

The Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) is the national organization representing several national networks, the largest of which is the network of 67 interdisciplinary University Centers of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDDs). AUCD recently surveyed its membership to discover the extent of adult services provided by the network. This document provides a summary of these reported activities, but likely under-represents the breadth and depth of the network's impact for adult with disabilities.

Fifty-two Centers responded that they are currently working in the area of adult services through providing direct services to adults with disabilities, providing expert resources in their states and nationally, and training new professionals:

Direct Services

- 28 Centers provide direct, demonstration, and/or consult services that target adults (ages 21+).

Expert Resources

- 37 Centers provide community-based training or technical assistance services that target professionals who work with adults with disabilities.
- 26 Centers engage in research or evaluation projects that target adults with disabilities.

Training New Professionals

- 31 Centers currently provide substantial interdisciplinary training content on working with adults (21+) with disabilities.

State Leadership

Nearly all Centers have staff members serving on advisory committees for state agencies, including gubernatorial appointments, such as:

- State Developmental Disabilities Advisory Councils
- State Interagency Coordinating Councils
- Committees for Human Rights, Quality Assurance, Residential Oversight, Mortality Review, and Behavioral Supports
- Program Advisory Panels for Waivers, Olmstead, Family Supports, Training Cooperatives, Early Intervention, and CMS Real Choice Systems Change and Medicaid Infrastructure Grants



***The AUCD Network:
A National Resource for Adults with Disabilities***

Some Network Highlights

In **Alabama**, the University of Alabama–Birmingham Sparks Center has developed the Lifelong Coordination Clinic, which provides independent living and employment supports for adults desiring to live as independently as possible in the community. The supports provided include financial consultation and money management, transportation, housekeeping and shopping assistance, and opportunities for increased social activities and personal relationship building, as well as educational opportunities and a comprehensive job placement program as a vocational vendor of the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services.

In **California**, the University of Southern California UCEDD provides training to adults with disabilities in “recognizing and reporting crimes,” “preventing victimization,” and “voting” and collaborates with People First of California to young adults with disabilities from communities of color to engage in self-advocacy activities. The Center is partnering with the Transition Unit of the Los Angeles Unified School District to increase the number of students with disabilities entering STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) professions, by building a bridge to higher education opportunities. The Center organizes and convenes virtual town hall meetings for consumers who cannot easily travel to speak to legislators and policymakers by phone or videoconferencing. The Center is a statewide resource on issues related to end of life care for individuals with developmental disabilities and health care decision-making for this population.

In **Illinois**, the Institute on Disability and Human Development at the University of Illinois-Chicago is the site of the National Center for Physical Activity and Disability (NCPAD) and provides technical assistance, referral, and information dissemination related to physical activity and health promotion issues. Physical activity is an issue of growing interest for adults with disabilities and prioritized in the US Surgeon General’s 2005 Call to Action to Improve the Wellness of Americans with Disabilities. The Institute is also the site of the national Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Aging with Developmental Disabilities and has conducted trainings for professionals across the country to establish exercise and nutrition programs for adults with developmental disabilities.

In **Massachusetts**, the Institute for Community Inclusion at University of Massachusetts-Boston is the host site of the National Center on Workforce and Disability, the only training and technical assistance center sponsored by the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) in the US Department of Labor. It hosts the National Service Inclusion Project addressing volunteer opportunities for young adults and adults with developmental and related disabilities. It is the New England Regional Training and Technical Assistance Resource for the Rehabilitation Services Administration in the US Department of Education for community rehabilitation providers in the region. The Institute also supports five websites addressing adult issues and has numerous publications addressing benefits, evidence based practices in employment, and strategies to support job seekers with disabilities. The Institute partners with eight high schools and eight community colleges in the development of postsecondary opportunities for students with intellectual disabilities.

In **New York**, the Westchester Institute for Human Development at New York Medical College operates a specialized outpatient diagnostic and treatment center serving over 3,000 adults with developmental and other chronic disabilities each year. Health care services include primary care, neurology, cardiology, podiatry, gynecology, endocrinology, psychiatry, and dental services.

In **Pennsylvania**, the Institute on Disabilities at Temple University provides leadership development training so adults with developmental disabilities can be effective policy makers, supports students with intellectual disabilities in attending and participating in college life, and provides access to needed assistive technologies with a special focus on communication technologies.

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