

OMB Approval No.: 0980-0162

**Expiration Date: pending** 

# PAAT Project Performance Report

For Year 2017

## **Agency Information**

Agency

**Agency Name\*** Disability Rights Arkansas, Inc.

Main Office - Address\* 400 West Capitol Avenue, Suite 1200, Little Rock, AR 72201

Satellite Office(s) - Address N/A

Contract Office(s) - Address N/A

**Agency Telephone Number\*** 501-296-1775

Agency Toll Free Telephone Number\* 800-482-1174

**Agency TTY Number\*** 501-296-1775

**Agency Toll - Free TTY Number\*** 800-482-1174

**Agency Fax Number\*** 501-296-1779

Agency E-Mail Address\* tmasseau@disabilityrightsar.org

Agency Web Address\* disabilityrightsar.org

**Executive Director** 

**Executive Director Name\*** Tom Masseau

**Executive Director Email\*** tmasseau@disabilityrightsar.org

Staff Preparing Report

**Staff Preparing Report Name\*** Susan Pierce

Staff Preparing Report Email\* spierce@disabilityrightsar.org

Staff Preparing Report Office Location\* Little Rock

#### **Non-Case Services**

### Information and Referral Services (I&R)

\* - Required field

Information and Referral Services (I&R)

I&R	Total Number
Total Number of Individuals Receiving (I&R) Services during the Fiscal Year*	7
Total Number of Requests for (I&R) Services during the Fiscal Year*	7

### **Training Activities**

\* - Required field

Number of Training Sessions Presented by Staff\* 7

Number of Individuals Who Attended These Training Sessions\* 125

Describe the agency's outreach efforts to previously unserved or underserved individuals including minority communities \*

DRA conducted a training about DRA and its services to a group of Arkansas Department of Human Services Division of Childcare staff; one of the caseworkers, who was not familiar with DRA, indicated her clients were almost exclusively Hispanic, so this was an effective avenue for reaching at least some of the Hispanic population in Arkansas.

DRA also conducted a training about DRA and its services, with a focus on special education and IDEA, to military families stationed at Little Rock Air Force base (LRAFB). Military families, because of frequent moves and deployments, often end up being underserved. The family support group at LRAFB who requested the training filmed the presentation and indicated they intend to post it to their Facebook page for those families who were not able to attend (and also for future families who are not yet at LRAFB).

While the African-American community has not been unserved/underserved by DRA, efforts specifically towards this community include presenting at the annual Arkansas NAACP Conference, with the objective of reaching out to African-American communities around the state, particularly rural areas, by providing their designee to the conference with information about DRA and how we serve individuals with disabilities.

#### Describe two training events presented by PAAT staff

Training Event #1

#### **Topics Covered\***

Special education rights, including least restrictive environment, discipline, appropriate services, including assistive technology services, and the use of restraint and seclusion.

#### The Purpose of the Training\*

To educate parents and guardians of school-aged children with disabilities about their rights to secure appropriate services for their child under IDEA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

#### A Description of the Attendees\*

Parents and guardians (often grandparents) of school-aged children with disabilities.

Training Event #2

#### **Topics Covered\***

Due process for students receiving special education services. This process can be critically important in securing needed assistive technology devices and services.

#### The Purpose of the Training\*

Provide information and resources on due process to special education law students.

# A Description of the Attendees\*

Students at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Bowen School of Law.

# Information Disseminated to the Public By Your Agency

\* - Required field

Information Disseminated to the Public by Your Agency

Method of Dissemination	Total number of each method used by your agency during the reporting period to distribute information to the public
Radio and TV Appearances by Agency staff*	5
Newspaper/Magazine/Journal articles Prepared by Agency Staff*	11
PSAs/videos Aired by the Agency*	0
Website Hits*	27000
Publications/Booklets/Brochures Disseminated by the Agency*	1109
Other*	0

# Information Disseminated about Your Agency by External Media Coverage \*-Required field

#### Radio/TV coverage

DRA staff was interviewed twice by a local news station about polling site accessibility in the state; while this work is funded through the PAVA grant, it is important to note that accessibility issues at polling sites often involve a lack of appropriate assistive technology. One interview addressed polling site accessibility (or the lack of it) across the state; the other involved a particular polling site's lack of accessibility. DRA staff were also interviewed about the Alternative Community Services (ACS) Waiver waiting list; Waiver services are an integral funding mechanism for assistive technology services and devices that Medicaid has traditionally refused to cover.

