stewart Perry, Secretary Friedlander, Elizabeth Goode, Larry Smith, Shellie Wingate, Bob Babbage, Julie Babbage

By Jennifer Toribio Naas

On January 6, 2023, the Kentucky Prescription Assistance Program was honored with the Diabetes Champion Award from the Diabetes Leadership Council (DLC). The DLC Diabetes Champion Award is presented to the most effective lawmakers and program leaders based on their public commitment and legislative actions to innovate new solutions that improve health outcomes and quality of life for the 37 million individuals living with diabetes and 90 million who have pre-diabetes.

The Diabetes Leadership Council is a diabetes and healthcare reform advocacy organization that supports patient-centered policies at the local, state and federal levels. KPAP is very thankful for this recognition from DLC.

WHAT'S INSIDE?

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DISABILITY
AWARENESS**

**MEDICARE
ENROLLMENT DATES
AND INFORMATION**

**KPAP ADVOCATE
RESOURCES**

...AND MORE!

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH

By Tessa Jessie

Developmental Disability Awareness Month was first established by President Ronald Reagan in 1987 as an annual month-long observance with a universal goal to spread information about treatment for patients with disabilities and public awareness every March. In 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed the Americans with Disabilities Act that prohibited discrimination of people with disabilities that shifted goals from independence, integration and productivity toward interdependence, inclusion, and recognition of individual contributions. Tides began to shift by creating educational opportunities for professionals, paraprofessionals, family members and individuals with developmental disabilities to improve community acceptance through cultural innovation. In a National Today article, it states, “the Developmental Disabilities Act continues to grow to include affirmation of individual dignity, person-centered goals, and multicultural focus inclusive of individual and family participation.”



Over the years, it has continued to develop and encourage communities to create opportunities to serve individuals with disabilities to live productive lives. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), “developmental disabilities are defined as physical, learning, language, or behavior areas” that occur from birth to the first years of development that lasts someone’s entire life. Examples include conditions such as:

- Autism spectrum disorders
- Cerebral palsy
- Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder
- Learning or intellectual disabilities
- Hearing loss
- Vision impairment
- Other developmental delays

Throughout the month of March, different initiatives strive to bring public awareness of various conditions/treatments including or focused mainly on the ones above.

(CONT.)

Individuals with disabilities want and deserve, to enjoy life, feel productive in society, and feel secure in their surroundings. Through social media outreach over the years



NACDD
National Association of Councils
on Developmental Disabilities

by the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD), people are encouraged to share their experiences living with and without disabilities to bridge the gap and understanding to make the topic more inclusive. Through topics shared about educational learning curves, employment accommodations, community living, accessibility and promote involvement by everyone. Gaining traction in the spotlight for disabilities awareness, the NACDD focused on a campaign in 2022 that highlighted the artwork created by individuals with disabilities to showcase their creativity and celebrate the progress that has been made for the month-long observance.

Listed below are a few examples of resources and innovative programs that have focused on providing support through all stages of life:

- **Residential treatment settings** for those who may need a higher level of care with around-the-clock services at a facility to help meet an individual's treatment requirement, social, and educational goals. This greatly improves their quality of life in an environment where they feel comfortable around others with similar disabilities and cared for by professionals in the field.
- **Community-based living** that focuses on them living more independently in a group home or supported apartments.
- **Specialized services** that provide treatment within the least restrictive environment that may include respite, clinical and educational assessments, family counseling, medication management, and family member consultations for treatment planning.
- **Employment and transition care services** that provide prevocational training, community-supported employment, and programs to help the shift into work life.

Another opportunity is through the Kentucky Prescription Assistance Program (KPAP) which focuses on connecting community advocates trained in the Drug Assistant software to locate and help provide access to over 5000 medications in collaboration with over 300 pharmaceutical companies for a free or reduced price on prescription medications for ALL KENTUCKIANS! Aside from the prescription aspect of our program, we also assist patients by directing them to other resources that may be beneficial to them. In March for Disability Awareness Month, we have gathered some available resources on the following page that may be of interest to help.

