

Center on Knowledge Translation for Employment Research (KTER Center) Kickoff

November 19, 2025

AIR Inclusive Meeting Guidelines



ENGAGE EVERYONE



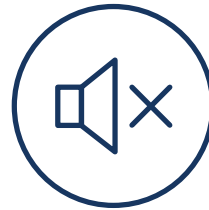
BE HEARD AND SEEN



ACKNOWLEDGE SPEAKER



MAXIMIZE MICROPHONES



MINIMIZE NOISE



MAXIMIZE VISUAL DISPLAYS

These guidelines are intended to improve the meeting experience for virtual participants, as well as people with hearing loss, visual impairment, and those for whom English is an additional language. Developed by the Access AIR and AIR CREW Employee Resource Groups.

Welcome & Agenda

- KTER Team Introductions
- Goals & Activities of the Center
- Website Overview
- A Conversation with Jonathan Martinis from the Disability Employment Policy RRTC, Burton Blatt Institute at Syracuse University
- Technical Assistance Requests
- Wrap-Up/Next Steps (recording stopped)
- Open Q&A

KTER Team Introductions



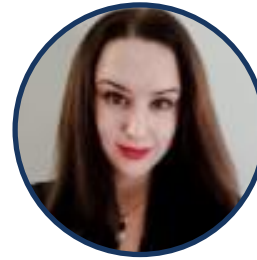
Kathleen Murphy
PI, Research and Utilization



Cindy Cai
Quality Assurance



Jeremy Rasmussen
Development



Amanda Seagroves
Dissemination



Lori Collins
Training/TA



Tracy Bauman
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Evaluation



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Research Assistant

KTER Center Goals

- Increased understanding of effective knowledge translation, quality, and relevance of NIDILRR-funded employment research
- Increased awareness and use of disability employment research findings
- Increased knowledge translation (KT) capacity of NIDILRR employment grantees

Partner Collaboration to Promote Use and Engagement



U1: National Advisory Board Members

- John Connelly, Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR)
- Kathy West-Evans, CSAVR
- Katy Schmid, The Arc
- Michael Brogioli, TASH
- Amy Rumrill, PAR Workforce Enterprises, LLC
- *Activities:*
 - *Review all research protocols, approving review topics, reviewing review drafts, advising on product form and reviewing product drafts*
 - *Participate in delivering selected technical assistance (TA) and training*
- Joan Labelle, Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL)
- Stacie L. Dojonovic, Council for Exceptional Children, Division on Career Development and Transition
- Claire Stanley, American Council for the Blind
- Daniel Van Sant, Harkin Institute for Public Policy & Citizen Engagement, Drake University

Task Lead: Kathleen Murphy, PhD

U2: Business Advisory Council Members

- John Connelly, CSAVR
 - Kathy West-Evans, CSAVR
 - Sriram Narayanan, Eli Broad Business School, Michigan State
 - Other business representatives to be added via the NET's connections
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- *Meets twice a year*
 - *Review and advise on all project research protocols, products, and the dissemination plan, from a business lens*
 - *Participate in delivering selected training and TA events*

Task Lead: Kathleen Murphy, PhD

U3: Employment Grantee CoP

- Participation restricted to grantees whose work focuses on employment for people with disabilities
- *Activities:*
 - *Meets twice a year*
 - *Discuss how grantees might raise awareness and promote use of their findings by businesses and other employment-oriented audiences, applying the latest evidence and lessons learned about KT from the KTER Center's scoping reviews*
 - *Engage in peer-to-peer learning to identify and share information about the use of disability employment research and, in particular, how these methods can most beneficially be used with specific audiences, such as business, policymakers, and people with specific disability conditions*

Task Lead: Kathleen Murphy, PhD

Research Activities



R1. Key Information Interviews

- **Sample:** Across the interview panel, we will include at least 10 people per each of these categories:
 - people with disabilities,
 - family members or direct support professionals,
 - business and industry representatives,
 - vocational rehabilitation staff, and
 - employment service providers.
- **Purpose:** To identify the current disability employment–related informational needs of key stakeholder groups:
 - disability employment–related informational needs,
 - desired products to address disability employment questions and/or needs,
 - preferred dissemination mediums, and
 - issues that make it a hassle to access and use research-based information (to pave the way for applying concepts we draw from social marketing and behavioral insights literature).