#### Newspapers/Magazines/Journals

DRA was interviewed for, or quoted, in approximately 11 newspaper articles, although assistive technology devices and services were not the crux of any of the articles.

#### **PSAs/Videos**

Non-applicable- DRA did not produce any PSA's or videos.

#### Publications/Booklets/Brochures

DRA disseminated 1,109 PAAT brochures, primarily at outreach events and education/ training events. DRA also distributed, through monitoring as well as training and outreach events, 3,792 general brochures. While not wholly about PAAT, this general brochure specifically mentions assistive technology, e.g. "Have you been denied funding for assistive technology that could help you gain or maintain your independence in school, at work or in daily living?"

### **Case-Services**

# **Individuals Served**

\* - Required field

#### Individuals Served

Individuals Served	Total Number
Individuals Served Receiving Advocacy at Start of Fiscal Year(carryover from prior)*	1
Additional Individuals Served During Fiscal Year(new for fiscal year)*	12
Total Number of Individuals Served During Fiscal Year	13
Total Number of Cases Closed During the Fiscal Year*	6
Total Number of Individuals with All Their Cases Closed During the Fiscal Year*	6
Total Individuals Still Being Served at the End of the Fiscal Year	7

# **Problem Areas/Complaints**

\* - Required field

# Problem Areas/Complaints

Problem Areas/Complaints	Total Number
Architectural Accessibility*	1
Education*	6
Employment Discrimination*	1
SSI/SSDI Work Incentives*	0
Healthcare (total generated by the system from a-d belw)	3
a. Medicaid*	2
b. Medicare*	0

Prol	olem Areas/Complaints	Total Number
	c. Private Medical Insurance*	0
	d.Other*  Specify health care services provided by AR Department of Correction	1
Housing *		0
Post-Second	ary Education*	0
Rehabilitation	n Services *	2
Transportation	on*	0
Voting		0
	a. Accessible Polling Place/ Equipment*	0
	b.Registration*	0
	c. Other*	0
Other*		0
Total		13

# **Assistive Technology Devices/Services**

1. Number of individuals that received one or more AT devices or services as a result of casework(unduplicated count)\*

9

### 2. Type of AT device or AT service received as a result of casework

Device	Total Number
a. Devices for communication*	4
b. Devices for mobility*	2
c. Devices for hearing or seeing*	1
d.Devices for reading or writing*	2
e. Devices to assist with household activities*	0
f. Devices to assist with participation in play or recreation	0
g. Devices to assist with personal care*	0
h. Devices to aid in therapy or medical treatment*	1
i. Devices to assist with the use of public / private transportation*	0
j. Devices to assist with employment*	1
k. Devices to aid with school/learning*	2
I. AT services*	0
m. Other*	0
n. Total number of devices and services received as a result of casework	13

# **Primary Reason for Closing a Case File**

\* - Required field

Primary Reason for Closing a Case File

Primary Reason for Closing a Case File	Total Number
All Issues Resolved in Client's Favor*	3
Some Issues Resolved in Client's Favor*	1
Other Representation Obtained*	0
Individual Withdrew Complaint*	0
Services Not Needed Due to Death, Relocation, etc.*	0
Individual Not Responsive to Agency*	2
Case Lacked Legal Merit*	0
Conflict of Interest*	0
Lack of Resources*	0
Not Within Priorities*	0
Issue Not Resolved in Client's Favor*	0
Other*	0
Total	6

# **Intervention Strategies for Closed Cases**

\* - Required field

Intervention Strategies for Closed Cases

Intervention Strategies	Total Number
Short Term Assistance*	6
Systemic/Policy Activities*	0
Investigation/Monitoring*	0

Intervention Strategies	Total Number
Negotiation*	0
Mediation/Alternative Dispute Resolution*	0
Administrative Hearing*	0
Legal Remedy/Litigation*	0
Class Action Suits*	0
Total	6

