



## News from MCHB

**By Denise Sofka and Madhavi Reddy  
MCHB LEND Project Officers**

The MCH Training Program would like to announce the most recent facelift of its website. If you have visited the website recently, you will notice that the Draft MCH Training Strategic Plan is much easier to find. The Strategic Plan is located prominently on the left navigation tool bar on the Home page. It is organized into six components, based on the six goals of the Strategic Plan. A definition is provided for the core concept(s) of each goal, with additional links and resources included for individuals interested in more information. We also have moved the “History and Roots in MCH” section to make it more visible to website visitors. This section is a rich resource, especially for trainees/fellows who are working to meet MCH competencies incorporated into their training programs.

Recently, we added “MCH People in the News” under the “Items of Interest” section. This section showcases the accomplishments and achievements of faculty, trainees/fellows and staff in your programs. If you have an announcement you would like to include on the web site, please send it to Madhavi Reddy at [mreddy@hrsa.gov](mailto:mreddy@hrsa.gov). We also have a section on the website for “New Grantee Products.” If you have a new online course, publication or training resource you would like to highlight, please email the title of the product and a brief description of its contents to Madhavi Reddy at [mreddy@hrsa.gov](mailto:mreddy@hrsa.gov). If it is a new online course, we also will make information about it available on the UIC/MCHB Distance Learning Inventory website.

Finally, we have transferred much of the information about HRSA’s Electronic Handbooks to the “Reporting Requirements” section under “Grantee Resources” on the left navigation tool bar. You will report data on these additional data elements (Current Long-term Trainees, Former Long-term Trainees, Short-term Trainees, Medium-term Trainees, CE/Community Training and Technical Assistance/ Collaboration) at the end of the year in your annual continuation application. If you have not visited the website recently, please go to <http://www.mchb.hrsa.gov/training> and let us know what you think. We always appreciate visitor feedback. ■

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# LEND Program Highlights

## Riley Child Development Celebrates 35 Years

**By Steven M. Koch**  
**Riley Child Development Center**

The Riley Child Development Center (RCDC), Indiana's LEND program, celebrated its 35th anniversary on September 30, 2005. The RCDC, which is part of the James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis, Indiana, celebrated its long history with a trainee and faculty poster session, a visual display of former trainees, a reception and an awards presentation highlighting training alumni leadership accomplishments. Throughout its history, the RCDC has trained hundreds of students and professionals from 18 separate disciplines as they learn about maternal and child health, research, leadership and child development, as well as family-centered, community-based, culturally competent care through practica, internships, fellowships, and ongoing professional development.



Left to right:  
Susan Klein, former RCDC Special Education Coordinator, Darla Cohen, Family Discipline Coordinator and Stephan Viehweg, RCDC Associate Director.

"The interdisciplinary training model has proven to be an effective way to support optimal learning in all disciplines," said Dr. John D. Rau, Director of the RCDC since 1989. "Former students continue to praise this model as the highlight of their learning experience and demonstrate multiple leadership achievements throughout their careers."

Dr. Richard Schreiner, chief of pediatrics in the Indiana University School of Medicine noted, "The RCDC provides a crucial service to children, families, students and other professionals. We are proud of their outstanding contributions and accomplishments."

George Jesien, Ph.D., and Executive Director of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) provided a keynote speech for the September 30<sup>th</sup> celebration. ■

## Dr. Mark Batshaw Receives Prestigious Lab School Award

**By Gaetano Lotrecchiano**  
**Childrens National Medical Center**

Children's National Medical Center's Mark Batshaw, MD, was recently awarded the prestigious Lab School of Washington's Outstanding Learning Disabled Achievers Award. The Lab School of Washington is an internationally acclaimed and award-winning institution dedicated to educating and addressing the needs of children and adults with learning disabilities.

As a child, Dr. Batshaw struggled with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), long before it was a recognized disorder. He went on to graduate from the University of Pennsylvania and from the medical school at the University of Chicago. Considered a leading expert in learning disabilities, he sees patients with issues ranging from ADHD to Down Syndrome.

