

Overview of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities:

A Network of Centers



Mission

To advance policy & practice for and with

people living with developmental and other disabilities, their families, and communities

by supporting our members as they engage in research, education, and service that further independence, productivity and a satisfying quality of life.





Three National Networks of Centers

- 67 University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDDs)
- 43 Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) Programs
- 15 Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Centers (IDDRCs)





Original Concept- from John F.Kennedy's Panel on Mental Retardation



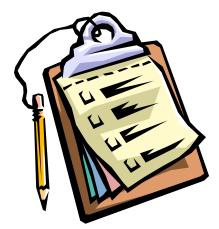
- Critical shortage of personnel
- Need for research & statistical data
- Role of numerous governmental agencies
- Shortage of facilities
- Lack of coordination





Early Expected Characteristics

- University-based units that reached out to community
- Linked university resources with disability community
- Would provide:
 - Interdisciplinary training
 - Service
 - Clinical research





UCEDD Role

Serve as resources for local, state, national and international agencies, organizations, and policy-makers concerned about people living with developmental and other disabilities and their families.





UCEDD Functions

- Conduct basic & applied research
- Provide pre-professional & continuing interdisciplinary education
- Provide technical assistance: community, state & national
- Demonstrate exemplary clinical, educational & community services
- Disseminate best practices & research results



UCEDD 8 Areas of Emphasis (Title I, Subtitle A of the DD Act)

- Quality assurance activities (advocacy, capacity building, & systemic change)
- Education
- Early intervention
- Child care
- Health-related activities
- Employment
- Housing
- Transportation
- Recreation
- Other services related to quality of life, such as community supports, selfadvocacy supports, quality assurance, and so on





- MCHB funded: work with Title V agencies
- Ensure health care professionals have leadership skills & most current knowledge
- Provide interdisciplinary clinical services at university & community settings
- Address unique needs children with special health care needs & their families
- Promote cultural competency, family-based care & interdisciplinary partnerships



LEND 11 Core Disciplines

- Pediatrics
- Nursing
- Special Education
- Social Work
- Audiology
- Nutrition
- Psychology

- Speech & Language
- Health Administration
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Parents & consumers
- Pediatric Dentistry
 Genetics (many include)





UCEDD/LEND Training and Services Provided in FY12

- 3,851 students and fellows trained in programs
- 1,220,749 people received community training and technical assistance
- 239,046 individuals received clinical, demonstration, and other model services
- 55,777 individuals received diagnostic services
- 81,373 people were screened for Autism Spectrum Disorders and other Developmental Disabilities



Eunice Kennedy Shriver Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Centers (IDDRCs)

- 15 NICHD funded P30 grantees: serve as national resource & "centers of research excellence"
- Principal mission: scientific discovery
- Discover causes, prevention strategies, treatments & interventions for birth defects & DD
- Represent nation's biomedical & behavioral research effort for DD





IDDRC Accomplishments

- Have contributed to discovery, prevention and treatment of 40+ disorders that cause mental & physical disabilities
- Train future generations of scientific investigators
- Improve quality of life for individuals & families affected by disabilities through research and discovery





International Affiliates

- AUCD engages with individual university-based Centers that are dedicated to research, education, and service for and with people with developmental disabilities
- Current international affiliates are in Wales, Israel, South Africa, Spain, and Australia



Overall Characteristics of AUCD Member Centers

- University-based units reach out to community
- Link university expertise & resources with disability community
- Provide exemplary
 - Research & service
 - Interdisciplinary training
 - Technical assistance & information





Major Areas of Contribution in National Disability Initiatives

- Early Intervention
- Preschool & Child Care
- Special Education
- Access to General Curriculum
- Literacy
- School-Work Transition
- Family-Centered Care
- Inclusive Education
- Assistive Technology
- Post Secondary Education

- Screening & Identification
- Maternal & Child Health
- Child Abuse & Neglect
- Self-Advocacy & Self
 Determination
- Community-based Services
- Housing
- Health Promotion
- Supported Living & Employment
- Aging



About AUCD





- Liaison to Federal Agencies & Disability Organizations
- Technical Assistance
- Data Collection & Dissemination
- Subcontract Administration
- Funding Development & Advocacy
- Policy Development & Legislative Advocacy



Major Activity Areas

- Data compilation and reporting
- Subcontracting with Centers
- Fellowships
- Governmental and Legislative Affairs
- National and regional events
- Policy Forums & Expert Panels
- Cross organizational partnerships
- International collaborations



AUCD Governance

• Executive Board – 18 members

- Directors & Associate Directors
 - UCEDD
 - LEND
- Council Chairs
- Structure
 - Executive Committee
 - Finance Committee



AUCD Councils

- National Training Directors Council
- Multicultural Council
- National Community Education Director's Council
- Council for Interdisciplinary Service
- Council on Community Advocacy
- Council on Research and Evaluation



AUCD Resources

- Website (<u>www.aucd.org</u>)
 - Directory of Members
 - Public search of NIRS
 - Web portal to search network members
- Newsletters
 - In Brief Weekly legislative update
 - AUCDigest Monthly newsletter
 - Health and Disability Digest Monthly newsletter
 - Developments Quarterly LEND newsletter
- Email
 - Blasts for announcements, funding, resources
 - Listservs a variety tailored to specific interests
- Print publications
 - Reports, brochures, etc.



2012 AUCD Financial Position