### Statistical Information on Individuals Served

# Age of Individuals Served: (as of October 1)

\* - Required field

Age of Individuals Served: (as of October 1)

Age Range	Age of Individuals Served
0 to 4*	0
5 to 13*	4
14 to 18*	2
19 to 21*	0
22 to 40*	2
41 to 64*	3
65 and over*	2
Age unknown*	0
Total	13

### **Gender of Individuals Served**

\* - Required field

#### Gender of Individuals Served

Gender	Number Served
Male*	7
Female*	6
Total	13

# Race/Ethnicity of Individuals Served

\* - Required field

For individuals who are Hispanic / Latino

Race/Ethnicity	Number Served
Hispanic /Latino of any race*	1

For individuals who are non - Hispanic / Latino only

Race/Ethnicity	Number Served
American Indian or Alaska Native*	0
Asian*	0
Black or African American*	5
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander*	0
White*	6
Two or more races *	0
Race/ethnicity unknown*	1
Total	13

# **Living Arrangements of Individuals Served**

# Living Arrangements of Individuals Served

Living Arrangements	Number Served
Community Residential Home*	0
Foster Care*	0
Homeless/Shelter*	0
Legal Detention/Jail/Prison*	1
Nursing Facility *	0
Parental/Guardian or Other Family Home*	7
Independent*	5
Private Institutional Setting*	0
Public (State Operated) Institutional Setting*	0
Public Housing*	0
VA Hospital*	0
Other*	0
Other*	0
Unknown/Not Provided*	0
Total	13

# **Primary Disability of Individuals Served**

Primary Disability of Individuals Served

Primary Disability	Number Served
1. ADD/ADHD*	0
2. AIDS/HIV Positive*	0
3. Absence of Extremities*	0
4. Auto-immune (non-AIDS/HIV)*	0
5. Autism*	4
6. Blindness (Both Eyes)*	0
7. Other Visual Impairments (Not Blind)*	2
8. Cancer*	0
9. Cerebral Palsy*	0
10. Deafness*	0
11. Hard of Hearing/ Hearing Impaired (Not Deaf)*	1
12. Deaf-Blind*	0
13. Diabetes*	0
14. Digestive Disorders*	0
15. Epilepsy*	0
16. Genitourinary Conditions*	0
17. Heart & Other Circulatory Conditions*	0
18. Mental Illness*	1
19. Mental Retardation*	2
20. Multiple Sclerosis*	0
21. Muscular Dystrophy*	0
22. Muscular/Skeletal Impairment*	2
23. Orthopedic Impairments*	0
24. Neurological Disorders / Impairment*	0

Primary Disability	Number Served
5. Respiratory Disorders/Impairment*	0
6. Skin Conditions*	0
7. Specific Learning Disabilities(SLD)*	0
8. Speech Impairments*	0
9. Spina bifida*	0
). Substance Abuse (Alcohol or Drugs)*	0
. Tourette Syndrome*	0
2. Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)*	1
3. Other Disability*	0
. Total	13

## **Geographic Locations of Individuals Served**

\* - Required field

Geographic Locations of Individuals Served

Geographical Locations	Number Served
Urban/Suburban (50K population)*	3
Rural (less than 50K population)*	10
Other*	0
Unknown*	0
Total	13

## **Systemic Activities and Litigation**

## **Non-Litigation Systemic Activities**

\* - Required field

1. Number of Policies/Practices Changed as a Result of Non - Litigation Systemic Activities\*

0

- 2. Include information about (a) the policy or practice that was changed, as a result of your agency's non litigation systemic activity, along with a description of the negative impact upon individuals with disabilities, and (b) the manner in which this change benefited individuals with disabilities. If possible, (c) estimate the number of individuals potentially affected by the policy / practice change and(d) the method used to determine this estimate. [If you cannot provide an estimate, enter N / A'.] Include(e) one case example of the agency's systemic activity related to this policy / practice change.
- 3. Number of On-going Non-Litigation Systemic Activities\*

0

4. Describe the agency's on-going systemic activities.Include information about(a) how these activities may benefit individuals with disabilities.If possible, (b) estimate the number of individuals potentially affected by such activities and (c) the method used to determine this estimate. (d) Describe the potential policy / practice change that may result from this activity.

