

JUNE 2020



# Kentucky National Core Indicators

## **KENTUCKY ENTERS 23RD YEAR OF PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL CORE INDICATORS**

The Kentucky Division of Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities (DDID) is now in the 23rd year of participation in the National Core Indicators (NCI). It is through participation in the NCI that we have been able to highlight the needs of people with disabilities and influence the type and quality of supports available to Kentucky's citizens. Based on the results of the in-person survey, our Quality Committee reviews all data and develops goals for the Division of Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities. These goals then become a part of the quality improvement plan of all service providers as we strive to improve services and the lives of the people we are here to support.

This year, as we navigate the COVID-19 crisis, we were invited to participate in a project to pilot remote NCI surveys. The pilot will test the feasibility of conducting the In-Person Survey (IPS) through remote surveying using video conference technology. The success of this testing could potentially enhance our ability to collect information on quality and performance of our DD service system. We are excited to be included in this opportunity at a critical time to expand our ability to use remote technology in the state; and we thank our very competent interviewers for their willingness to expand their skills.

*"The Quality  
Committee  
reviews all data and  
develops goals for  
the Division of  
Developmental and  
Intellectual  
Disabilities".*

-Claudia Johnson  
Kentucky DDID

## NCI INTERVIEWER SPOTLIGHT: ARLINE WILSON

Because Arline Wilson is NCI's Program Coordinator, Lead Trainer, and Interviewer. She has been with the UK Human Development Institute for 23 years, and on the National Core Indicators project for 22 years. As an integral part of NCI's program, Arline organizes all of the data collection for the project. From training, collaborating with, and coordinating interviewers to working directly with participants to running the budget, Arline is instrumental in getting the project off the ground every year. We asked her to share some of her experiences working with NCI:

Q: What do you like most about working for HDI?

A: I like everything that HDI stands for, research, advocacy, education, sharing, leadership and respect for individuals. I feel blessed to be part of something great and good.

Q: What do you like most about the work NCI does?

A: There are many things about NCI that I like, (person driven outcomes, data, collaborative research) but most of all is improving the lives of others.

Q: How have you seen your impact with NCI?

A: The relationships I have built with the providing agencies in KY; when we first started doing NCI in KY no one knew anything about it or even heard of it. So, I contacted every provider in KY and explained to them about NCI and that lead to KY NCI and the agencies working together. I get calls now asking for NCI information or wanting to know if they have anyone they serve in the sample because they want to be part of it.

Q: What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

A: I'm all about family and our grandchildren, I spend as much time as I can in Alabama. That's where our daughter and grandkids are. I also volunteer and spend a lot of time at Camp Nelson, where our son is.



*Life does not have to be perfect  
to be wonderful.*

*-Arline Wilson*

## Ability to Communicate and Connect During a Crisis

by Amanda Stanley

With the COVID-19 crisis, it is especially important for everyone to have the ability to communicate and keep in contact with loved ones virtually. Kentucky participates in the National Core Indicators (NCI) In-Person Survey which each is conducted with at least 400 adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are receiving at least one service from the state. The data from the 2018-19 survey shows that the percentage of people in Kentucky who have a cell phone or smart phone is significantly less than the NCI average (at 48% in KY compared to 56% nationally) and only 45% of people in Kentucky use the internet. When asked why they do not have a phone, the most common response at 62% was "not allowed".

*"People with intellectual and development disabilities need more reliable and consistent ways in which to stay connect to other people."*

Kentucky has the lowest percentage of people who report often feeling lonely (3% in KY compared to 11% nationally), but there are still areas of relationships that we can improve upon as a state for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Kentucky has a lower percentage of people who have friends who are not staff or family members (45% in KY compared to 79% nationally); this is also true for having a "best friend" (45% in KY compared to 74% nationally). However, Kentucky is also lower than average in the percentage of individuals who want help making contact with friends (22% in KY compared to 48% nationally) and is significantly above average in being able to see friends (92% in KY compared to 79% nationally). In terms of having ways to communicate with friends, Kentucky is below average (at 67% in KY compared to 81% nationally). However, having ways to see and/or communicate with family members is significantly below average in Kentucky (at 20% in KY compared to 82% nationally).

Obviously, some of this data is contradictory, but what is clear is that people with intellectual and development disabilities need more reliable and consistent ways in which to stay connect to other people. The ability to virtually connect with others is especially critical during a time of crisis and, while Kentucky has room to grow in this area, the state is doing well in regard to overall desire to connect with others and feelings of loneliness. The National Core Indicators project is instrumental in helping Kentucky keep track of these items and works to provide corresponding improvement suggestions to improve the lives of those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

## National Core Indicators At-A-Glance Reports

It is now easier to see the highlights from the National Core Indicators In-Person and Family surveys. The latest At-A-Glance Report provides a snapshot of data from both surveys including demographic information as well as information about services and supports. This report allows you to view information from both surveys in an easy to understand format.

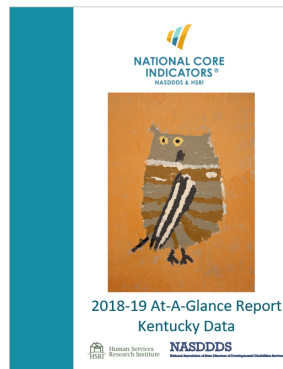
You can still see more in-depth data in the full In-Person and Family survey reports. All reports can be viewed on our web site at [www.kentuckycq.org](http://www.kentuckycq.org) or contact [Laura.Smith2@uky.edu](mailto:Laura.Smith2@uky.edu) with any questions.

National Core Indicators in KY  
[www.belongingky.org](http://www.belongingky.org)

National Core Indicators  
[www.nationalcoreindicators.org](http://www.nationalcoreindicators.org)

Division of Developmental and  
Intellectual Disabilities (DDID)  
[www.dbhddid.ky.gov/ddid](http://www.dbhddid.ky.gov/ddid)

Financial Planning/Trusts  
[www.kyhope.org](http://www.kyhope.org)



Human Development Institute  
[www.hdi.uky.edu](http://www.hdi.uky.edu)

Health & Wellness  
[www.wellness4ky.org](http://www.wellness4ky.org)

Kentucky COVID-19 Information  
[www.covid19.ky.gov](http://www.covid19.ky.gov)