Dr. Batshaw, Chief Academic Officer and Director of Children's Research Institute at CNMC, received this award at the Lab School's Annual Gala on November 15 in Washington, DC. Alongside Dr. Batshaw was Charles Schwab, the Honorable Kendrick Meek and actor Danny Glover. The Lab School has been honoring individuals who have excelled in their field despite learning disabilities for 20 years. ■



Mark Batshaw, MD

# LEND Program Highlights

## Eunice Kennedy-Shriver visits with CNMC LEND Trainees

**Carla Messenger**  
**Postdoctoral Fellow, Child Development Program**  
**Children's National Medical Center**

*Eunice Kennedy-Shriver, the sister of former President John F. Kennedy, has been internationally recognized for her contributions to children with developmental disabilities and their families. She is the founder of Special Olympics, a competitive athletic program for children with disabilities. She has also served as Executive Vice President of the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation, an organization established by the Kennedy family to provide resources for children with mental retardation and to promote research on ways to prevent mental retardation. The Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center at the UMASS Medical School, a LEND and UCEDD, is named in her honor.*



Eunice Kennedy Shriver  
(taken from the Shriver  
Center website)

The LEND Program at Children's National Medical Center had the privilege of hosting Mrs. Eunice Kennedy-Shriver on September 19, 2005. Mrs. Kennedy-Shriver was introduced to the 2005-2006 trainees and was given an opportunity to ask questions about the LEND Program. In addition, the trainees had the rare opportunity to discuss issues related to children with disabilities and special needs with Mrs. Kennedy-Shriver and to learn from her experiences as an advocate for children and their families.

Her comments focused on the importance of advocating, as professionals, for legislation and government funding on behalf of children with disabilities. Although some great progress has been made in both research and intervention for children with disabilities, she pointed out that it is essential for professionals to continue to lobby for funding to further research and to support programs that are of benefit to children with special needs and their families. An active and persistent voice will obtain results and keep issues facing individuals with disabilities in the spotlight.

Mrs. Kennedy-Shriver also brought to the attention of the group the need for the establishment of new programs and expansion of existing programs and resources for children with disabilities and their families in nations around the world.



She reminded us that very few programs exist elsewhere around the world that compare to what is available in the United States. It is our obligation to heighten awareness of this fact and to do what we can to advocate for the development of such programs abroad where there is greatest need.

Though these are not small tasks, Mrs. Kennedy-Shriver challenged us to become strong advocates for the individuals and families with whom we work. Her dedication to serving children with disabilities is inspirational. It was a pleasure to meet her and to be reminded of how commitment and generosity can result in such remarkable contributions to society. ■

### **LEND 2006 Competition Guidance Now Available**

Link from [http://www.aucd.org/aucd\\_lend.htm](http://www.aucd.org/aucd_lend.htm)

Letters of intent are due 01-06-06; Full applications are due via the HRSA  
Electronic Handbook 02-13-06, 5pmET.

# LEND Program Highlights

## Former LEND Trainee Receives Honors

By Janet Willis  
Va-LEND

Robyn Dillon, MSW, LCSW a 1999 graduate of the Virginia LEND Program, was featured in the September 28, 2005 issue of *Style Weekly*, a local news magazine, as one of the “top forty professionals under 40.” Robyn is a clinical social worker at Virginia Commonwealth University Medical Center. For the past six years she has worked in the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Program where she counsels children who have cancer and blood disorders and their families. Outside of work she volunteers with a family support group and the Association for the Support of Children with Cancer (ASK). Over the summer she spent her vacation on a medical mission trip to Honduras. The article (below) notes her passion for working with children and families and her giving spirit.