Task Lead: Kathleen Murphy, PhD

R2. Two Systematic Reviews

- **Purpose:** To *“identify and implement effective strategies for targeted dissemination to promote the use of disability employment research findings and information products developed.”*
- **Draft research questions:**
 - What KT methods and practices have been used to promote the use, adoption, or implementation of disability employment research by members of [population to be determined in consultation with National Advisory Board]?
 - What resources exist to support researchers’ use of these methods and practices?
- These questions will be adapted for the other review that will focus on another audience and possibly a specific practice, such as use of short videos.

Task Lead: Kathleen Murphy, PhD

R3. Two Rapid Reviews of Disability Employment Research

- **Purpose:** To “develop *informational products based on best available research findings from both NIDILRR-funded employment research and those funded by other entities*” (HHS ACL, 2025, p. 4). Their findings will identify research on topics the R1 interviews indicate are high priority. Findings will inform the InfoBriefs and spin-off products that the KTER Center will develop further with grantees who have done research in that topical area. Analysis of items identified can address quality and relevance of NIDILRR-funded research, as can use of KTDRR’s citation analysis findings.
- **Research questions:** Topics for the R3 reviews will be selected based on R1 interview findings.

Task Lead: Kathleen Murphy, PhD

Development Activities



Dev1. Website (KTER.org)

- **Purpose: To provide a centralized repository.** The website acts as a central hub for accessing research findings, training materials, events, and resources for various stakeholders. If desired the site can provide a password-protected section for working groups to share discussions and resources.
- **Continuous maintenance:** Ongoing content maintenance is easily done by communications staff to ensure up-to-date content, and technical maintenance by web staff ensures smooth functionality throughout the project.
- **Usability and accessibility:** The website prioritizes usability and accessibility to serve a wide variety of users, including those with disabilities.

Task Lead: Brian Litke, MSCIS

Dev2: Infobriefs

Dev3: Products that Repackage Content

- **Timing for both Dev. 2 and Dev. 3:** Quarterly, as topics emerge from interviews and consult with partners, and articles that align with them identified in review activity and consult with the National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC) and drawing on a 2024 survey of consumers that the Center on Knowledge Translation for Disability and Rehabilitation Research (Center on KTDRR) conducted.
- **Purpose:** The briefs will summarize subsets of articles the reviews identify or that otherwise address the topic and are co-authored with grantee authors. Their information provides content for the Dev3 products that are responsive to expressed audience preferences, based on findings from KTDRR's consumer survey at first, and as they are available, findings from R1 interviews and the R2 systematic scoping reviews on KT practices.

Note: The website and products go through user testing in all years.

Task Lead: Jeremy Rasmussen, MA

Dissemination Activities



Diss 1: Develop Annual KTER Center Dissemination Plan for Materials Promotion

- **Purpose of dissemination plan:** To meet each audience's unique needs and interests with appropriate levels of intensity and duration

- **Comprehensive communication strategy:** Outreach strategies will be tailored to reach segmented audiences, matching materials intended for specific users with the dissemination methods they prefer.

Task Lead: Amanda Seagroves, MPH

Diss 2: Two e-Newsletters

- *KTER Today* (general) and a business-oriented newsletter co-branded with CSAVR's NET
- **Timing:** Each newsletter sent out 4x/year
- **Purpose:**
 - *General:* Publicize KTER Center events and resources, and grantee outputs
 - *Business-oriented:* Build awareness among subscribers of business-oriented events, partnership opportunities, and resources

Task Lead: Amanda Seagroves, MPH

Diss 3: Organize Business Engagement Toolkit by Audience Segment

- **Timing for Toolkit:** Year Two
- **Purpose:** To provide ongoing, no-cost public access to business engagement resources, organized into three audience segments who seek to use research to promote disability employment outcomes: researchers; VR professionals; and people with disabilities, together with their family members, caregivers, and direct support professionals