# **Litigation/Class Actions**

1. Total Number of Non - Class Action Lawsuits, resulting in, or with the potential for, systemic change, pending during the fiscal year*
a. Number of Non - Class Action Lawsuits Newly Filed During Fiscal Year*0
b. Number of Non - Class Action Lawsuits That were Pending at Start of Fiscal Year*0
c. Number of Non - Class Action Lawsuits Closed During Fiscal Year*0
2. Describe the agency's on-going systemic non-class action litigation activities.
b*
c*
d*
e*
3. Describe the agency's completed systemic non-class action litigation activities.
b*
c*
d*
e*
4. Total Number of Class Action Lawsuits Filed and / or Pending(during fiscal year)*0
a. Number of Class Action Lawsuits Newly Filed During Fiscal Year*0
b. Number of Class Action Lawsuits Pending at Start of Fiscal Year*0

c. Number of Class Action Lawsuits Closed During Fiscal Year.*0	
5. Describe the agency's on-going systemic class action litigation activities.	
a*	
b*	
c*	
d*	
e*	
6. Describe the agency's completed systemic class action activities.  a*  b*  c*  d*  e*	
Litigation-Related Monitoring	* - Required field
Did the agency conduct any litigation - related monitoring under the PAAT pr during the fiscal year?*  No	ogram

#### **Priorities**

### **Program Priorities**

\* - Required field

**1.** Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation-Individuals with disabilities will be protected from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

#### **Describe the Priority**

Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation-Individuals with disabilities will be protected from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

#### Describe the Need, Issue, or Barrier Addressed

Assistive technology cases will rarely be served under this priority; however, a rare situation could arise whereby an individual who is institutionalized or residing in a long-term-care facility is being deprived of needed assistive devices and services, which DRA would potentially consider to be neglect.

#### Indicate the Outcome of the priority

Partially Met / Continuing

# Describe any external or internal implementation problems for outcomes marked "not met" or "partially met."

There are not any implementation problems for this priority.

#### **Total Number of Cases Handled Related to the Priority**

0

#### **Illustrative Cases / Activities**

N/A. While DRA monitored the state's Human Development Centers with consideration for whether the assistive technology needs of the residents were being met, DRA did not work any individualized cases under this priority in FY17.

**2.** Community Integration and Access- Individuals with disabilities will be integrated into the community and have access to programs and services in the community.

#### **Describe the Priority**

Community Integration and Access- Individuals with disabilities will be integrated into the community and have access to programs and services in the community.

#### Describe the Need, Issue, or Barrier Addressed

For individuals with disabilities to be fully integrated into the community, assistive technology needs must be met. In some cases, individuals are unable to secure needed assistive technology devices and services due to Medicaid, Medicare, or other insurance refusing to cover the cost. Some individuals who are in danger of being institutionalized- a realistic concern in a state with five large institutions- are placed at further risk when they lack the

technology needed to assist with communication or mobility needs. Individuals who are already institutionalized, or residing in some other type of long-term-care facility, are further hampered in their efforts to transition to a community setting by the lack of appropriate assistive technology devices and services.

#### Indicate the Outcome of the priority

Partially Met / Continuing

# Describe any external or internal implementation problems for outcomes marked "not met" or "partially met."

There are no external or internal implementation problems with this priority, other than the lack of knowledge about DRA and the PAAT program that probably exists in the disability community and for residents of various long-term-care settings.

#### **Total Number of Cases Handled Related to the Priority**

3

#### **Illustrative Cases / Activities**

A PAAT-eligible individual with a visual impairment contacted DRA for assistance with accessing orientation and mobility devices and services; DRA provided her with information about how to contact Increasing Capabilities Access Network (iCAN), a state agency in Arkansas that assists individuals with accessing the technology they need "to help them learn, work, communicate and live more independently". ICAN actually has a loan program for individuals to try various assistive technology devices to determine which devices are most useful and appropriate for their needs, then assists them with procuring needed technology. DRA also connected this client with Arkansas Rehabilitation Services' Alternative Financing Program to assist with obtaining a new telephone and replacing an outdated magnifier/reader.

