

**Arkansas Department of Education - Special Education Unit  
Advisory Council for the Education of Children with Disabilities  
Children And Youth with Sensory Impairments (CAYSI), July 2019**

- CAYSI and Easter Seals Outreach proposed five trainings for the next school year throughout Arkansas on *Serving Students with Multiple Disabilities and Dual Sensory Impairments*.
- The 2018 Deafblind Census and the Year 1 Annual Performance Report was submitted in May 2019.
- CAYSI currently has 227 students on its registry. In this quarter, CAYSI received twelve new referrals, three of which were found eligible for services.
- CAYSI has provided initial home visits to families in Pine Bluff, Batesville, Hensley, and Walnut Ridge. Two parent groups met in Siloam Springs and Osceola as well as the family leadership group (Arkansas Empowering Families with Deafblindness) and the SPARKLE parent training in Little Rock.
- CAYSI provided school visits in Amity, Siloam Springs, Dewitt, and Greenwood and assisted an IEP team in transition services for a student from preschool to Kindergarten. CAYSI will be providing the team with training at the beginning of the school year.
- Work in CAYSI's second year, follow-up technical assistance has been completed in Bentonville. Nine teachers completed professional development through Open Hands Open Access Modules.
- CAYSI provides bi-weekly coaching to the first paraprofessional in Arkansas to become a credentialed interventionist.
- CAYSI has also worked with the Deafblind Interagency Transition Team during the Family Futures Planning Days March 30<sup>th</sup> and April 13<sup>th</sup>. Eight out of the ten registered families whose children have dual sensory impairments and other disabilities attended the event. Transition agencies from the PASSE Medicaid system, Division Services for the Blind, Arkansas' Regional Representative from the Helen Keller National Center, Arkansas Transition Services, The Center for Exceptional Families, and Arkansas Rehabilitative Services attended and collaborated with the families.
- CAYSI sponsored a booth during the Family Bistro conference and presented to professionals at Friendship Community Care in Siloam Springs on identifying deafblindness as well as on strategies and techniques for teaching young students with dual sensory impairment.