



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Support for Pediatric Audiology Training Efforts

SILVER SPRING, MD (January 5, 2009) - The [Association of University Centers on Disabilities \(AUCD\)](http://www.aucd.org) is pleased to announce supplemental funding for six Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) programs to expand and augment their pediatric audiology training efforts. The competition and supplemental sub-awards to the six LEND programs were made possible through a contract to AUCD from the [Maternal and Child Health Bureau \(MCHB\)](http://www.hrsa.gov) of the [Health Resources and Services Administration's \(HRSA\)](http://www.hrsa.gov). The competition generated a great deal of interest and demonstrated the LEND network's capacity in audiology as 19 applications were submitted for the six available funding slots.

Each awardee will receive approximately \$65,000 per year for 3 years to increase the number of short and long term pediatric audiology trainees and to expand didactic content and augment clinical experiences in infant/pediatric audiology. Funded programs will develop new or adapt existing curricula for use in an accredited graduate level audiology training program. The six LEND awardees are:

- [Utah Regional Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities \(URLEND\)](#) at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT;
- [Children's National Medical Center](#), Washington, DC;
- [Center for Development and Learning](#) at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC;

- [The UCLID Center](#) at the University of Pittsburgh; Pittsburgh, PA;
- [JFK Partners](#) at the University of Colorado-Denver, Aurora, CO; and
- [Mid-Tennessee Interdisciplinary Instruction in Neurodevelopmental Disorders](#) at the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center, Nashville, TN.

The mission of the [Maternal and Child Health Bureau \(MCHB\)](#) is to provide national leadership, in partnership with key stakeholders, to improve the physical and mental health, safety and well-being of the maternal and child health (MCH) population which includes all of the nation's women, infants, children, adolescents, and their families, including fathers and children with special health care needs. Since 1963, AUCD has worked collaboratively with the MCHB to address the needs of the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities ([LEND](#)) and other MCHB interdisciplinary training programs in developing leadership systems of quality education for health providers within the Maternal and Child Health network.

About AUCD

The [Association of University Centers on Disabilities \(AUCD\)](#), a nonprofit organization that promotes and supports a nationwide network of university-based interdisciplinary centers and programs, is actively working to advance policy and practices for individuals with disabilities and their families by conducting basic and applied research, providing training to the next generation of educational, health and allied health professionals and providers, and providing exemplary direct services and supports for individuals and their families. Network members consist of 38 Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Programs, 67 University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD), and 19 Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Centers (IDDRC),

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