**3.** Employment- Individuals with disabilities will have access to vocational rehabilitation services, employment and post-secondary education.

#### **Describe the Priority**

Employment- Individuals with disabilities will have access to vocational rehabilitation services, employment and post-secondary education.

#### Describe the Need, Issue, or Barrier Addressed

Individuals with disabilities often have assistive technology needs that, if not met, can pose a significant barrier to obtaining employment and living in the community. Individuals who access rehabilitation services sometimes have assistive technology needs that are not recognized, or not addressed, by their rehabilitation counselors, and they may not be aware that these services should meet their assistive technology needs if those devices and services will help them obtain and/or maintain employment. Once employed, individuals with disabilities can experience difficulties with getting their employer to recognize that procuring assistive technology can enable them to accomplish job tasks more efficiently.

#### Indicate the Outcome of the priority

Not Met

# Describe any external or internal implementation problems for outcomes marked "not met" or "partially met."

The primary implementation issue with this priority is simply that individuals who could benefit from DRA's assistance either do not know that DRA can help them with barriers to acquiring assistive technology, or are not even aware of assistive technology that could improve their employment potential (if not employed) or could assist them with job efficiency in a current position.

#### **Total Number of Cases Handled Related to the Priority**

1

**4.** Education- Youth with disabilities will have access to a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and to transition planning and services.

#### **Describe the Priority**

Education- Youth with disabilities will have access to a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and to transition planning and services.

#### Describe the Need, Issue, or Barrier Addressed

DRA continues to receive a high volume of calls from the parents and guardians of students whose needs are not being met in school, and the issues involved in not identifying students as eligible for special education services, not developing an appropriate program, or not implementing that program, can often include the need for assistive technology devices and services.

#### Indicate the Outcome of the priority

Partially Met / Continuing

# Describe any external or internal implementation problems for outcomes marked "not met" or "partially met."

There are no implementation problems with this priority; DRA is usually successful in assisting parents and guardians with obtaining assistive technology devices and services when made aware that this is an issue. The assistive technology issues are often just one component of a larger issue regarding a child not being identified, not having an appropriate plan, or the plan not being implemented, and DRA successfully resolves those issues without separating out the assistive technology issue for funding by PAAT.

#### **Total Number of Cases Handled Related to the Priority**

2

#### **Illustrative Cases / Activities**

A parent requested DRA's assistance regarding her child's school not providing assistive technology devices and services; DRA provided technical assistance and resources to the parent to empower her to advocate for her child, but also attended an IEP meeting and participated in developing the individualized program for this student. As a result, this parent was able to retain occupational therapy services, secure an independent educational evaluation for possible retention of speech language therapy services, and arranged for a

referral to CIRCUIT, a program that, among other things, evaluates students with disabilities for assistive technology needs. This referral will specifically address assistive technology devices and services beneficial to individuals with visual impairments.

#### **Priorities for the Current Fiscal Year**

#### **Priorities for the Current Fiscal Year**

Fiscal Year Priority #1

#### **Describe the Priority\***

Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation- Individuals with disabilities will be free from abuse, neglect, and exploitation, including the use of restraint and seclusion.

#### Describe the Need, Issue, or Barrier to be Addressed

This will only be a PAAT issue when the lack of appropriate assistive technology devices and services rises to a level of neglect. The potential barrier in implementing this priority involves residents of long-term-care facilities (including institutions) not knowing about DRA or how DRA can assist them with this issue.

Fiscal Year Priority #2

#### Describe the Priority\*

Community Integration- individuals with disabilities will have access to community-based services, will have access to adequate supports and services in the community upon being discharged from a facility, will have timely access to mental health services (as applicable), and will have the right to make their own decisions through the use of supported decision-making and other alternatives to guardianship.

#### Describe the Need, Issue, or Barrier to be Addressed

Individuals often encounter barriers in maintaining placement in a community setting, or in moving to the community from a facility, when they cannot access needed assistive technology devices and services. The lack of these devices and services, particularly for communication, can also contribute to the determination that some of these individuals need a guardian, when a lesser restrictive means of assisting individuals with making important decisions is appropriate.

