Kentucky Department of
Our
Children,
Our
Commonwealth
Education

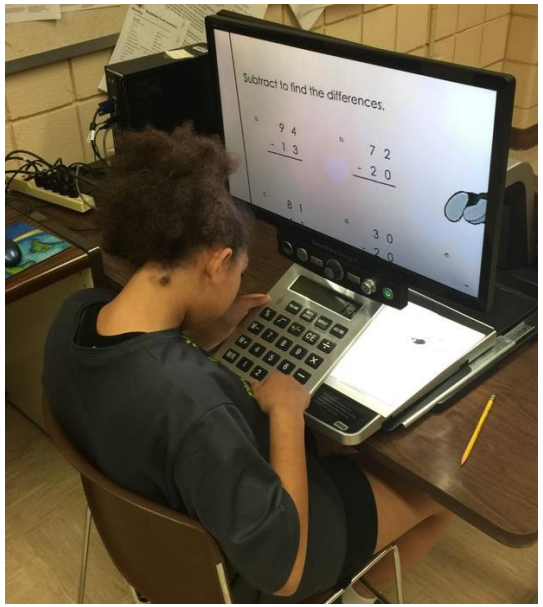
The Kentucky School for the Blind Outreach Program

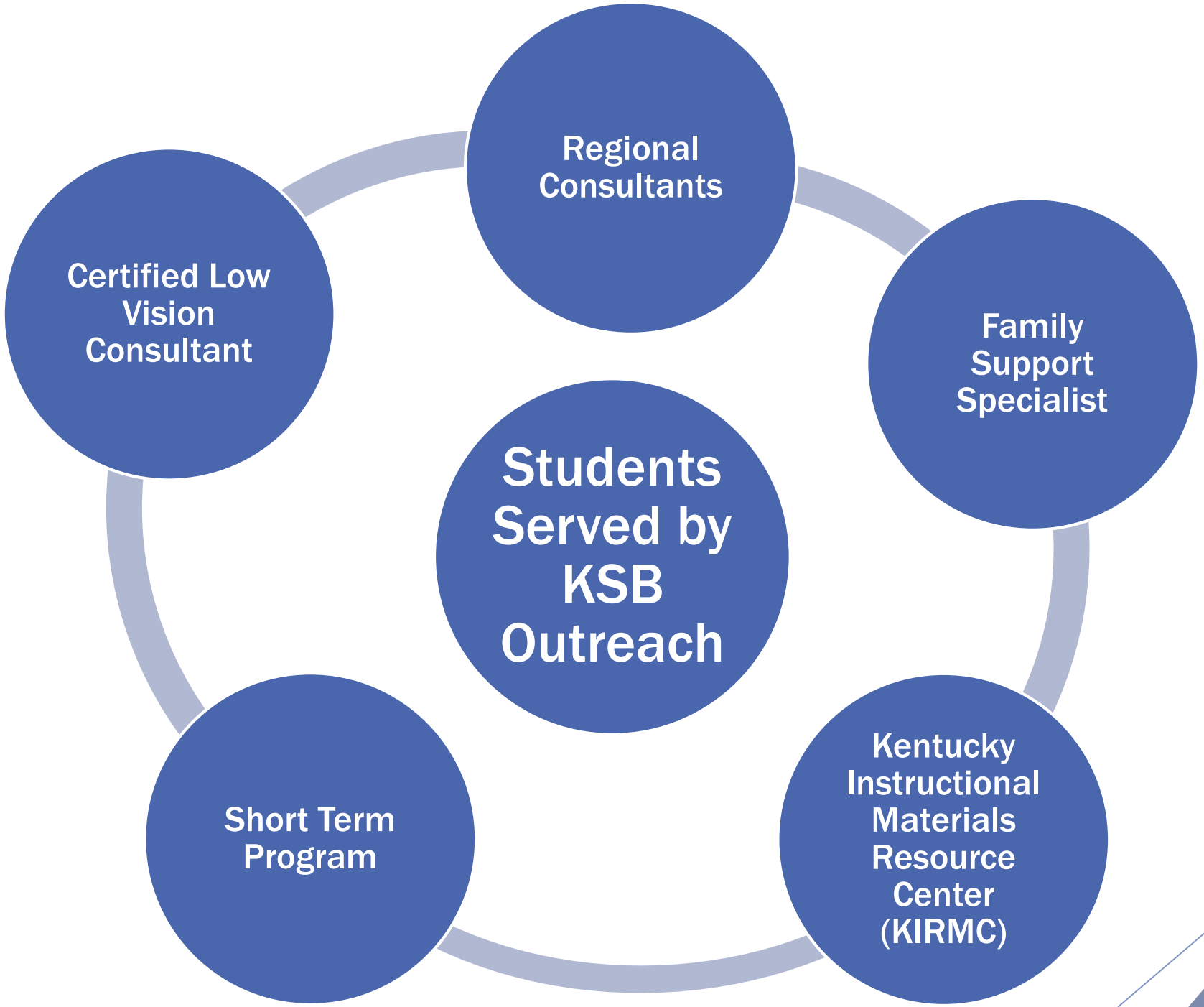
An overview presented by:
Martin Monson, Ed.D.
Director of Outreach Services

