



AUCD

Health & Disability Digest

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In the News

Obesity Strategy Adaptation for Youth with Disabilities

The rate of obesity among adolescents aged 12 to 19 years has more than tripled over the past three decades, and the rate among children ages 6 to 11 years has more than doubled. Rates of obesity are even worse among children and adolescents with disabilities. Reversing the U.S. obesity epidemic requires a comprehensive approach. To help communities, the CDC initiated the [Common Community Measures for Obesity Prevention Project](#) to identify a set of strategies that communities and local governments can use for obesity prevention. The strategies for the prevention or reduction of obesity have been developed from an evidence-base of research that typically excludes participation by people with disabilities. Our "[Adaptations to Community-based Obesity Reducing National Strategies](#)" (ACORNS) website is part of a grant funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) to promote more inclusive community-based obesity prevention programs that represent the needs of youth and young adults with disabilities. The obesity-prevention strategy adaptation portal was created so that persons with disabilities, teachers, clinicians, researchers, policy makers, and more could have a place to contribute their input on how to best adapt the CDC's obesity-prevention strategies to be inclusive. To contribute your suggestions, visit [ACORNS](#) and click on the "Featured Strategy" button on the bottom of the page. For more information about the project, contact Jessica Madrigal via email at jmadri1@uic.edu or via phone at 312-355-5295.



NACCHO Tip Sheet: Tips and Strategies for Successful Integration of People with Disabilities into Local Public Health Promotion Programs

[NACCHO](#), with support from the National Center on Birth

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Defects and Developmental Disabilities at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, supported local health departments (LHDs) in a demonstration and technical assistance site project between 2005 and 2008. The sites focused on providing accessible and integrated health promotion for people with disabilities. Drawing on the experiences of the participating LHDs, NACCHO has compiled a tip sheet entitled, "Tips and Strategies for Successful Integration of People with Disabilities into Local Public Health Promotion Programs." LHDs can use this document to improve upon already successful public health programs by strategically improving integration of people with disabilities. For more information contact NACCHO's Health and Disability project at disability@naccho.org or (202) 595-1122. The tip sheet is newly available in hard copy at NACCHO's bookstore, but can also be downloaded as a PDF.

<http://eweb.naccho.org/prd?NA405PDF> (PDF version)
<http://eweb.naccho.org/prd/?NA405> (hard copy)

Highlights from the Network **CDC Grant Awarded to Kennedy Krieger Institute and UCEDD/LEND Partners**

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Office of Minority Health and Health Equity, has awarded [Kennedy Krieger Institute](#) two grants totaling \$4.49 million to continue training federally defined underrepresented racial and ethnic undergraduate and graduate students in the public health and biomedical sciences fields for the next five years. Kennedy Krieger will partner with the [Center for Disabilities Sanford School of Medicine of The University of South Dakota](#) (USD) and [University of Southern California \(USC\) UCEDD/CA-LEND at Children's Hospital Los Angeles](#) (CHLA)/California State University Los Angeles Minority Partnership Project (CSULA) and historically black colleges and universities to recruit up to 50 undergraduate students for a valuable summer experience in public health. Students will participate in a one-week orientation at Kennedy Krieger focused on urban health and health disparities, along with a one-week public health course at the CDC, and eight weeks in clinical, leadership or research experiences with faculty at Kennedy Krieger, University of South Dakota, or the USC UCEDD and selected academic departments of CHLA, USC, and CSULA. [Learn more.](#)

Pittsburgh LEND Participates in Medical Home and Pediatric Epilepsy Conference

Pittsburgh LEND thanks the PA Medical Home Initiative EPIC (Educating Practices in Community Integrated Care) and the Epilepsy Foundation of Western and Eastern Pennsylvania for the opportunity to participate in the recent conference on epilepsy on November 4th in

[NCBDDD RTOIs](#)

[Intellectual Disability
Surveillance Efforts](#)

Feature Resource

Have you visited AUCD's [Health Reform Hub](#) recently?

The Hub is an online gateway developed by AUCD to provide technical assistance and information about the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). Be sure to check the "Related Links" section at the bottom of the Health Reform Hub!