*Robyn Dillon, 39*

*Clinical Social Worker, VCU Medical Center*

*September 28, 2005*



Robyn Dillon  
(as pictured in *Style Weekly* online)

*“Oh my gosh, your job must be so depressing,” people say to Robyn Dillon. Not at all, she tells them. Counseling children with cancer and their families is an honor, she says: “You learn about family, you learn about love, you learn about life.” For six years Dillon, a licensed clinical social worker at VCU Medical Center, has counseled children who have cancer and blood disorders, and their families. “I do just about everything that nobody else wants to do,” she says cheerfully. She solves families’ practical problems, such as how to afford school supplies or where to find a new home after an eviction. On her own time, she volunteers with a family support group as well as ASK, the Association for the Support of Children with Cancer, and she takes children on excursions to baseball games and Paramount’s Kings Dominion. She spent this year’s vacation on a medical mission trip to Honduras and in the past has volunteered with elderly hospice patients and Special Olympics athletes. As one friend observes, incredulous, “she can’t stop herself from helping others.” ■*

## Tulane Trainee Transfers to Oregon LEND

By Eleanor Moe  
Oregon LEND

The Oregon LEND program currently has a social work intern who had been attending the Tulane University Graduate School of Social Work in New Orleans. When the school closed in the wake of hurricane Katrina, all of the students needed to find other placements in order to finish out their program. Our intern, Courtney Morse, who is a second year student, had just one semester left in order to receive her MSW. She will be able to graduate from Tulane in December. She also is working on a Masters of Public Health degree. Courtney has been a terrific addition to our cadre of trainees this year, and we have been happy to help with the continuation of her graduate program. ■



# LEND Program Highlights

## Midwest LEND Consortium: Iowa, Nebraska & South Dakota

**By Sue Pearson**  
**Iowa LEND**

On October 9-10, 2005, fifty five LEND trainees and faculty convened in Omaha, Nebraska, to network, share information and learn more about each state's programs and activities. On Sunday evening the group gathered at the home of Cindy Ellis, MD, Nebraska LEND Director. Participants became acquainted with each other in an informal setting in preparation for the all day seminar on Monday.

On Monday, Robert D. Bartee, Executive Assistant to the UNMC Chancellor, opened the day's event with an inspirational presentation titled, "Advancing the Disability Agenda: Leadership Skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." Dr. Bartee's presentation identified eight characteristics of effective leaders including insight into other cultures, the ability to embrace and promote change and the ability to help others cope with change. Dr. Bartee also emphasized that strong leaders are able to think outside the box, communicate effectively and that they must possess political insight, self awareness and commitment.

Throughout the rest of the day, each state shared information about their program in general and presented a seminar on a particular project. Renee Schulz, RN, MS, Performance Consultant for the Center for Learning and Innovation at the Sioux Valley USD Medical Center, presented "A Workshop for Personal and Organizational Growth." This interactive session demonstrated to participants how the Myers Briggs Inventory is used to identify an individual's strengths. Small group activities helped the group understand that we often use different approaches in our work to achieve the same results.

Cindy Ellis and Susan Wilczynski, PhD, from Nebraska provided an overview on Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) including information about screening and diagnostic criteria, common behavioral characteristics, medical management and differentiating ASD from related disorders.

Sue Pearson, MA, and Dennis Harper, PhD, from Iowa shared information about the integration of web technology in their program. Many of the Iowa LEND cultural competence activities are conducted via Web CT, enabling trainees to discuss assigned articles and events. This year's trainees are also using Internet Video Conferencing and the Iowa Communication Network (ICN) on a regular basis to broadcast didactic seminars to trainees who are off-site. As a result, trainees are receiving first-hand experience with this communication technology.

At the end of the seminar, trainees and faculty participated in a discussion about the various LEND programs, as well as how to continue and expand regional collaboration and dialogue. Formal evaluations were collected from all the participants in order to help determine the strengths and needs of this multi-state LEND network and to plan for future events. Prior to returning home, the group traveled to the Munroe-Meyer Institute for a short tour.