Fiscal Year Priority #3

#### **Describe the Priority\***

Access- Individuals with disabilities will have architectural access to public and private facilities and programs, access to assistive technology to maintain and/or increase functional capabilities, access to effective communication, access to polling sites and accommodations needed to ensure their ability to vote, and will have the right to be supported by service and emotional support animals in relevant settings.

#### Describe the Need, Issue, or Barrier to be Addressed

The lack of appropriate assistive technology devices and services can impede an individual's ability to access facilities and programs, and can result in a loss of functional capabilities. It can inhibit effective communication, and make voting difficult or even impossible. Members of the public, particularly those who own businesses, often are not knowledgeable about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the rights of individuals with disabilities to be accompanied by a service animal.

#### Fiscal Year Priority #4

#### **Describe the Priority\***

Education- Students with disabilities will be provided with a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment, will receive accommodations, health plans, and nursing services needed to ensure their safe participation in a free appropriate public education, will have access to meaningful, non-discriminatory graduation opportunities, including diplomas, and will receive adequate transition planning and services from school to post-secondary settings, and will have access to reasonable accommodations in post-secondary educational settings. Students with disabilities that impact their behavior who are being suspended, expelled, arrested at school, or placed in a restrictive setting will receive a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment.

#### Describe the Need, Issue, or Barrier to be Addressed

Meeting the assistive technology needs of a student is imperative to providing that student with a free, appropriate, public education in the least restrictive environment, and are a part of ensuring a student's safe participation in school. The lack of appropriate devices and services, particularly to communicate, can lead to behaviors

that result in a student being suspended, expelled, or even arrested, and certainly can lead to placement in a more restrictive environment than necessary. Assistive technology can be pivotal to a student's successful transition to a post-secondary setting, and must be addressed in transition planning as well as in post-secondary settings.

#### Fiscal Year Priority #5

#### **Describe the Priority\***

Employment- Individuals with disabilities will have access to vocational rehabilitation services, will be free from discrimination in employment and have access to competitive employment in the community, will receive reasonable accommodations in employment, and will receive supported employment services in community rehabilitation programs.

#### Describe the Need, Issue, or Barrier to be Addressed

The lack of appropriate assistive technology devices and services can inhibit an individual from obtaining and/or maintaining employment, and individuals with assistive technology needs should be able to secure devices and services when receiving vocational rehabilitation services, including supported employment services, to maximize employment opportunities.

#### Fiscal Year Priority #6

#### **Describe the Priority\***

Self-advocacy/Training- Individuals with disabilities and the general public will have knowledge about the legal rights of individuals with disabilities. Individuals with disabilities will learn to become effective self-advocates, and will be able to exercise their right to vote.

#### Describe the Need, Issue, or Barrier to be Addressed

Educating individuals with disabilities about their right to assistive technology devices and services is pivotal to their becoming effective self-advocates, and with successfully addressing technological barriers to voting. Educating the general public and service providers can serve to make everyone more knowledgeable about assistive technology, and the right to access assistive technology devices and services, to work and live in a more fully integrated environment.

## **Agency Accomplishments**

Describe the most significant accomplishments of the agency during the fiscal year.\*

DRA targeted Southeast Arkansas Human Development Center (SEAHDC), a large public institution for individuals with developmental disabilities, for enhanced monitoring in FY17. Among other issues, this facility has had continuing issues with the provision of speech/ language evaluations and therapy services, augmentative communication evaluations and services, and addressing other adaptive equipment needs. Access to assistive technology is critical to the ability of individuals residing in long-term-care facilities to receive active treatment, which will increase their functional capabilities and provide them with various opportunities, including employment and transition to a less restrictive environment. DRA worked this year to increase staff knowledge and capacity for effective assistive technology advocacy work, including increased familiarity with laws and regulations pertaining to assistive technology, as well as advocacy strategies for addressing assistive technology needs. As a result, DRA is better able to identify potential assistive technology issues, both in individual service requests and in systemic advocacy project work.

