

# Service

**Summary of Accomplishments 2017**

* KC3T (Kentucky Care Coordination for Community Transitions) served over 70 stroke patients on its caseload.
* From 2012 - 2017, Project CARAT (Coordinating and Assisting the Reuse of Assistive Technology) has served 1,475 Kentuckians with disabilities by providing 3,572 DME/AT valued at $759,069. The PT students in Hazard continue to run this site as a service-learning project.
* “Ramp Up Kentucky!” (funded by the Christopher and Dana Reeves Foundation) will be using CARAT sites to distribute portable ramps and ramp building kits. This grant was obtained by the KATS (Kentucky Assistive Technology Services) network.

# Education/Outreach

* KC3T Stroke Support Group in Hazard provides patient/family education. It celebrated its second anniversary. It maintains about 25-30 members and continues to grow on a monthly basis. The Stroke Support Group was nationally registered and recognized through the National Stroke Association, and nominated for Outstanding Support Group through the National Stroke Association RAISE Awards.
* KC3T and PCORI have a closed Facebook group for the members.
* The annual KARRN Conference resumed at Eastern Kentucky University with an attendance of 197. Sessions covered: engaging patients in healthcare; augmented communication with technology; seating and mobility equipment; panel discussion of self-advocacy; and communication during transitions. Thirteen KARRN partners and exhibitors had resources tables. CEUs were provided. Presentations were recorded and are now available on [www.karrn.org](http://www.karrn.org/)
* KARRN changed the platform of our monthly meetings to Zoom, allowing members to access our meetings from tablets, computers and phones, and from home or work.
* Our PCORI (Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute) work groups and half-day events were conducted to educate participants about the research process. Research priorities were identified by the attendees.

# Advocacy

* KARRN helped to support the 5th annual Kentucky Congress on Spinal Cord Injury (KCSCI) meeting as they continue to grow.
* The research team of PCORI participants identified a need for local resource sharing and are developing a patient-caregiver log for documentation of needs and progress as patients transition home. The grant ends at the end of 2017, but projects will continue.

# Partner Activities

* UK Human Development Institute (HDI) is opening a Center for Assistive Technologies which will operate the CARAT program in Lexington. The Center will be opening soon, and has emerged following Bluegrass Technology Center (BTC) going out of business.
* AgrAbility’s focus has included veterans, new farmers and gardening.
* KCSCI became part of a new North American group of similar organizations.
* KCSCI developed a partnership within Independence Place’s 401(c)3 structure.
* KARRN promoted events and activities of HDI (e.g., health and wellness programs, webinars), Cardinal Hill Easter Seals (adaptive recreation activities), Brain Injury Alliance of Kentucky, and other members.

# New Collaborations

* Epilepsy Foundation of Kentuckiana
* KVEC (Kentucky Valley Educational Cooperative)
* Hazard Community and Technical College
* KAART (Kentucky Appalachian Assistive and Rehabilitation Technology) Center is in development. It will be located in Hazard and have research, service and educational components. Hazard’s mayor and Perry County’s judge executive are involved in this effort.

# Grants/Funding

* Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) grant: *Healthcare decision making of adults living in rural communities with acquired neurologic conditions.* Funding period 1/1/16 – 12/31/17. Amount of award: $248,278.
* Appalachian Regional Healthcare, the University of Kentucky Center of Excellence in Rural Health – Hazard, and College of Health Sciences: *Kentucky Care Coordination for Community Transitions Program (KC3T).*
* Paralyzed Veterans of America Education Foundation Grant: *7th Annual KARRN Conference: Engagement, Communication and Access.* Funding period 6/1/17-5/31/18. Amount of award: $12,255.
* Conference sponsorships and support were received from University of Kentucky College of Health Sciences, Eastern Kentucky University, Kentucky AgrAbility, Spinal Cord & Brain Injury Research Center (SCoBIRC), and Advanced Medical Group.