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DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY RESOURCES

Autism Society of America

Louisville: (502) 263-5708

[website](#)

Lexington: (859) 333-6215

[website](#)

The Developmental Disabilities Group serves children and adults with autism, intellectual disabilities and behavioral health challenges and their families, providing evidence-based treatment, education, support and resources.

Center for Accessible Living

Louisville: 844-689-6620

Covington: 859-940-3843

Murray: 270-753-7676

[website](#)

The Center for Accessible living provides the five core independent living services: information and referral, independent living skills, peer support, advocacy and transition support.

Christian Appalachian Project

KY: 866-270-4227

[website](#)

Seniors and people living with disabilities in Appalachia often require repair assistance to make their homes safe and accessible. CAP's home repair teams and volunteers provide crucial labor for those in need.

Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

KY: 800-372-71727

[website](#)

The Kentucky Office of Vocational Rehabilitation assists Kentuckians with disabilities to achieve rehabilitation. Counselors in over 50 offices covering all 120 counties in Kentucky help individuals find suitable employment and foster independence.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY RESOURCES (CONT.)

Kentucky Assistive Technology Loan Corporation

KY: 877-675-1095
[website](#)

Kentucky residents of six months or more, who have a disability that permanently affects a major life activity or is a parent/guardian of an individual with a disability with means for loan repayment are eligible to receive a loan to purchase assistive technology for the individual with a disability.

Path Forward of Kentucky

[website](#)

Ticket to Work Program is a free program available to people ages 18 through 64 who are blind or have a disability and who receive Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. Path Forward of Kentucky, Inc. is an Employment Network that is contracted by Social Security to provide support, services, and encouragement for those interested in starting or returning to the workforce.

If you need additional assistance with locating medical resources, please contact our KPAP Helpdesk Hotline at 1-800-633-8100.

Free Educational Materials:

[Free Materials on Developmental Disabilities | CDC](#)

- Attention-deficit / hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Autism spectrum disorder (ASD)
- Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASDs)
- Hearing Loss
- “Learn the signs. Act early” campaign
- Tourette syndrome

Resources/ Citations (MLA Style)

“Developmental Disabilities.” Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 29 Apr. 2022, Facts About Developmental Disabilities | CDC.

“Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.” NACDD, <https://nacdd.org/ddam1/>.

“National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.” National Today, <https://nationaltoday.com/national-developmental-disabilities-awareness-month-2/>.

MEET HEART USA'S NEW CEO

By Troy Chisholm

We would like to introduce Gractia Wilburn as the new CEO of Heart USA! Heart USA is located in Paducah, Kentucky but serves the entire state. Prior to joining Heart USA, Gractia managed and owned her own business for several years. She started volunteering at Heart USA and developed a passion for the work they do and the help they give fellow Kentuckians.

Heart USA has continued to grow each year and their mission is to stay focused on their goal to help as many people as possible. She stated that another one

of Heart USA's goals is to move their organization into this century and manage clients' files in a paperless environment. Heart USA is able to help any Kentuckian with prescription assistance exclusively by phone and no in-office meetings are necessary. Gractia is a Certified Community Healthcare Worker and she loves meeting many wonderful people and being able to see the delight on their faces when she is able to help them through Heart USA. Gractia and her husband David have eight adult children, fifteen grandchildren and four great-grandchildren with another on the way! Family is very important to them and they love spending time together.



Gractia Wilburn (the new CEO at Heart USA).



MEDICARE REMINDER

By Carol Baldwin

Open enrollment for Medicare Advantage Plans ends March 31st. During this time, you can change Medicare Advantage Plans, change back to your original Medicare plan and/or enroll in a stand-alone drug plan. Please click [HERE](#) for more information about Medicare Advantage.

Download a free PDF 'Medicare and You' Handbook [HERE](#) - a helpful tool to navigate all things Medicare including:

- benefits
- costs
- rights and protections
- health and drug plans
- FAQs

If you need further assistance, please feel free to contact Carol.Baldwin@ky.gov.