8/19/2019

KSB Outreach…

Empowers Students who are Blind and Visually Impaired to Command their Future!




Regional Consultants
Family Support Specialist
Kentucky Instructional Materials Resource Center (KIRMC)
Short Term Program
Certified Low Vision Consultant
Students Served by KSB Outreach

KSB Outreach – Regional Consultants

Teri Ritchie
KSB Outreach Consultant Northern KY & OVEC
teri.ritchie@ksb.kyschools.us

Pamela Howard
KSB Outreach Consultant KEDC
pamela.howard@ksb.kyschools.us

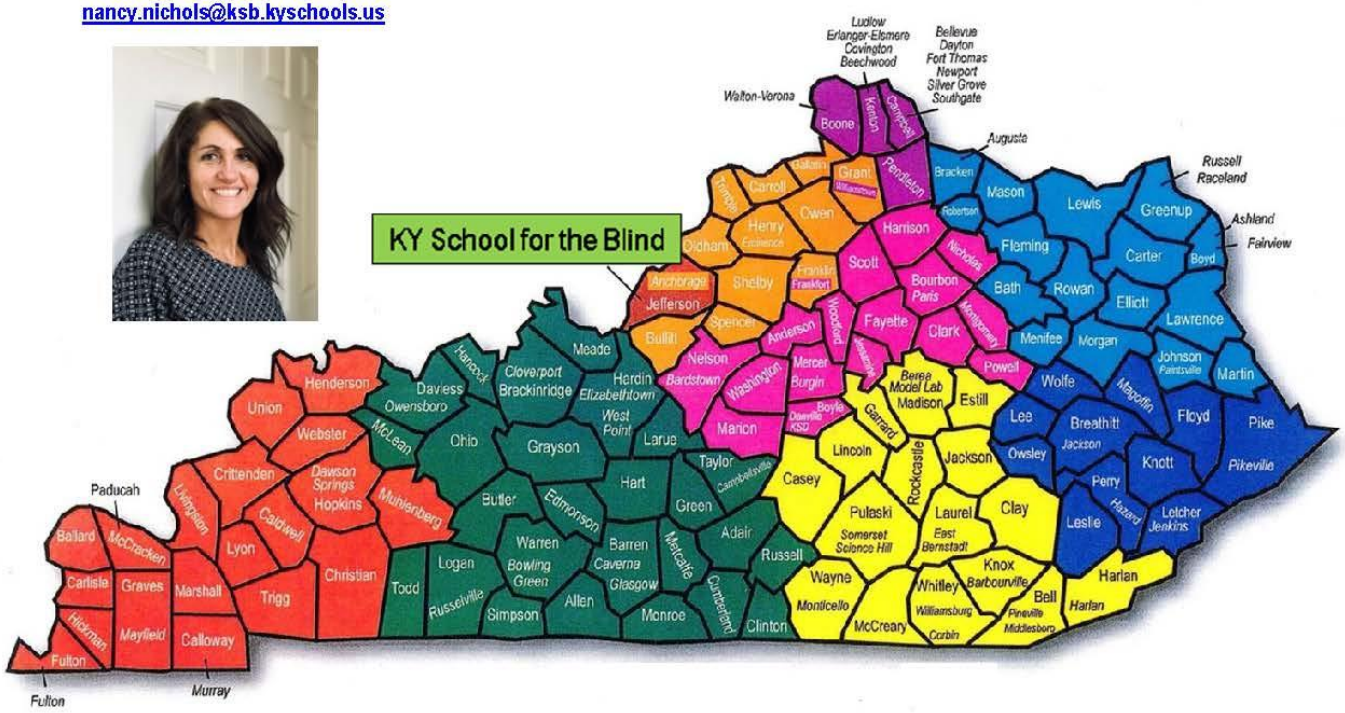
Toni Hardin
KSB Outreach Consultant KVEC
toni.hardin@ksb.kyschools.us

