

LIFE PATTERNS INC.

February 2018 • Newsletter

Teri's Topic

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From the desk of **JON GERDEL**, President

25
years of
LIFE PATTERNS, INC.

It is hard to fathom that as of March 12th, 2018, Life Patterns, Inc. will be hitting its 25th year of business. Life Patterns started with three individuals, not knowing where this would go. Now we easily have 100 times that, and continue to grow. In those 25 years, we have seen a lot happen within the Home Community Based Services (HCBS). We have seen five governors come and go, reimbursement reductions and increases (hopefully more to come), state staff come and go, we have seen the inception of AuthentiCare and KanCare. (I am guessing you could hear crickets on that last one ;) Life Patterns would not have been able to stick around, doing what we love to do, without all the amazing individuals and families we have worked with over the years. We look forward to another 25 years with you as well. **That being said, we would like to invite you to our conference and help us celebrate Life Patterns Inc.'s 25-year anniversary!**

IT'S ALL IN HOW WE SAY IT....

Person First Language has always been at the top of my list, whether I was presenting a workshop to parents of a child with a disability, or training a new support worker for my son, Joel. Person first language puts the individual before their disability. The words used to describe someone sets the attitude of how the person will be treated.

"Sally uses a wheelchair, NOT Sally is confined to a wheelchair."

"Bobby has a disability, NOT Bobby is handicapped"

We must see the person and their abilities first, or we may never look forward to seeing what they can achieve. As family members, friends and advocates of people with a disability, we must use Person First Language. We are the ones who can make a difference in how people with disabilities are included in families, schools and communities.

Some of the best resources on Person First Language that I like to use have been developed by Kathie Snow. Visit disabilityisnatural.com.

Life Patterns is excited to announce Kathie Snow will be the Keynote Speaker at our upcoming Conference, March 31, 2018. Her Keynote address, "DISABILITY IS NATURAL," will be valuable and inspiring to all who attend.

KanCare 2.0 Update

Effective 1/25/2018, KanCare 2.0 has been withdrawn. There are a couple thoughts as to why it was pulled: one being there were voices from legislature stating the State of Kansas and KDHE should fix KanCare 1.0 (as people call it), as there are still the same issues that have been present from the start. The second thought is that the State of Kansas and KDHE are trying to revise some of the main issues that were brought up at the public forum meetings. I would urge you to keep your eyes and ears open if they propose KanCare 2.0 again. That way, voices and concerns can be heard again.

View AuthentiCare!

One way to make your life easier is to sign up to view AuthentiCare.

You can pull your own reports, look for missing clock-ins/outs, check the remaining time for a month's plan of care, and much more! Not computer savvy? No problem!

You'll get a tip sheet to help guide you through the system.

E-mail Sarah at Sarah@LifePatternsKS.org to get set up!