

AUCDigest

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AUCD Central Office News

[AUCD Celebrates March as Developmental Disabilities Month](#)



On February 26, 1987, President Ronald Reagan designated March as the National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. Twenty-five years later, the focus of the month continues to promote acceptance, independence, and self-determination. AUCD and our national networks work every day to "advance policy and practice through research, education, leadership, and services for and with individuals with developmental and other disabilities, their families and communities, in support of independence, productivity, and satisfying quality of life."

[Read more about AUCD's current activities in diagnosis, treatment, supports, professional training, research, and education.](#)

Network News - Awards

[Barbara LeRoy, PhD, DDI Director \(MI UCEDD\) Is Appointed to UNICEF Advisory Board](#)



DDI Director, Dr. Barbara LeRoy, was recently appointed to the UNICEF 2012 Advisory Board. The Board will oversee the publication of The State of the World's Children 2013, which will focus on disabilities. Working in over 150 countries, UNICEF provides children with health care, clean water, nutrition, education, protection, emergency relief, and more. [Read more...](#)

[CDS \(DE UCEDD\) CAC Member Is Named to Delaware Women's Hall of Fame Organization: Center for Disabilities Studies at the University of Delaware](#)



Micki Edelson, a long-time member of the Community Advisory Council of the Center for Disabilities Studies at the University of Delaware, was inducted into the Delaware Women's Hall of Fame on March 21, 2012. Micki also is a member of the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities. Sponsored by the Delaware Commission for Women for the past 31 years, the Hall of Fame exists to educate and recognize the unique contributions of women to the state of Delaware. [Read more...](#)

[Tony Antosh, EdD, AUCD President and RI UCEDD Director, Receives Paul W. Crowley Education Award](#)



Each year the Rhode Island School Superintendents' Association (RISSA) gives the award to one Rhode Island citizen who has demonstrated time-honored commitment to improving the quality of education in the state, much like late Representative Paul Crowley did throughout his career. According to RISSA, "Tony Antosh has had a strong, positive influence on education in Rhode Island. His impact is felt at every level, but, most strongly and importantly, at the classroom and student level, where his belief in the fundamental importance of teachers has focused on his work with aspiring and current professionals throughout the state." [Read more...](#)

Network News - Activities & Resources

[Nisonger Center Studies ADHD Drug, Parent Training for Autism](#)



Researchers at The Ohio State University are conducting a study to determine which is more effective for helping children on the autism spectrum: training parents or taking medication. Researchers at Ohio State's Nisonger Center (OH UCEDD/LEND) are studying whether a particular non-stimulant typically used to treat children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder can help children with autism. At the same time, researchers are also analyzing the benefits of a training intervention for parents of children with autism to help curb attention problems, hyperactivity and noncompliance. [Read more...](#)

[Connecting Students to Learning: ICI's Check & Connect \(MN UCEDD\)](#)



To prevent school dropout among K-12 students, in 1995 the Institute on Community Integration, Minnesota's UCED, launched Check & Connect, a research-based intervention to increase student engagement at school and with learning. Now, Check & Connect has launched an expanded suite of training and consultation options, its staff are conducting new large-scale research studies on its efficacy, and its new Web site has been unveiled. [Read more...](#)

[Introduction to Bridge Briefs \(AZ IHD UCEDD\)](#)

The Institute for Human Development (IHD) would like to introduce their new quarterly publication called Bridge Briefs - A Research to Practice Resource. The IHD is committed to disseminating information on evidence-based practice in disability disciplines and the Bridge Briefs were created to help fulfill this purpose. [Read more...](#)

[Iowa's Program for Assistive Technology Grows through Innovation and Collaboration](#)



The Iowa Program for Assistive Technology (IPAT) just completed its first year of sending weekly tips to hundreds of webmasters throughout the state. These web tips detail how to make websites more accessible and more usable for individuals with disabilities, and how to assure sites are 508 compliant. IPAT will re-offer the initial series of tips and begin work on a second, more advanced round. [Read more...](#)

[Special Issue of the International Journal, Augmentative and Alternative Communication, Devoted to ICF for AAC \(OR OHSU UCEDD\)](#)

The ICF research team at the OHSU UCEDD is pleased to announce the publication of a special issue of the international journal, Augmentative and Alternative Communication, devoted to ICF for AAC. Melanie Fried-Oken from OHSU, and Mats Granlund from Jonkoping University in Sweden are the editors. Articles are written by UCEDD faculty Charity Rowland, Don Lollar and Melanie Fried-Oken. [Read more...](#)

[Georgia Winter Institute Hosted by the Center for Leadership in Disability \(GA UCEDD\)](#)



Nestled in the Georgia Mountains, over 130 people came from across the state to participate in the 2nd Annual Georgia Winter Institute (GWI). The recharging retreat was hosted in Dahlonega, Georgia from January 8th to the 11th, 2012 by the Center for Leadership in Disability and CLD'S developmental disabilities federal partners. People with disabilities and their families, policy makers, community organizers, support care workers and providers converged to strategize community building methods inclusive of disability using principles of person-centered planning. [Read more...](#)