**Peer-Reviewed Publications** (Students’ names are underlined)

Danzl M, Hunter E, Harrison A. (2017). Interprofessional qualitative research teams: The experience of stroke for rural individuals. *SAGE Research Methods Cases.* 10.4135/9781526406569

Sheppard-Jones K, Hunter E, Bower W. Capacity Building in Rural Communities Through Community- Based Collaborative Partnerships. In: Harley DA, Ysasi NA, Bishop ML, Fleming AR, eds. *Disability and vocational rehabilitation in rural settings: Challenges to service delivery.* Cham, Switzerland: Springer International Publishing; 2018.

<https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-319-64786-9_36>

Harrison AL, Hunter EG, Thomas H, Bordy P, Stokes E, Kitzman P (2017). Living with traumatic brain injury in a rural setting: Supports and barriers across the continuum of care. *Disability and Rehabilitation* 39(20), 2071-2080. <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09638288.2016.1217081>

Hunter EG, Kitzman PH, Wallace C, Sutton K, Brock J (under review). Rural health and quality of life priorities model for people with neurologic disabilities. Disability and Rehabilitation.

Justin Fraser F, Kitzman P, Wolfe M, Elkins K, Grupke SL, and Dobbs MR. The Kentucky Appalachian Stroke Registry (KApSR). J. Stroke and Cerebrovascular Diseases (2017; accepted)

Kheibari A, Victor G, Gutti SS, Gutti S, Rao S, Kitzman P, and Dignan M. Smoking and Stroke in Appalachian Kentucky. *J. Heart and Stroke (2017 accepted*)

**Poster Presentations** (Students’ names are underlined)

[Harrison](https://www.uky.edu/chs/alharr01) A, Hunter E, Thomas H, Bordy P, Stokes E, Kitzman, P. Living with traumatic brain injury in a rural setting: supports and barriers across the continuum of care. Appalachian Research Day. Hazard, KY (2017)

Kitzman P, Hunter E, Sutton K, Brock J, Hudson K, Sylvia V, Wallace C. The road back home: Perceived health and healthcare needs of people with neurological conditions transitioning back to rural communities. Poster presented at: 19th Annual Conference of the Kentucky Rural Health Association. 2017 Nov 16-17; Bowling Green KY.

# Other Presentations

* Keisha was requested to speak at the Stroke Care Network Conference and presented on KC3T and needs of patients post discharge.
* Beth Hunter spoke at NeuroRestorative meeting on May 31 about the preliminary findings from PCORI project.
* KY AgrAbility hosted an afternoon session, demonstrating modified farm equipment and discussing safe farming after an illness or accident at the Third Thursday Event’s 20th Anniversary Celebration at Kentucky State University’s Research and Demonstration Farm.
* Pat Kitzman gave a webinar entitled “Stroke Navigation to Prevent Readmission” to the Ohio Paul Coverdell (stroke) Program on June 12, 2017.
* Pat participated on behalf of KARRN at the Project C.A.S.E.: Asset Development Summit in Hazard, KY on May 11, 2017.
* Pat presented “Stroke Readmission Prevention Model: A Case Report” at American Heart Association’s Advance in Stroke Care: Acute to the Beyond conference in Lexington, KY on April 13, 2017.
* Pat and Beth presented *“*The Road Back Home: Communication during Transitions to Improve Outcomes” at the 7th Annual Kentucky Appalachian rural Rehabilitation Network conference.

# Other Publications

* Hazard Radio/*Hazard Herald* newspaper recruitment for PCORI
* Hazard news station WYMT featured a story on KC3T and stroke support group
* *UK Now’*s Mallory Powell published “Community transition program for stroke survivors improves health, saves money” on October 26, 2017. [https://uknow.uky.edu/research/community-transition-](https://uknow.uky.edu/research/community-transition-program-stroke-survivors-improves-health-saves-money?utm_medium=social)  [program-stroke-survivors-improves-health-saves-money?utm\_medium=social](https://uknow.uky.edu/research/community-transition-program-stroke-survivors-improves-health-saves-money?utm_medium=social) This UKNow article was posted on the NIH National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences website, November 6, 2017.