Task Lead: Amanda Seagroves, MPH

Diss 4: Social Media Outreach & Diss 5: Targeted Partner Outreach

- **Timing:** All project quarters
- **Purpose:** To drive viewers to the toolkit landing page or other promoted resources and events
- **Platforms:**
 - LinkedIn – new account
 - YouTube – existing KTDRR/KTER channel
 - Instagram – new account (*coming soon*)
- **Description:** Monthly calendars of posts, including (for Diss5) versions for project partners to post, to ease their subsequent sharing, tailoring messaging to drive viewers to the toolkit landing page or other promoted resources and events

Task Lead: Amanda Seagroves, MPH

Diss 6: Attend Conferences

- **Timing:** Three times each project year
- **Purpose:** To raise awareness of KTER Center and products and build relationships with grantees and other stakeholders
- **Examples:**
 - CSAVR's NET Summit and annual conferences
 - NARRTC

Task Lead: Amanda Seagroves, MPH

Training and TA Activities



T1-4: Training

T1. Training/TA Material Development

responsive to data about grantee needs; using resources identified in systematic scoping review and in-consult with partners

T2. Quarterly webcasts

T3. Annual workshop

T4. Online module (Yr. 2)

TA1: Knowledge Translation Plan Development for Grantees

- Service offered to all employment grantees
- Draws on existing resource developed in partnership with Dr. Melanie Barwick during 2015-2020 award cycle
- Priority outreach to grantees that report they do not have a KT plan on grantee survey
- Annual updates
- Consults allow for collecting information about grantees' plans for and successes in use and adoption
- Aggregation of information from plans allows for identifying similarities to foster discussion U3. Grantee CoP

Task Lead: Lori Collins, MRC

TA2: Follow-up to KTDRR Training/TA & TA3: Grantee Consults

- TA2: KTDRR shares list of employment grantees that participate in its training/TA and then KTER staff reach out to individual/small groups to follow-up with support in implementing skills/knowledge gained from webinar, workshop or conference.
- TA3: Grantee consults also available on request for any KT-related need and grantees can request TA via the website, email KTER@air.org, and during grantee CoP meetings. The newsletter and the KTDRR grantee survey will also publicize TA opportunities.

Task Lead: Lori Collins, MRC

Process and Outcome Evaluation



E1-7: Data to Document Project Implementation and Impact

Activity	Implementation	Impact
E1. Survey data: Event evaluations and use of KTDRR grantee survey and data collected during updates of grantees' KT plans	X	X
E2. Analysis of web and social media data (visits, views, interactions)	X	X
E3. Data dashboards	X	
E4. Follow-up interviews	X	X
E5. Quality Assurance	X	X
E6. Project Office Check-ins E7. Annual Performance Report	X	X

Task Lead: Jessica Cadima, MA

A Conversation with Jonathan Martinis

- Jonathan Martinis, Esq., J.D., is the Senior Policy Director for Law and Policy in the Burton Blatt Institute (BBI) at Syracuse University.
- He is on staff at the NIDILRR-funded Disability Employment Policy RRTC held by BBI at Syracuse University.



Questions for Jonathan

1. Could you share a bit about the audiences you think will benefit most from this RRTC's work and how the partners included in your new award are designed to reach specific audiences through the different projects they are working on?
2. As you look ahead, what knowledge translation strategies are you most interested in developing or strengthening as the center works with KTER on its KT plan?
3. The KTER Center staff and you have also talked about plans for your participation in the KTER Center employment grantee community of practice (CoP). What are your hopes for how that group can benefit your work and provide opportunities for peer-to-peer learning?

Technical Assistance Requests

- Use the TA Request Form on the website or simply email kter@air.org
- We will set up a one-on-one consultation to discuss your TA request.
- We will address the TA need or plan next steps to meet your specific need.

Wrap-Up and Next Steps



Open Q&A

 kter.org

 kter@air.org

The contents of this presentation were developed under grant number 90DPEM0011 from the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR). NIDILRR is a Center within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents of this presentation do not necessarily represent the policy of NIDILRR, ACL, HHS, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.