Gina Quaid
KSB Outreach Consultant SESC
regina.quaid@ksb.kyschools.us

Wendy Strode
KSB Outreach Consultant GRREC
wendy.strode@ksb.kyschools.us

Nancy Nichols
KSB Outreach Consultant Central Kentucky
nancy.nichols@ksb.kyschools.us

Robbin Cox
KSB Outreach Consultant West Kentucky
robbin.cox@ksb.kyschools.us



KSB Outreach – Regional Consultants

- Provide consultation and technical assistance
  - On-site observations and consultation of classrooms and students
  - Recommendations for curricular materials and instructional methods
  - Functional Vision / Learning Media assessments, including the Expanded Core Curriculum
  - Consultation and assessment of students with complex needs
  - Provide information to parents, teachers, and students
- Participate in the ARC meetings by request of the district, either in person or via phone, to review consultation reports and assessments, assist with evaluation planning, transition planning, expanded core curriculum, discussion of services provided by KSB, etc.
- Develop and facilitate collaborative activities to support regional services within the Special Education Cooperative network
  - Family gatherings
  - Transition fairs
  - Co-consultations with cooperative staff
  - Student activities
- Approximately 700 direct student interactions and an additional 800 indirect contacts working with teachers of the visually impaired throughout the consultants individual regions

KSB Outreach – Regional Consultants

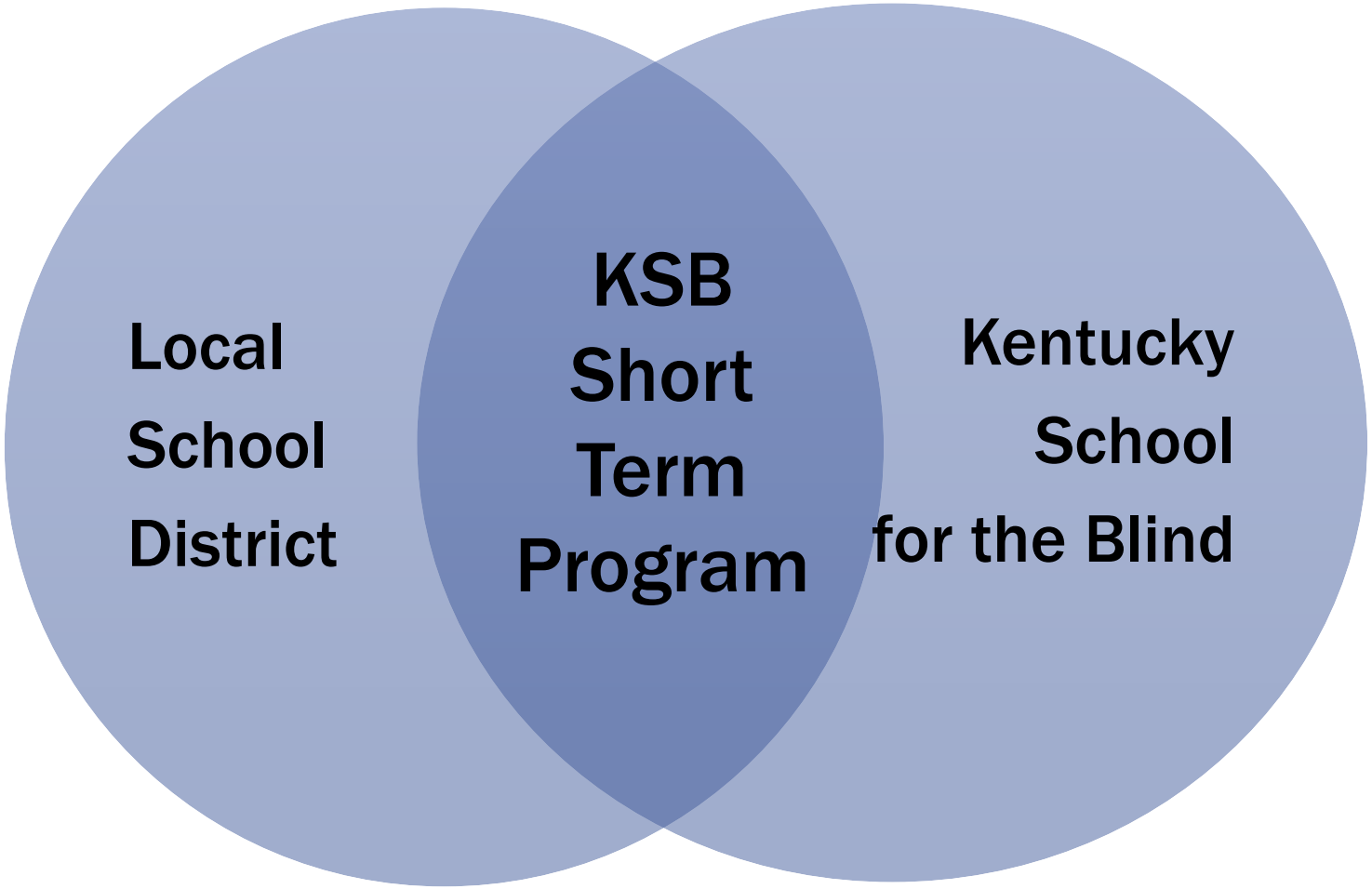
Life Skills Symposium, 21 School Districts, Students 5th grade and up