[Carli Friedman, UCEDD Trainee at the IL UCEDD/LEND Creates Video for Prospective Graduate Students](#)



Carli Friedman, UCEDD Trainee at the IL UCEDD/LEND created a video for prospective graduate students, which features Department of Disabilities and Human

Development graduate students (including Amie Lulinski-Norris, AUCD's former Disability Policy Fellow) on the merits of the program. [Read more...](#)

[Getting Involved in Research and Training: A Guide for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities is Co-Authored by Several IDHD Staff \(IL UCEDD/LEND\)](#)

"Getting Involved in Research and Training: A Guide for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities" explains to people with disabilities how they can participate in research and training projects. This guide describes what research and training is and what a participant can do. It also provides examples of projects and of ways to address problems others have had when working on research and training. [Read more...](#)

[Sonoran, AZ UCEDD Launches Arizona Inclusion NOW Video - Participate in Service and Volunteerism in Your Community](#)



Arizona Inclusion NOW is a grant-funded project through the National Service Inclusion Project and the Association of University Centers on Disabilities. The Arizona Inclusion NOW project is excited to present their new video created to increase awareness and participation in service and volunteerism. The speakers in the video include AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Vista alumni discussing how they were able to gain valuable experience working with their communities. [Read more...](#)

[Case Studies of Emerging State VR Agency Practices for Managing Outreach, Service Access, and Case Flow to Serve Individuals with the Most Significant Disabilities on a Priority Basis](#)

Between January 2010 and Spring 2012, the Institute for Community Inclusion (MA ICI UCEDD/LEND) as part of the VR-RTTC conducted a case study project focused on identifying strategies that VR agencies have used to manage outreach, service access, and case flow to ensure that individuals with MSD are served on a priority basis. The project team used an extensive nomination process and a Delphi panel review to select the practices, and conducted both interviews and document reviews to gather information. Seven VR agencies were identified as having promising management strategies. [Read more...](#)

[NY LEND's Law Fellowship Is Featured in the New York Law Journal](#)

Students at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law have an opportunity to learn about legal and medical issues affecting the disabled through a unique fellowship offered at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University. The fellowship, started in 2010, provides a \$4,000 stipend and academic credit to fellows for their work as a research assistant and with Einstein's Children's Evaluation and Rehabilitation Center, which cares for more than 7,000 youths with developmental disabilities each year. Funding for the fellowship comes from the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) program. The first LEND legal fellow, Kristina Majewski, graduated last year from Cardozo Law and is currently a disability policy fellow with the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) in Washington, D.C. [Read more...](#)

["Rare People and Rare Talents on a Rare Day" at Albert Einstein College of Medicine \(NY UCEDD/LEND\)](#)

Of the many celebrations planned for Leap Day this year, one was a special event for doctors and scientists called "Rare People and Rare Talents on a Rare Day" at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in Morris Park. "The emphasis is really on just how special these people are," said Dr. Steve Walkley, who helped organize the event. "They have a rare disease but at the same time they are whole human beings with talents that sometimes exceed what the rest of us have." [Read more...](#)

Member Spotlight

TN UCEDD Develops Public Database of Stories From Individuals With Disabilities and Families



Everyone has stories of life experiences to share with others. In advocating for improved services and supports for persons with disabilities and their families in Tennessee, disability organizations have learned that sharing family stories is one of the most powerful ways to demonstrate the need for change. While sharing stories face to face is powerful, so, too, are sharing family stories via a publication. In recent years, The Arc Tennessee has partnered with the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center (TN UCEDD) to publish Tennessee Family Stories and to share them with legislators. The booklets have been very well-received and at the urging of the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center's Community Advisory Council, a website has been developed to provide a way to make it easy for Tennesseans with disabilities and their families to share their stories. The website is called Tennessee Kindred Stories of Disability. The Kindred Stories website is searchable by disability, age range, county, storyteller perspective, and topic. [Read more...](#)

Events

The 4th International Disability Summer School

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
How to Use it

June 18-23, 2012

Centre for Disability Law & Policy, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland



Professor Gerard Quinn and his team are pleased to announce the 4th International Disability Summer School. This Summer School will equip participants with the insights and skills necessary to translate the generalities of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into tangible reform for persons with disabilities. The Faculty includes senior academics, practitioners and policy makers from around the world most of whom have been directly and actively engaged in drafting and implementing the Convention. [Read more and register.](#)

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

July 9 - 14, 2012
Halifax, Nova Scotia



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.

DEC's 28th Annual International Conference On Young Children With Special Needs & Their Families

October 28-30, 2012 Minneapolis, MN

Working in early intervention or early childhood special education? Join the Division for Early Childhood (DEC) and over 300 outstanding presenters to explore the evidence, present practical strategies, and engage in discussions that will change the way you think. DEC is located at the Rural Institute on Disabilities in Montana. [Read more...](#)

Employment Opportunities

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

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University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (UCEDD)

- Visit the [UCEDD page](#).

Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) programs

- Visit the [LEND page](#).

Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Centers (IDDRCs)

- Visit the [IDDRC page](#).

Submissions

News items may be submitted for consideration via the
[AUCDigest Submission page](#).

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