KPAP ADVOCATE REMINDERS

By Bryant Hileman

There are two important things that advocates re-check each time they submit an order in Drug Assistant: refill reminders and the quantity of the medication.

Please be sure to check your "Refill Reminders" weekly and stay up to date. Simply hover your cursor over the "Orders" tab and select "Refill Reminders" to confirm the needed refills. Your organization can not be credited for the good work you do, following up with patients to make sure they receive their refills, if it's not reported on the Drug Assistant software.

Also, ensure that when you create a new order for a patient, you're entering the correct quantity. If you leave the quantity field at zero, then you can't receive credit for the value of the prescription.

Remember, most programs are a 90-day prescription with three refills. If the patient takes one per day and the prescription is for 90 days, put 90 in your quantity field.

It can be tricky to figure out how to calculate the quantity of insulin prescriptions. Heart USA created an Insulin Calculator that any advocate can use. Please email Jennifer.ToribioNaas@ky.gov if you'd like a copy of the Insulin Calculator.

KPAP CHEAT SHEET

By Bryant Hileman

Do you have a patient that has Medicare but, you're not sure what the qualifications are for them to receive assistance?

No problem!

Use the KPAP Cheat Sheet to help you find the special qualifications for patients with Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plans. The Cheat Sheet is color coded with all of the information you need to make sure you are compliant with each specific drug company. Click [HERE](#) to access the KPAP Cheat Sheet.



UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Asthma Symposium

Date: 5/12/23

Location: Pikeville, KY

Register [HERE](#)

Kentuckiana Health Collaborative Annual Conference

Dates: 3/28/23 – 3/29/23

Location: Louisville, KY

Register [HERE](#)

Kentucky Public Health Association Conference

Dates: April 19-21, 2023

Location: Bowling Green, KY

Register [HERE](#)

KPAP "OFFICE HOUR" SCHEDULE & LINKS

You do not need to register in advance for Office Hours. These are informal meetings where you can join at any time. Office Hours offer an opportunity for advocates to socialize and network! Please feel free to ask any questions about KPAP, the Drug Assistant software or a KPAP case that you have during our Office Hours. We are here to help!

3/8/23 - KPAP Office Hour

Time: 10am-11am Eastern Time

Host: Community Consultant Bryant Hileman

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87060736343>

3/22/23 - KPAP Office Hour

Time: 10am-11am Eastern Time

Host: Community Consultant Tessa Jessie

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85770868896>

4/5/23 - KPAP Office Hour

Time: 10am-11am Eastern Time

Host: Community Consultant Tessa Jessie

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88355521548>

4/12/23 - KPAP Office Hour

Time: 10am-11am Eastern Time

Host: Community Consultant Bryant Hileman

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84370289693>

5/3/23 - KPAP Office Hour

Time: 10am-11am Eastern Time

Host: Community Consultant Carol Baldwin

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86202812924>

5/10/23 - KPAP Office Hour

Time: 10am-11am Eastern Time

Host: Community Consultant Bryant Hileman

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86831344993>

HOW DO I SIGN UP FOR A DRUG ASSISTANT TRAINING?

The 2-hour Drug Assistant training is held once a month. The training is an excellent introduction to the Drug Assistant software. In the training, Account Manager Ileana Batista of Drug Assistant provides a basic overview of the software and how to use it. She is also available to answer any questions. All new KPAP advocates must attend the training at least once within 90 days of sign-up. Please follow these steps to register for the training:

Step 1: You will need to sign in to your TRAIN account. If you do not already have a TRAIN account, you can create a free account at www.train.org/ky

Step 2: Once you are logged in to the TRAIN site (www.train.org/ky), click on the “Course Catalog” tab up at the top.

Step 3: In the Search Box, type in the Course Title “Drug Assistant GoTo Training 1071427 Webinar” and then click on the “search” icon.

Step 4: Click on the first search result that shows up, which is the “Drug Assistant GoTo Training 1071427 Webinar”.

Step 5: You will be able to see all of the session dates available. Register for the session you wish to sign up for.