SESC
White Cane Day Event

Staff PD, Eye Anatomy

STEAM Activity in KVEC

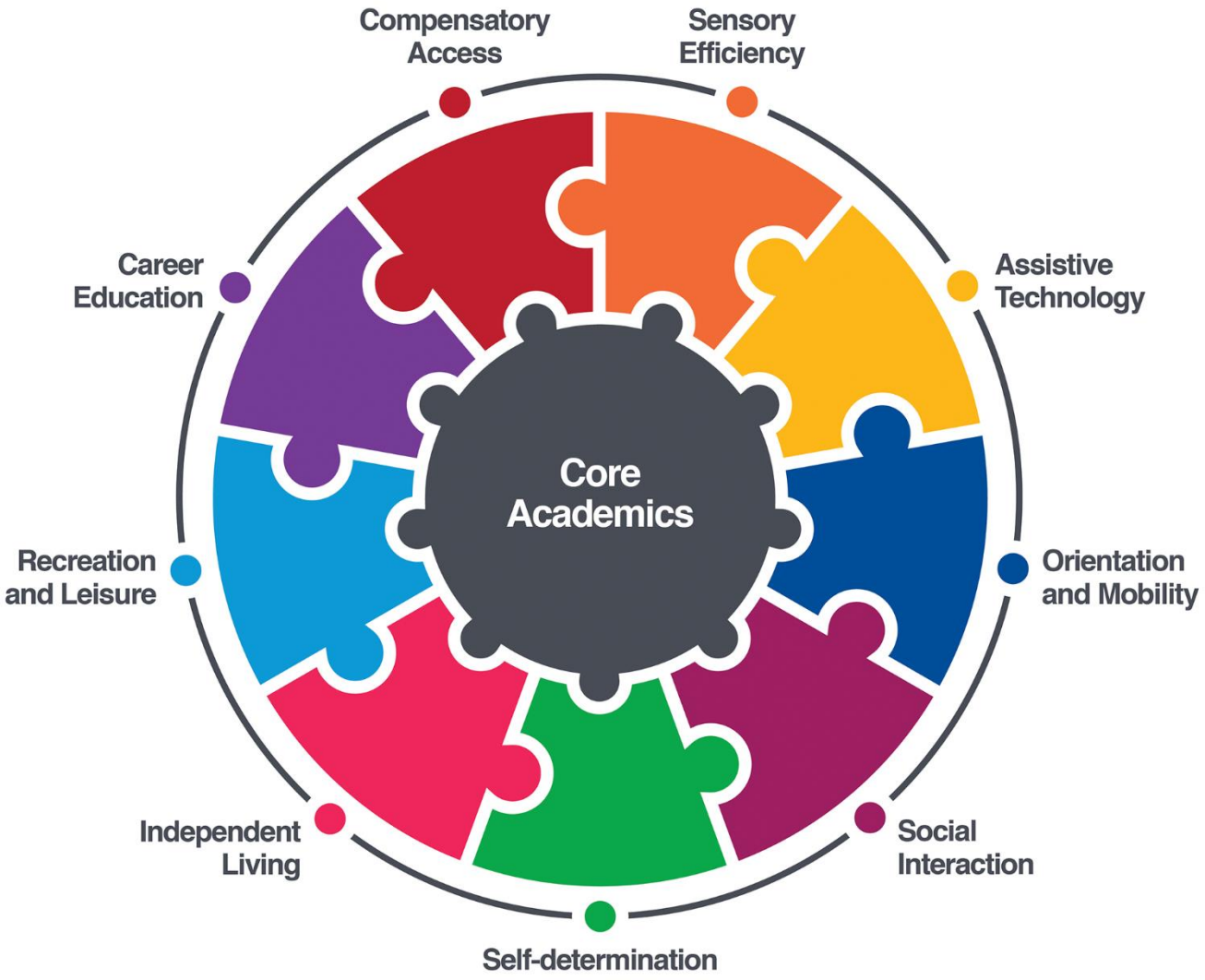
KSB Outreach – Short Term Program



Attending Short Term Program for the First Time

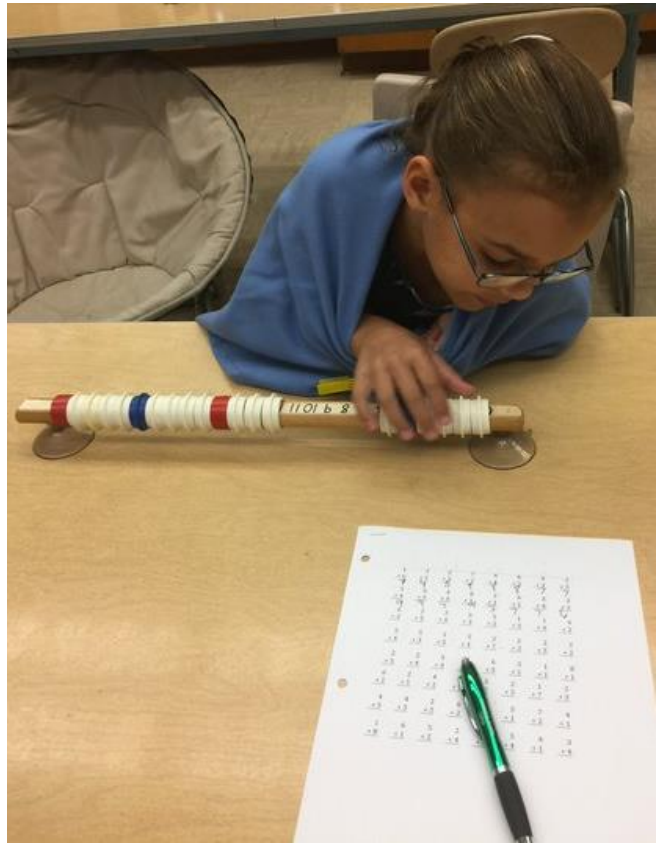
- Student is identified through local school
- Contact is made with KSB Short Term staff by school personnel or parent
- Observation by KSB staff
