ENHANCING PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES

Interdisciplinary Training

Research

Community Supports and Services

Dissemination

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY
It is my pleasure to share MI-DDI’s accomplishments for 2019-2020.

Although our building on WSU’s campus has been closed and staff are working remotely due to COVID-19, this continues to be an exciting time of growth and change for MI-DDI. The numbers we share are just part of the story. The real story is how our nationally recognized faculty, staff and students are making a positive difference in individual lives across Michigan and beyond. The growth and change MI-DDI has experienced this past year is due to the outstanding work of our team.

Please visit our website or Facebook page to learn more. We have added specific COVID-19 and self-care resources that we hope you find useful.

Be safe and well,

Sharon Milberger, ScD
Director
Michigan Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities (MI-LEND) is an interdisciplinary leadership training program. MI-LEND trains emerging leaders with the goal of improving the health of infants, children, and adolescents with or at risk for neurodevelopmental disabilities and other related health care needs. Over 3,000 emerging leaders have been trained through clinical and classroom experiences and professional presentations.

- 61 long-term trainees
- 68 intermediate-term trainees
- 2,157 short-term trainees
- 937 pre-professionals trained to diagnose ASD
- 9,701 attendees at 113 state, national and international community and continuing education presentations

Visit ddi.wayne.edu/milend to learn more about the program.

**Empowerment Education Training**

Empowerment Education provides training for Michigan Direct Support Professionals (DSP) through the delivery of 16 learning modules related to the important work they do supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). Project trainers have reached 815 DSPs and persons with I/DD in the last year. A new module on legislative advocacy was added in 2020. Visit ddi.wayne.edu/eetraining to schedule training.

Elizabeth Janks

**Graduate Certificate in Disabilities**

MI-DDI and WSU School of Social Work offer Michigan’s only advanced degree certificate in disabilities, preparing students for careers in disability related fields. To learn more visit ddi.wayne.edu/certificate.

**ARIE Co-Curricular Project at WSU**

MI-DDI provides ongoing training to Wayne State University School of Medicine students who work directly with families with children with disabilities. Visit ddi.wayne.edu/arie to learn how you can be involved in this effort.
Michigan Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Transition Projects

In 2014, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services published a new set of rules for the delivery of Home and Community Based Services through Medicaid waiver programs. Through these rules, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services aim to improve the experience of individuals in these programs by enhancing access to the community, promoting the delivery of services in more integrated settings, and expanding the use of person-centered planning.

In collaboration with its state partners, MI-DDI provides ongoing technical assistance and survey assessment of Michigan’s compliance with the HCBS Rule. Over 30,000 surveys looking at home and community based services have been completed by beneficiaries and providers since these efforts began. Visit ddi.wayne.edu/hcbs to learn more about MI-DDI’s role.

National Core Indicators (NCI) – Michigan

National effort to survey, measure, and track service outcomes such as employment, civil rights, service planning, community inclusion, choice, health and safety for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Over 3,600 surveys have been completed. Visit ddi.wayne.edu/nci to learn more about Michigan’s NCI effort.

Autonomous Vehicle Research Project

Funded by a grant from Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council, the project seeks to:

- learn more about the current transportation experiences of people with disabilities,
- identify the potential impact of autonomous vehicles on transportation freedom, safety, community inclusion, and independence, and to
- inform state policy makers, vehicle developers and transportation authorities on these issues.
The goal of MI-OCEAN is to address the needs and health concerns of aging caregivers (age 55+) of adults with neurodevelopmental disabilities. The project uses a family support model to address issues that impact the health and well-being of aging caregivers and those that depend on them. Thirteen Family Support Navigators (FSN) work with caregivers throughout the state of Michigan. To learn how you or someone you know can be involved, visit ddi.wayne.edu/miocean

Julia Hernandez

Independent Facilitator Training

Through collaboration with The Arc of Midland, MI-DDI staff provide training with a goal of increasing the number of trained Independent Facilitators in Michigan. So far, 52 individuals have completed the training. To learn more about becoming an Independent Facilitator, visit ddi.wayne.edu/if

Buddy Up & Become Healthier

Provides inclusive opportunities for people with I/DD and a buddy to make healthy lifestyle changes. To date, 60 individuals have been trained on topics such as diabetes prevention and making healthier food choices. The project is funded by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.
Dissemination

Intelligent Lives Webinars

MI-DDI hosted a series of four webinars that served as a follow-up to a WSU screening of the documentary ‘Intelligent Lives’. The webinars covered the following topics:

- Intelligence Testing and Assessment
- Circles of Support
- Inclusive Education and Communities
- Inclusive Post-Secondary Education

Webinar recordings can be found at ddi.wayne.edu/videoresources.

Spanish Possibilities Videos

Warmakuna Hope, a Peruvian non-profit, has developed a Spanish language version of one of MI-DDI’s Possibilities videos. In addition, Warmakuna Hope has produced their own series of Spanish language videos depicting individuals living self-determined lives in their communities.

Visit ddi.wayne.edu/posibilidades to view the video series.

How To Get Involved

- MI-DDI promotes events throughout the year, find them on the Events Calendar at ddi.wayne.edu/events.
- Follow us on social media to receive updates on training, research and events:
  - Facebook @MIDDIatWSU
  - Twitter: @DDIatWSU
  - LinkedIn @middi

- Stay informed! Subscribe to MI-DDI’s Quarterly eNewsletter for information on upcoming events and opportunities. Visit ddi.wayne.edu/newsletter to sign up.
- MI-DDI staff work with partners throughout Michigan. Email middi@wayne.edu if you, a family member, or someone you know would like to be connected with disability services, supports, or training opportunities.

Patti Ramos