



2011 Alliance for Full Participation Summit



Thirteen Enthusiastic Utahns Participate!

The 2011 Alliance for Full Participation had an enthusiastic Utah team sponsored by the Council to attend the Summit held in National Harbor, MD this November. We had the honor of having Rep. Ronda Menlove from Brigham City participate as a presenter to describe the success of her Employment First bill passed earlier this year during the 2011 Legislative Session. The bill changes the emphasis so that people with disabilities are offered the services and choice of “employment first” in an effort to support people to find work in their communities. Utah’s self-advocate team members included: Frank Brown from Roy, Kelly Holt from Price, Elise Hansen from Clinton, and James O’Neill from Park City. Professionals on the Team include: Chair of the Council’s Education and Employment Committee, Jennifer Kuhn from Lehi, Tricia Jones-Parkin, Employment Specialist with the Division of Services for People with Disabilities, Mandy Shale and Brooke Wilson from Family Advocacy. Rise, Inc. had three staff members attending – Sid Pauga, Rick Buxton, and Sunny Todhunter.

A video highlighting Elise Hansen’s employment as a Walmart greeter in Clinton was shown during the first main plenary session at the conference. Team members have returned and will be working with the Council to help realize the goal of increasing expectations for people with developmental disabilities – everyone can and should expect to contribute to their communities as adults! Teams of people from every state in the United States focused upon how to make work a priority in the developmental disability community. Our team will be working with state agencies, families, and individuals to develop a plan of action to double the number of people working within the next 5 years!

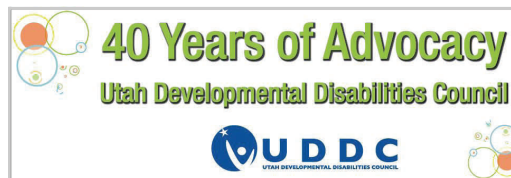
Just as the Council focused on accomplishing the goal of changing the language used to talk about people with intellectual disabilities, the entire country is now focusing on the goal of getting people jobs! Employment matters because everybody in America is expected to support themselves. Employment matters because it is the way to increase self-esteem, earn money to have a chance not to live in poverty, and it gives meaning to our lives. Employment matters just as the entire United States if focusing upon the need for jobs for everyone, and we are going to put energy into making these efforts part of the developmental disability community as well.



Utah Developmental Disabilities Council

40th Anniversary Celebration

The Utah DD Council celebrated its 40th Year Anniversary with a celebration luncheon and ceremony at Thanksgiving Point on September 20, 2011. Lt. Governor Gregory Bell was the keynote speaker and made some great observations from his own life experiences with people with disabilities. Council Chairperson, Sherri Dial and Conference Committee Chair Nevah Stevenson presented the 2011 Advocacy Awards. Over 150 current and former Council members attended as well as distinguished guests from the Department of Human Services and the community. The ceremony concluded with the initial screening of a commemorative video produced by Carl Wayman, Nevah Stevenson, and Claire Mantonya. To view pictures, the video, and a slideshow highlighting the major accomplishments of the Council through the years, go to the Council web page at www.utahddcouncil.org.



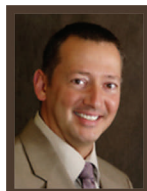
2011 Utah DD Council Advocates of the Year



JAMES O'NEILL:
Self Advocate of the Year



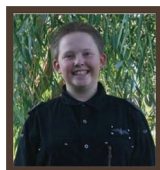
RITA BOUILLON:
Educator of the Year



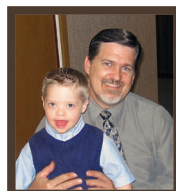
REP. PAUL RAY:
Legislator of the Year



PATRICK DIAL:
Adult Sibling of the Year



BRENDON HANSEN:
Child Sibling of the Year



JAMES MCFADDEN:
Parent of the Year
(and son Jonathan!)



MARK KOELBEL:
Media Representative of the Year

Please go to www.utahddcouncil.org for much more information on each award winner.

People First of Utah

People First held their annual northern People First Conference at Weber State University in Ogden on October 27, 2011. Council Member Tom Brownlee delivered the keynote address focused on

self-advocacy. Former Council Chairperson, Kelly Holt, delivered a break-out session. Council members Eric Stoker and James O'Neill also were active at the conference.



Family Advocacy and Training, the contracting agency managing People First is working to increase active People First Chapters and to recruit new advisors for many groups around the state. Check out their website: <http://utahgap.org/peoplefirst/> for additional information about People First.