- ARC
- Completion of Paperwork
  - http://www.ksb.kyschools.us/
    - ✓ Click on Short Term
    - ✓ Look on right hand side under Enrollment forms
- Planning and scheduling the session(s)

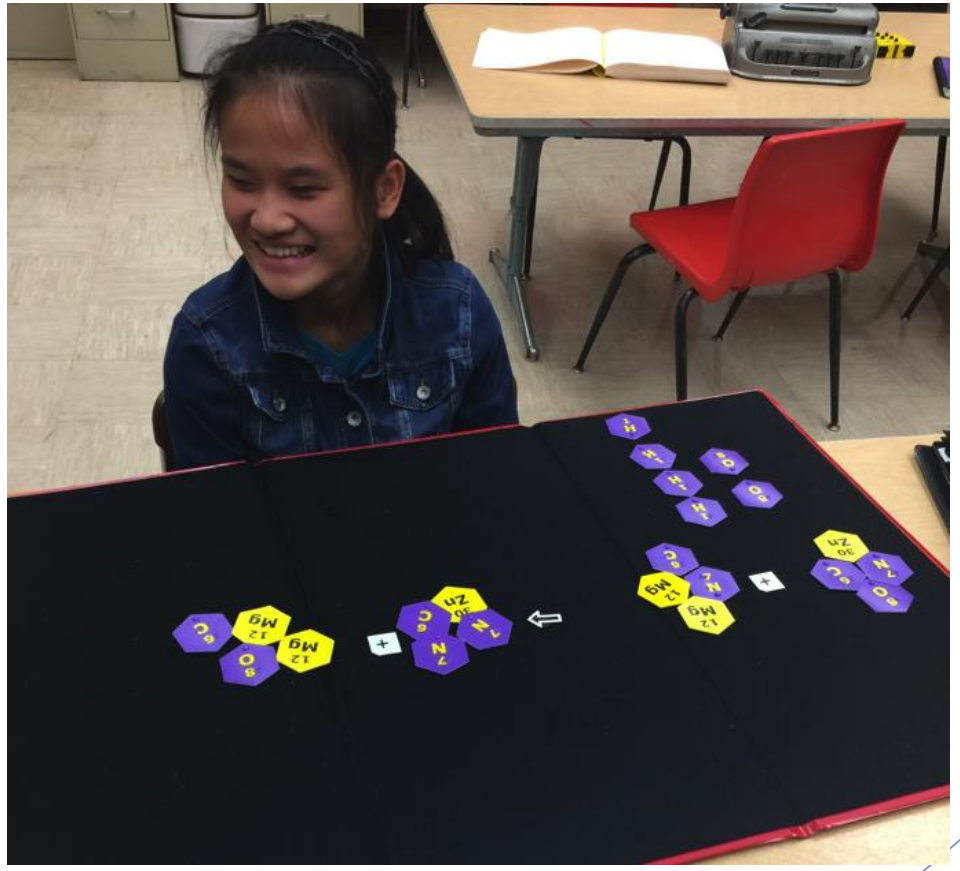
KSB Outreach – Short Term Program



Compensatory Academic Skills: Students are kept current with classes from their local school