# **Agency Administration**

# **Agency Funding**

\* - Required field

#### Agency Funding

PAAT funding sources	Amount Received
Federal P&A (AT Act funds):*	50000
Program income*	0
Other*	0
Other*	0
Other*	0
Total*	50000

# **Description of PAAT Program Staff**

\* - Required field

Provide a brief description of the agency's staffing plan for carrying out PAAT activities.

Five attorneys, including the Legal Director, and five advocates, including the intake advocate, handle all PAAT service requests and project work. Attorneys and advocates are routinely reminded, when monitoring facilities, to observe clients with respect to mobility and communication issues, and whether their assistive technology needs are being met. Staff also conduct outreach and education activities, and place enhanced focus on PAAT.

#### **PAAT Staff**

Five advocates, five attorneys, administrative staff, and directors all work, to varying degrees, in the PAAT program.

Report on the number of persons and the number of full time equivalent (FTE) staff performing PAAT activities. As applicable, include (a) staff supported in full or in part by PAAT grant funds during the current reporting year, (b) subcontractor staff supported by PAAT funds and (c) P&A management staff to the extent that their duties included oversight of the PAAT program (and salaries were paid out of PAAT funds). Do not include P&A staff who did not work on PAAT cases during the fiscal year.Report actual, not budgeted, FTE totals.

#### **PAAT Staff**

Type of Position	Number of Persons	Number of FTEs
Professional Full - time*	14	0.49
Professional Part - Time*	1	0.002
Administrative Full - time*	2	0.1
Administrative Part - time*	1	0.03
Totals	18	0.622

#### **Consumer Involvement**

Briefly describe any consumer-responsive activities not reported elsewhere in this report (e.g., PAAT Advisory Board, forums to obtain input into planning and priorities).lf 'not applicable, 'enter' N / A.' \*

DRA requests public input every year for our proposed priorities and goals. Notice that DRA was soliciting public input was shared through social media primarily, but also through outreach and education events and through monitoring activities. Individuals with disabilities were strongly encouraged to provide input, reminders were issued periodically during the approximately 70-day period for comment, and comments were accepted in any form (through completing a Survey Monkey survey, by mailing/submitting a paper copy of the survey, by emailing DRA, by commenting on Facebook and Twitter, or via a phone call). Assistive technology priorities/objectives were included in the proposed plan, and assistive technology was suggested as one of the areas people could choose as an issue DRA should focus on.

### Consumer Involvement in P&A Agency Staff and Board \*

A public notice is issued for each quarterly Board meeting, and a spot on the agenda is noted for public comment.

#### Consumer Involvement in P&A Agency Staff and Board

Туре	Agency Staff	Agency Board
Person with a disability*	2	4
Family members of a person with a disability*	2	5
Total	4	9

### **Agency Administration**

#### **Grievances Filed**

\* - Required field

Number of PAAT grievances filed against the agency during the fiscal year\*

0

#### Collaborative Efforts

\* - Required field

#### 1. Collaboration with Other P&A Programs and Activities

Briefly describe your work on AT issues funded by other P&A programs (do not include activities carried out with PAAT funds).  $^{\star}$ 

As noted under the Education priority, assistive technology issues are often addressed in client cases as part of a larger education issue; since a case can have but one funding source, assistive technology issues are often addressed under other funding sources (mostly PADD and the grant serving individuals with serious mental illness, but sometimes the Protection and Advocacy for Traumatic Brain Injury, or PATBI, or the Protection and Advocacy for Individual Rights, or PAIR grants).

As with education, individual cases assisting individuals with rehabilitation services issues or social security beneficiaries may be funded under the Client Assistance Program (CAP) or Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS) grants.

Staff monitoring long-term-care facilities monitor for abuse, neglect, and/or exploitation under the PADD, PAIMI, PAIR, or PATBI grants, but they also look for assistive technology issues. The same applies for work on community integration cases.

#### 2. All Other Collaboration

Describe any coordination with programs that are not part of the agency (e.g.state Tech Act projects, state long - term care programs, etc.). \*

DRA receives surveys and deficiency reports from the Office of Long Term Care, and will follow up as appropriate on any surveys that identify assistive technology issues at long-term-care facilities; however, this did not occur in FY17.