Harrisburg PA. Over 150 primary care providers from around the state attended, including physicians, nurses, educators, and families. Presentations by Miya Asato, MD Pittsburgh LEND medical co-director and Robyn Neft, CRNP and LEND graduate focused on the following topics: Update on epilepsy evaluation and treatment; surgical and other new epilepsy treatments; and neuropsychology issues for children with epilepsy. A parent and patient panel also provided important insights into the importance of family-centered care, conceptualization of the medical home and transitional care issues. To end the day, a Breakout Group discussion provided an opportunity to brainstorm how to improve communication and specialty care. To learn more about the PA Medical Home Initiative contact Molly Gatto at mgatto@paaap.org

MI Department of Community Health Examines Preventable Hospitalizations Among Persons with Disabilities on Medicaid 2006-2008

Michigan's Department of Community Health, a [State Disability and Health Grantee](#) used their surveillance funding to examine preventable hospitalizations (PH) among persons with disabilities on Medicaid in Michigan from 2006 through 2008. Preventable hospitalizations consist of hospital admissions for 13 conditions sometimes referred to as "ambulatory care sensitive conditions (ACSC)." These are conditions for which hospitalizations might have been avoided if high quality outpatient care was available and provided to manage these conditions earlier and more effectively. Preventable hospitalizations may reflect inefficiencies in the health care system that ultimately result in costly care and a heavier burden to payors such as Medicaid. Between 2006 and 2008, persons age 18-64 with disabilities on Medicaid in Michigan experienced 19,521 preventable hospitalizations. Their rate of hospitalizations for these conditions was 681.2 hospitalizations per 10,000 persons. Their rates of preventable hospitalizations:

- Were much higher than rates in the general population;
- Increased between 2006 and 2008; and
- Were higher among females, African-Americans, persons not enrolled in managed care, and residents of the lower eastern and south central portions of the state.

[Learn more.](#)

Health and Wellness Across Abilities: Program Implementation Following a Health and Wellness Training

Many health and nutrition programs geared toward training caregivers and other community organizations to facilitate the health and wellness of individuals with disabilities have been proven to be effective. One such program is the Health Matters Exercise and Nutrition Health Education Curriculum (Marks, Sisirak, & Heller, 2010). Health Matters offers an evidence-based program targeted toward service providers that provides lessons and tools for nutritious eating, healthy choice-making and exercise. [Kentucky's University Center for Excellence in](#)

[Developmental Disabilities](#) hosted a training this past Spring using the Health Matters curriculum. 18 participants responded to a ten item online survey aimed at gathering information about their progress or initial goals for and barriers to implementing health and wellness initiatives or trainings within their organization. Responses regarding progress toward goals and achievement of the practices learned in the Health Matters training varied, with most participants reporting sharing the information with leaders of their respective organizations and discussion of developing a health and wellness program. Participants reportedly plan on working with the Kentucky Division of Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities to increase physical activity for individuals receiving SCL waiver services, offering a seminar on health and wellness for students in the spring, and establishing closer connections with statewide organizations. Among the largest barriers were limited resources, time, motivation on the part of the consumer and a lack of qualified staff. Participants reported needing a stronger network of continued support, monetary resources, and technical assistance. [Learn more about Health Matters.](#)

Events

Friends of NCBDDD Webinar: NCBDDD Year End Review



Date: Friday, December 16, 2011, 1:00-2:00 pm EDT

Register:

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/201816289>

Please join us for the *NCBDDD Year End Review* as Dr. Coleen Boyle and other members of the NCBDDD

Leadership Team reflect upon the year.

Digital Health Communication Extravaganza

Date: February 15-17, 2012

Location: Orlando, FL

Early-Bird Registration Deadline: December 15, 2011

Register: <http://conferences.dce.ufl.edu/dhcx/>

This interactive "extravaganza" will bring together advanced health professionals, practitioners and scientists, along with entrepreneurs and visionaries, for two days of in-depth discovery, collaboration, and networking centered on the future of digital health communication. DHCX will explore cutting-edge digital health products and services and will include interactive presentations by internationally renowned speakers.

AUCD Staffing Update

Danielle Webber, currently a Senior Project Specialist for the AUCD-CDC cooperative agreement, will be moving to new position in January serving as Manager of Educational Programs for the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD). She hopes to continue to interface with many of you in this new role.

Danielle's last day at AUCD will be December 30, 2011 and she will be working with the team in the coming weeks to ensure a smooth

transition as AUCD seeks a new Project Specialist for the CDC Cooperative Agreement. Please take a look at the [job announcement](#) in case you know anyone who might be a good fit for the position.

“Thanks to all of you for the opportunity to work with your Centers and highlight the incredible work of the network around disability and health,” Danielle shares. We wish Danielle the best in her new position!

Health & Disability Digest Submissions

Would you like to share important updates or innovative practices from your program?

Health & Disability Digest invites you to submit notable information from your project including information about your staff, network wide requests, upcoming or past events, available positions, new research developments, and resources. Articles can be submitted using the [online form](#) or emailed to [Sharon Romelczyk](#).