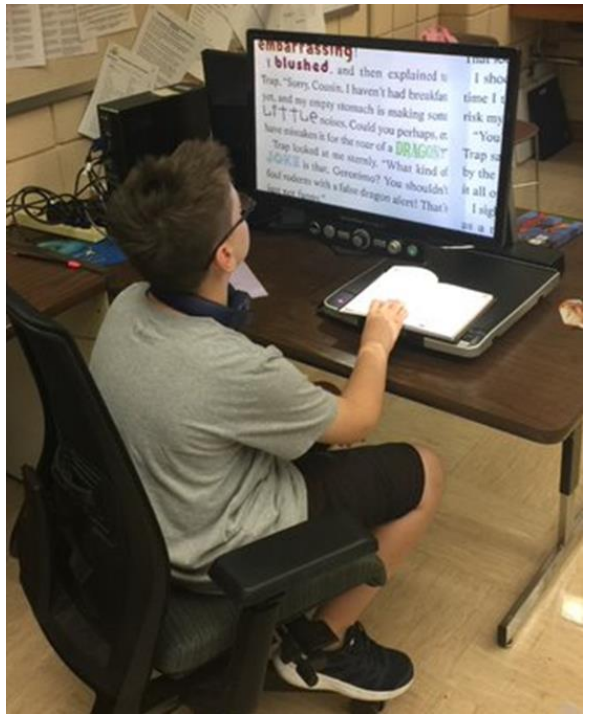
- Nemeth
- Abacus
- Auditory skills
- Braille
- Communication

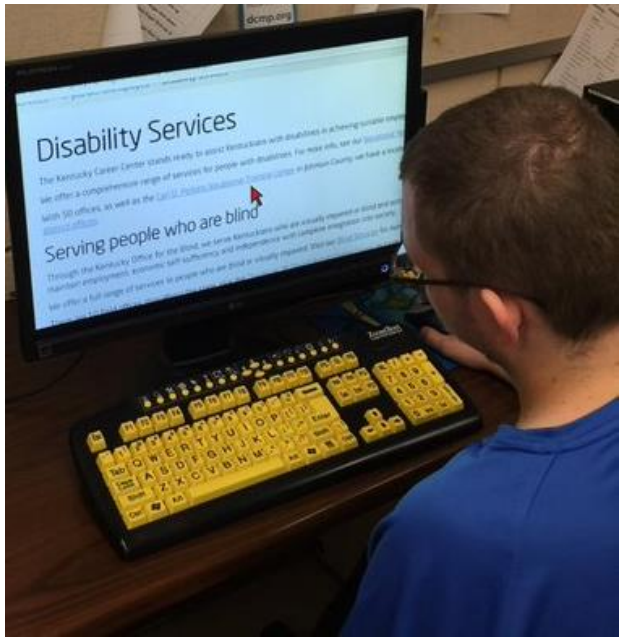




Assistive Technology

- Electronic note-takers
- Magnification systems
- Listening devices
- Talking Calculators
- Computer access tools
- Keyboarding
- Exposure to new and emerging technology
- Apps



