



## AUCD Central Office News

From the AUCD Board and staff to all of our friends and colleagues:



### NCBDDD-AUCD Collaborative Fellowship in Health Promotion of People with Disabilities

The National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention seeks to promote the health of babies, children, and adults with disabilities. The fellow will gain broad experience by working as a member of the Disability and Health Branch, Disability, Policy, Interventions and Programs Team. Primary activities will consist of conducting analyses related to health promotion programs, policies, initiatives and interventions that can benefit people with and without disabilities to identify strategies for reducing poor health outcomes for people with disabilities. [Read more and apply.](#)

### Network News - Awards

#### Maureen van Stone (MD UCEDD/LEND) Is Recognized as One of Maryland's 2011 Leading Women

Maureen van Stone, the Associate Director for the Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities at Kennedy Krieger Institute, was recognized by Maryland's premiere business and legal newspaper, The Daily Record, as one of Maryland's 2011 Leading Women. The 2011 Leading Women award honors women 40 years or younger on the tremendous

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### Member Spotlight

#### UMKC IHD (MO UCEDD) Receives First "President's Award" from GKC Business Leadership Network



UMKC's Institute for Human Development has been awarded the first Greater Kansas City Business (GKCB) Leadership Network's "President's Award" for its leadership in the "Add-Us-In" project. The project's goal is to provide a continuum of career opportunities for urban youth with disabilities within the greater Kansas City area through a business-led network that creates jobs and markets

accomplishments they have made so far in their careers. [Read more...](#)

## Network News - Activities & Resources

### **Fabricio Balcazar (IL UCEDD/LEND) Leads Project to Help Youth with Disabilities Start Small Businesses**



Fabricio Balcazar

While the nation's official unemployment rate hovers around 9 percent, among people with a disability the rate is nearly 15 percent. Fabricio Balcazar, professor of disability and human development who has studied and worked on the problem for two decades, calls the lack of job opportunities for this population "unacceptable." He has secured a two-year, \$550,000 grant from the U.S. Labor Department to pull together a partnership of interested groups to try a new approach. [Read more...](#)

### **Voices That Count Conference Is Held in the Virgin Islands**



The 8th Annual Voices That Count Conference was held in the Virgin Islands. The conference brought together persons with disabilities, family members of persons with disabilities, service providers, advocates and policy makers to address issues of concern to persons with disabilities in the community. Emergency Preparedness was the theme for this year's conference which featured a keynote presentation by James

D. Flemming, Regional Disability Integration Specialist for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Region II. [Read more...](#)

### **Florida Center for Inclusive Communities (FCIC, FL UCEDD/LEND) Publishes Law Enforcement Training Curriculum**

In 2008, the Hillsborough County Sherriff Office's (HCSO) requested to collaborate with FCIC staff in the development of a "Law Enforcement and Disabilities" training curriculum focused on creating awareness and understanding. With funding and support from the Florida Office of Disability and Health at the University of Florida, the FCIC has now published this field-tested, 4-hour curriculum on disability awareness for training law enforcement personnel. [Read more...](#)

### **MA ICI Sponsors Symposium on Service and Inclusion through the NextSTEP Project**

The 2011 Symposium on Service and Inclusion: Improving the Member Experience, was sponsored by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) in partnership with the

workforce training and services to prospective employers. [Read more...](#)

## Events

### **iPad Apps for AAC and Visual Strategies**

January 16, 2012  
Chicago, IL



This seminar will include demonstrations of a range of application for augmentative communication available on the iPad/iPods. Participants will be given strategies on how to identify appropriate apps to try with people who need communication support and how to edit/modify a selection of apps. [Read more and register.](#)

### **AAC Assessment & Customizing iPad/iPods for Communication: Hands-on Training with Three AAC Apps**

January 18, 2012  
Chicago, IL



This seminar is designed for individuals involved in the identification, set up and training of AAC systems. The consideration of iPads/iPods in AAC Assessment will be discussed as well as strategies for app selection. Further, the afternoon session provides three one-hour break-out sessions for

National Service Inclusion Project (NSIP) and the National Service to Employment Project (NextSTEP) of the Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts Boston. [Read more...](#)

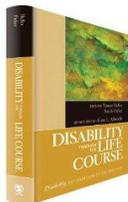
### **TX LEND Article: Unique, Collaborative Program Improves Care for Children with Autism and Other Neurodevelopmental Disabilities**



**LoneStar LEND**  
Leadership Education in Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disabilities

Having recently completed graduate school, Faiza Sheikh knew she wanted to work with children with autism, but realized that she, like many other up-and-coming health care professionals, did not have the necessary experience to do so. Thanks to a new collaborative program developed at the Children's Learning Institute at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth), Faiza now has the chance to make an impact on the lives of the growing number of children with ASD/ND. [Read more...](#)