Additional Information:

This training is **ONLY** for KPAP advocates. Unauthorized individuals who sign up for the training will not be allowed to participate. Registration for training closes two days before each scheduled class.

You will receive a link via email the evening prior to the training. If you have not received your login information by the morning of the training, please contact Ileana Batista at Drug Assistant by calling **713-299-6736**.



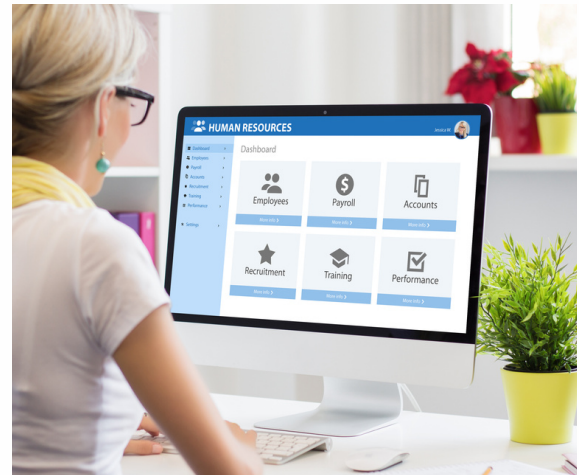
TOP 5 THINGS PATIENTS NEED TO GET STARTED WITH KPAP

By Bryant Hileman

Are you new to being a KPAP advocate? These five items from your patients will help you process them quickly in the Drug Assistant software for KPAP.

1. Each patient needs their total gross monthly household income;
2. A complete prescription medication list that includes the frequency and dosage;
3. Name of prescriber for each medication;
4. All health insurance information; and
5. All pharmacy information.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Community Consultant Bryant Hileman at BryantHileman@comcast.net.



FREE CEU FOR CERTIFIED COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS

By Jennifer Toribio Naas

KPAP has been approved by the Kentucky Office of Community Health Workers to provide one CEU to all Certified Community Health Workers for the "KPAP Training". This CEU is free to all CCHWs.

To receive your free CEU you must attend a minimum of 75% of the 2-hour "KPAP Training". Attendance and participation are monitored during the training. After the training, email Jennifer.ToribioNaas@ky.gov and request a training evaluation. Once the evaluation has been completed, you will receive a CEU certificate.

MANDATORY TRAININGS FOR ALL KPAP ADVOCATES

By Jennifer Toribio Naas

All new KPAP advocates are required to complete the “Drug Assistant” training and the “KPAP Training” within 90 days of sign-up. These trainings are **mandatory** and you only have to attend each one once.

The “Drug Assistant” training is held the third Wednesday of every month. It is **mandatory** that all new advocates participate in this training and it is an excellent introduction to the Drug Assistant software. In this training, Account Manager Ileana Batista of Drug Assistant will give a basic overview of the software and explain how to use it. She will also be available to answer any questions that you may have.

The “KPAP Training” can be completed either virtually or in-person. Your assigned Community Consultant can offer an in-person or virtual “KPAP Training. We also have a monthly virtual “KPAP Training” on the last Wednesday of every month. The Community Consultant will walk you through the KPAP process from beginning to end! This includes teaching you how to enter patients in to the system, how to find prescription assistance programs for them, how to order the medications, what paperwork you may need, etc. Please note that you will need to register in advance for the training by clicking on the links provided. At this time, we are also able to offer a free CEU credit to all Certified Community Health Workers that complete the KPAP Training.

Once an advocate completes **both mandatory trainings**, we will send out a Certificate of Completion for finishing all four hours of required KPAP trainings. We will also send you a small gift to show our appreciation!





KPAP STAFF CONTACT INFO

Call our hotline with any questions you may have at **1-800-633-8100**. You can also email us at:

Troy.Chisholm@ky.gov

Jennifer.ToribioNaas@ky.gov

Our Community Consultants are also available if you need them. If you are not sure which Community Consultant is assigned to your county, contact the hotline and we will provide you with the contact.

Carol.Baldwin@ky.gov

BryantHileman@comcast.net

Tessa.Jessie@ky.gov



Kentucky Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