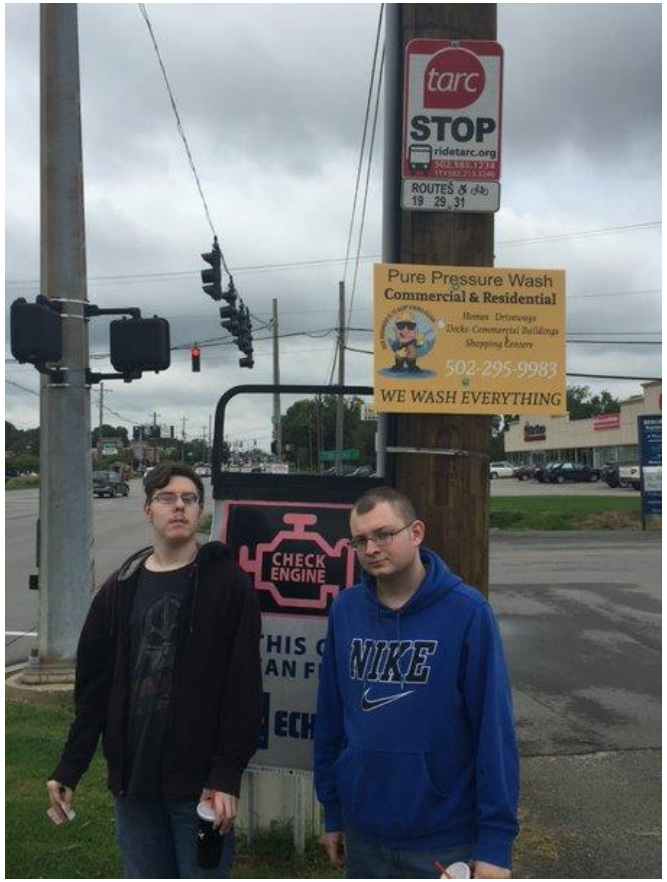


Independent Living Skills

- Shopping
- Food Preparation
- Self-help skills
- Money skills

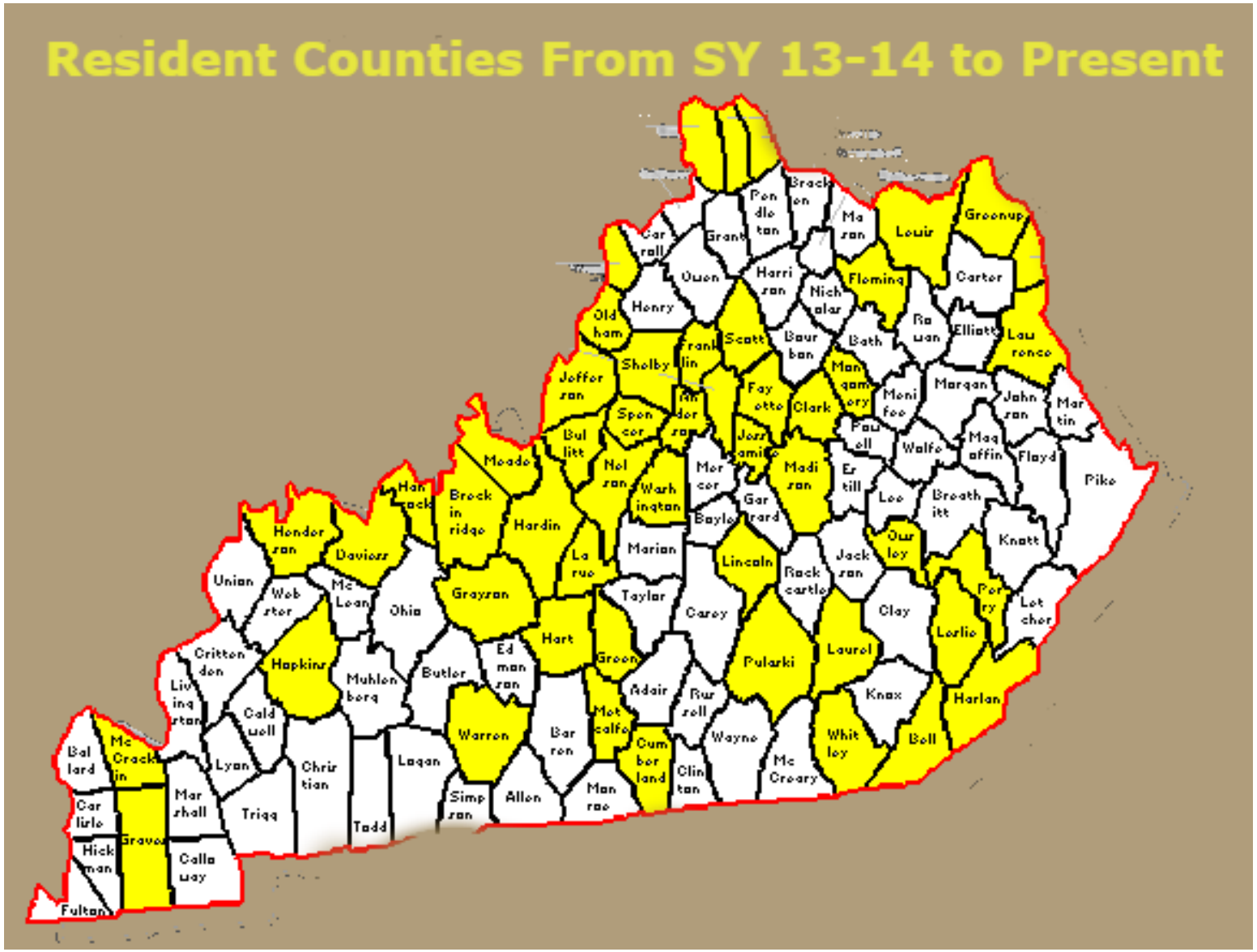
Orientation and Mobility

- Individual instruction as determined by IEP



- Exposure to campus, residential, semi-business, mall, and downtown travel

KSB Outreach – Short Term Program



And the Students say…

- The Skills I learned at Short Term and use at school and home are:
  - "Leadership skills, monocular skills, iPad skills, cooking- My mom says to me 'you're making dinner tonight', … and crossing the street. You don't baby us. We have a chance to be independent." (Naomi, Middle School Student)