Grassroots Advocacy Partnership

The GAP is supported through the Council's contract with Family Advocacy and Training. You can keep up with GAP activities through its website: <http://utahgap.org> and also on Facebook. Using social media to connect and

disperse information quickly is important, especially as we draw close to the 2012 Legislative Session that officially begins on January 2nd and ends on March 8th. If you or someone you know is not already a member of the GAP, you can go to the website and find the local contacts in your area. The goal is to connect people locally so that people can receive information and training to help them understand how to participate in the public policy discussion around disability issues. Disability issues cross many paths – education, employment, housing, transportation, Medicaid, Medicare, health care, long term care, assistive technology, recreation, child care, etc. Uniting the disability community and including our allies is very important as we need public officials to understand the impact of disability on our lives and our families. We must continually educate policy makers so that they can make informed decisions, especially when it comes to deciding upon funding issues during the Legislative Session.

Our education of Legislators ideally will be year round, and before the legislative session. Get together with a team and plan to meet with your local own representative and senator prior to the 2012 Legislative Session. A team makes it easier to do because team members can draw on the group's courage and help provide different voices to educate the policy maker. Legislators need to hear how disability impacts their constituents' lives – and you need to take on the challenge yourself to make this happen!

You can go to the Council's website to find out who your Legislators are and how to contact them. It is very easy to do. www.utahddcouncil.org All you need to do is to enter your own address and this information will pop up for you. Then you need to ask the most assertive member of your group to call and/or email to get an appointment.

Your local GAP organizer can help you as well. Please make this a priority this fall!

Kelly Holt Recognized with National CEO Award

Former Council Member and Chair, Kelly Holt was presented with the 2011 Champions of Equality (CEO) award at the National DD Council meeting in Washington, D.C. on November 17, 2011. The National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) recognizes a self-advocate who personifies the ideals of self-determination, inclusion, and integration through legislative advocacy, public awareness/engagement, and organizational leadership. Kelly has earned her reputation as a statewide leader, and now she is being recognized nationally for her contributions.

Kelly Holt was born with an intellectual disability resulting from complications at birth. Her mother and her family encouraged her to do her best, and she sure picked up the family sense of humor and love of pranks! Kelly grew up in California, worked a little in catering prior to her family's relocation to Price in eastern Utah. When she was a caterer, Kelly got to meet Bob Hope, the senior President Bush, and many other celebrities!

When Kelly moved to Utah over ten years ago, she became active in the self-advocacy movement and went onto the Waiting List for services.

Even though Kelly has ended her 6 years on the Council, she stays involved and has gone onto serving in other leadership capacities: Board Member of the Disability Law Center and the Utah State Center for Persons with Disabilities Consumer Advisory Committee.

Her initial passion developed with the Council's campaign for "Language Matters". Kelly took the campaign and personally made sure that the elementary students in Price and the teachers in all the schools were aware of the importance and impact of people first language! Kelly recorded radio spots, newspaper articles, and held her own one-woman local campaign that she mentored other self-advocates to learn how to duplicate.

Kelly has an enthusiasm for life, a great sense of humor, and she "walks the walk". Her modest leadership example has opened doors for changing general community member's attitudes about people with ID/DD. Kelly's involvement has pioneered the way, through example, that has shown the greater community that including people from the DD community is a very positive and worthwhile enrichment for all involved.

Kelly is currently self-employed as a Mary Kay Consultant and she is a caregiver herself, helping to support her father.



Kelly at CEO Awards Luncheon

UTAH DD COUNCIL CALENDAR FOR 2011-12

(Please check the UDDC website frequently for updated information www.utahddcouncil.org)

DECEMBER

14 [Access Utah Now](#): Steve Wrigley of the Division of Services for People with Disabilities

JANUARY

10 Executive Committee Meeting: 11:00 - 1:00 pm

12 [Access Utah Now](#): Michael Stott, Salt Lake City ADA Community Liaison

23 2012 Legislative Session Begins

26 [Access Utah Now](#): Rod Romboy, Salt Lake Community College Director of Disability Services

FEBRUARY

2 Full Council Meeting at the Capitol Building: 11:30 - 3:30 pm, Multipurpose Room in the Capitol Building

2 Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities Reception: Capitol Rotunda: 4 - 5:45 pm

9 [Access Utah Now](#): TBA

23 [Access Utah Now](#): Stephanie Hullinger, G.I.F.T.S. Program, Lincoln Elementary

MARCH

8 2012 Legislative Session Ends

8 [Access Utah Now](#): TBA

13 Executive Committee Meeting: 11:00 - 1:00 pm

22 [Access Utah Now](#): TBA



Call us with your disability questions!

800.333.8824 <http://accessut.org>

Go to <http://www.ustream.tv/accesut7>
for live and archived Access Utah Now broadcasts!



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