

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE  
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER  
BOLING CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

TENNESSEE'S CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, EDUCATION, RESEARCH & SERVICE

## What is the Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities?

### **Mission**

The Mission of the Boling Center (BCDD) is to positively affect the lives of persons with disabilities so that they may become independent, productive, and included in their communities.

### **Activities**

**Interdisciplinary training** in developmental disabilities. Training is available for undergraduate and graduate students, for personnel who already provide services and supports, and for individuals and their families with disabilities and special health care needs.

**Demonstration of exemplary services** that are community-based, family-centered, and culturally sensitive. Services provided by the Boling Center are listed on the Center's brochure and website.

**Technical assistance and outreach training** for agencies, family members, and consumers. BCDD staff provide focused technical assistance by phone, e-mail, and in person on a variety of issues. Outreach training is conducted at the Boling Center and through various co-sponsored events throughout the community, state and region.

**Dissemination of information** on services, policy, and current research is provided through a free listserv. Quarterly newsletters and information about interdisciplinary training as well as information about disability issues is disseminated through this listserv. Visit the website to start receiving this free resource.

**Research** is conducted by clinical staff and trainees as it relates to persons with developmental disabilities and their families. Research topics cover a variety of issues related to family supports, inclusion, and treatment.

### **Funding**

The Boling Center is supported in part by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities as a University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities. BCDD receives additional support from national, state, and local sources to meet various aspects of our Mission. The Boling Center is continuously grateful for generous contributions from individuals and families.

### **Who are BCDD Trainees?**

The Boling Center recruits trainees through sponsoring colleges or universities at the undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral level. Trainees at all levels observe and assist staff with services, technical assistance and research. Training opportunities include: developmental pediatrics, psychology, speech-language pathology, audiology, nutrition, social work, nursing, special education, occupational therapy, physical therapy, health administration, dentistry, and biochemical and clinical genetics.

### **What is Maternal & Child Health Interdisciplinary Training?**

Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) Programs are funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) to improve the health status of infants, children and adolescents with, or at risk for, neurodevelopmental and related disabilities and their families. The BCDD receives funding from MCHB to provide this interdisciplinary training to professionals and students through graduate level programs, continuing education, technical assistance, research, and consultation. The curriculum includes:

- \* **Neurodevelopmental and related disabilities,**
- \* **Family-centered, culturally competent care and,**
- \* **Interdisciplinary and leadership skills**

There are currently 39 LEND programs in 33 states. Some states have more than one program.

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