KSB Outreach – Certified Low Vision Consultant

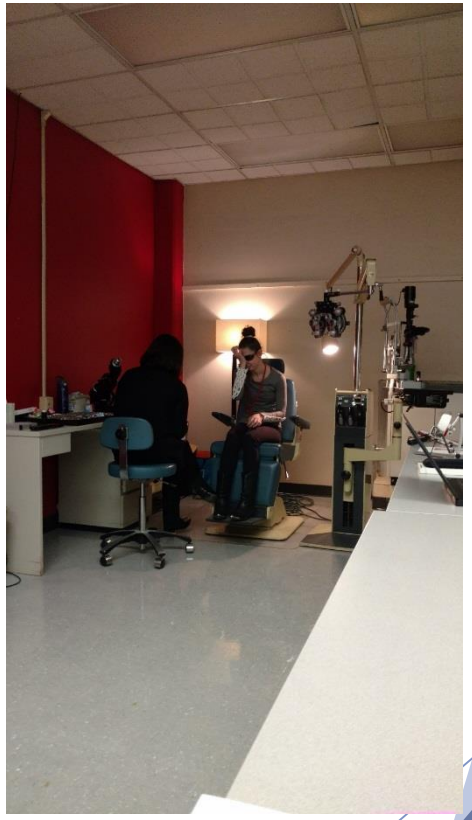
- The primary purpose of a clinical low vision evaluation is to determine whether an individual with low vision **can benefit from optical and nonoptical devices**, as well as adaptive techniques, to enhance visual functioning.
- Conducted by a KSB's Low Vision Consultant working in conjuction with a optometrist specializing in pediatric low vision.
- In 2019 – 2020, 18 clinics will be held throughout the state with 6-8 students seen per clinic (108 – 144 students per year.)
- Works with the Regional Consultants and local TVIs to schedule students.
- Parents are encouraged to attend

KSB Outreach – Certified Low Vision Consultant

Dr. working with Student

Student trying a device

Student participating In exam



KSB Outreach – Family Support Specialist

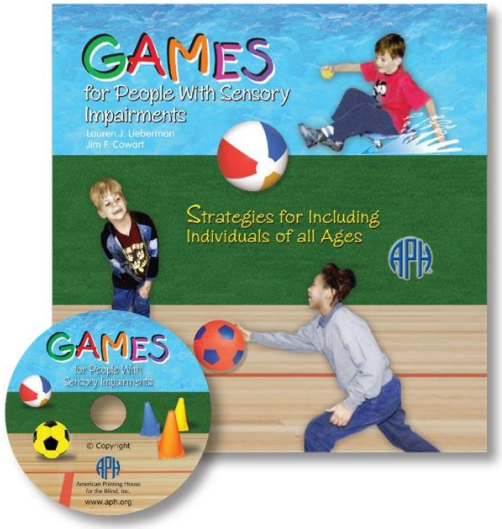
- Provide support to families in the form of information regarding resources available, family meetings on various topics related to their child.
- Number of families served 2018-2019 – Approximately 217 families served center-based and across the state.
- Events this past year –
  - End of year family cookout
  - AT presentations
  - braille introduction workshops
  - Waiver workshops
  - VIPS open house
  - Backpack program for center-based students
  - assisting with low vision clinics
- New for 2019-2020 – Family retreat at Center for Courageous Kids

KSB Outreach – Kentucky Instructional Materials Resource Center (KIMRC)

- In 2018 – 2019 the KIMRC provided materials to 700 – 750 students in 127 of Kentucky's 173 school districts.
- The KIMRC is designed to assist schools in obtaining specialized materials for Kentucky students who are blind and visually impaired.
- This includes students that are enrolled in public and private schools, as well as those students that are home schooled as long as they are participating in a "formally organized educational program."
- Also included are infants and preschool children served through private agencies.

KSB Outreach – Kentucky Instructional Materials Resource Center (KIMRC)

Examples of materials provided:



QUESTIONS?