



Stella Beard

KY-SPIN Assistant Director

My name is Stella Beard. I am the Assistant Director for Kentucky- Special Parent Involvement Network (KY-SPIN). I have been involved in Special Education and Advocacy work for many years. My husband Ryan and I have 4 children - JB (25), Clayton (22), Taylor (17) and Cole (16). Our son Clayton has Williams syndrome which is the way I began my journey in advocacy. I have worked in Special Education in different school systems as a Parent Resource Coordinator, Special Education Liaison and Special Education Program Assistant. Some of those duties included assisting families in locating resources in their local area and helping them become better advocates for their children. In the past, I have facilitated Admission and Release Committee (ARC) meetings for middle and high school students in a school district. I have also worked for an agency for folks with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities as the Staff Development Director. I have trained around the state on many subjects including Transition and Medicaid Waivers. I was the Executive Director for The Arc of Kentucky and was also the Parent Enrichment Coordinator for The Arc of Kentucky. I have served on many statewide committees currently and in the past including: State Advisory Panel for Exceptional Children (Governor Appointed); Commonwealth Council for Developmental Disabilities (Governor Appointed); Kentucky Commission on Services and Supports for Individuals with Intellectual or Other Development Disabilities (HB 144 - Governor Appointed); Hart Support Living Council (Governor Appointed); Post School Outcomes (KyPSO); The Arc of Kentucky Board of Directors; Kentucky TASH Board of Directors; Kentucky Interagency Transition Council; Kentucky Alternate Assessment Advisory Council; College and Career Readiness/Kentucky State Personnel Improvement Grant and I am a Board of Trustee member for the William Syndrome Association. In 2009, I received the Betty Triplett Award sponsored by the Kentucky Partnership for Families and Children. This award is given each year to an outstanding professional who excels in working with families and children with disabilities.



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