### **Disability Across the Life Course - New Book by Tamar Heller and Sarah Parker Harris, Institute on Disability and Human Development (IL UCEDD/LEND)**



"Disability Across the Life Course" by Tamar Heller and Sarah Parker Harris, from the Institute on Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), explores topics central to the lives of people with disabilities across the life course. It is part of The SAGE Reference Series on Disability, edited by

Gary Albrecht (UIC). In this book, the life course approach assumes that, beginning prenatally, events occurring early in life affect later periods in one's life. It recognizes that development does not necessarily proceed in neat stages and that impairments interact with social determinants (e.g., culture and socioeconomic status) and environmental aspects (e.g., services and supports) across the life course, resulting in differing outcomes for people. [Read more...](#)

### **Williams Syndrome Program at Nisonger Center (OH UCEDD/LEND) Moves into Fifth Year**



The Williams Syndrome Program at Nisonger Center was established in 2007 and hosts one of eight Williams Syndrome Clinics in the country. The clinical team, including multiple LEND faculty members and trainees, provides comprehensive multidisciplinary evaluations and consultations for approximately 25-30 children/teenagers per year. [Read more...](#)

hands on training of three AAC apps: Proloquo2go, TouchChat and SonoFlex. [Read more and register.](#)

### **28th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability & Diversity**

"Living to Our Complete Potential"

The 28th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability & Diversity (Pac Rim) will bring together a diverse international gathering of academics, community leaders, self-advocates, specialists and officials to Honolulu, Hawaii on March 26-27, 2012. The conference aims to inspire, educate and illuminate - with over 18 topic areas, 200 presentations and several institutes, the program is fertile ground for dialogue and exchange while 'pushing the envelope' to ensure all human beings can live to their complete potential. [Read more and register.](#)

### **2012 International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual Disabilities (IASSID) World Congress**

July 9 - 14, 2012  
Halifax, Nova Scotia

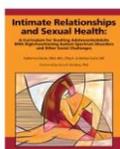
## LEND Program Expands in NH and to ME



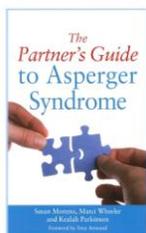
The NH Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (NH-LEND) Program, a partnership of Dartmouth Medical School and the UNH Institute on Disability, has received a \$4.25 million grant from the U.S.

Department of Health and Human Services. The funding, a major increase from the program's previous funding level, will support NH-LEND as it significantly expands trainee opportunities in NH and Maine. [Read more...](#)

## Indiana Institute on Disability and Community (IN UCEDD/LEND) Staff Members Write Two New Books



"Intimate Relationships and Sexual Health" is a new book that provides readers with an "all you ever wanted to know but were afraid to ask/teach" curriculum on sexuality tailored to the unique characteristics of high-functioning adolescents and adults on the autism spectrum.



Another new book, "The Partner's Guide to Asperger Syndrome," draws on the personal experiences of the authors to provide non-spectrum partners with tried-and-tested strategies and advice on how to overcome these barriers and achieve meaningful relationships.

[Read more...](#)

## Physical Activity and Sport for People with Disabilities at the DC UCEDD



The Inclusive Fitness Coalition and the University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at Georgetown University hosted the Physical Activity and Sport for People with Disabilities Symposium and Strategic Planning Meeting. The symposium and strategic planning meeting brought together key stakeholders to create a community blueprint for action. Experts in the field of activity, fitness, sports,

and athletics for people with disabilities collaborated with athletes with disabilities, service providers, and advocates to develop a strategic plan for how to expand physical activity, fitness, and sports for people with disabilities and advance the forthcoming policy recommendations of the Department of Education, specifically for students with disabilities. [Read more...](#)

## Submissions

News items may be submitted for consideration to:



The 2012 IASSID World Congress, "A World of Potential," will bring approximately 1,500 delegates from around the world to Halifax. The conference will offer several plenary addresses about major advances in the biological, behavioral, and social sciences related to intellectual disabilities. In addition, presenters will share recent research findings in more than 200 concurrent sessions.

## Employment Opportunities

### AUCD Technical Assistance Intern

The TA Project Intern at AUCD will assist and carry out work that will enhance the operations of AUCD Central Office teams and the AUCD Network through materials development, information exchange, and data collection and analysis. This position will provide support on a wide range of activities that furthers the mission and goals of members of the AUCD network as well as provide the opportunity for career development. [Read more and apply.](#)

Please check the [Employment](#) page on our website for more opportunities within the AUCD network.

## Stay Connected...



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