A follow-up phone conference was held on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> to share evaluation information and talk about next steps. The group will investigate the possibility of holding another seminar for trainees and faculty in February, using distance learning technology. Programs from Missouri, Kansas and Wisconsin will also be contacted regarding their interest in participating in future regional LEND activities. The next Midwest LEND Consortium is tentatively planned for October 8-9, 2006 in Omaha. ■



Left to right:  
Dennis Stevens, SD LEND Director; Valerie Gortmaker, NE trainee; Monya DeBoer, NE trainee; Cheryl Raysby Park, SD LEND Community Training Director; Pat Gromak, NE OT Training Director.

# LEND Program Highlights

## DC LEND Welcomes New Family Faculty Member

**By Monica P. Lester**  
**Children's National Medical Center**

The DC LEND Program at the Children's National Medical Center welcomes its newest member to their team--Jana Monaco, Parent-Family Faculty member. Jana resides in Northern Virginia with her husband, Tom and four children. Jana's enthusiasm is a tremendous asset to the DC LEND program and we look forward to a successful program year with our new partner. Jana brings many qualities to the program that will help grow the DC LEND, now in its second year. Jana considers herself first and foremost a "professional" mom, and with that knowledge and experience she hopes to escort our trainees from the classroom to the household of a family with children with disabilities.

Ms. Monaco has two children with a metabolic disorder that has prompted her to begin her work in disabilities advocacy. Both children were diagnosed with isovaleric acidemia, a metabolic disorder that can be detected through newborn screening. Stephen, who is now eight years old, unfortunately did not benefit from early screening and suffered severe brain damage at the age of three and a half. The state of Virginia was not screening for this disorder when her children were born, but Caroline who is now 3 years old was diagnosed as a result of the Monaco's history with Stephen. Jana describes her work with the many organizations she is involved with as being the most important aspect of being a parent. In addition, she explains it as a way of helping others understand the significance of newborn screenings.



Jana and Tom Monaco and family.

Jana works with many different organizations and associations to help raise awareness concerning newborn screening both in her state and nationally. Both Jana and her husband Tom were recognized by the Prince William County Disability Services Board for advocating for the passage of Virginia House Bill 1824 for newborn screening in June 2005. She is a member of the Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders and genetic Diseases in Newborns and Children subcommittee on Laboratory Standards and Procedures. Ms. Monaco also serves on the advisory committee of the New York Mid-Atlantic Collaborative.

As the DC LEND looks forward to another successful program year, we cannot express the importance of our new Parent-Family Faculty member and the perspective that Jana brings to the LEND program. ■

Use the LEND Directory at

[https://www.aucd.org/aucd\\_lend.htm](https://www.aucd.org/aucd_lend.htm)

to find contact information for any LEND faculty member.

# LEND Program Highlights

## ESPA-AUCD Partnership Announces Trainee Grantees

**By Dan Dalton**  
**Training and Technical Assistance Specialist**  
**Easter Seals Project ACTION**



Earlier this year, AUCD and ESPA - Easter Seals Project ACTION (Accessible Community Transportation In Our Nation) met to discuss ways to increase the involvement of trainees in accessible transportation issues. Funded through a cooperative agreement with the US Department of Transportation, Federal Transportation Administration, ESPA promotes cooperation between the transportation industry and the disability community to increase mobility for people with disabilities under the ADA and beyond. ESPA offers resources, training and technical assistance in an effort to make the ADA work for everyone, everyday.

As a result of these discussions, ESPA and AUCD partnered to create a sponsored project opportunity for trainees to conduct research related to transportation for people with disabilities. Through this program current post-baccalaureate trainees from UCEDDs and LENDs were able to apply for an opportunity to expand upon current transit-related research from a disability community perspective, particularly in regard to quality of life issues related to transportation services. The following applicants were selected:

*Ms. Lauren Giovingo*, a Psychology Intern and UCEDD trainee at the University of North Carolina's Center for Development and Learning, will examine the extent to which existing state disaster preparedness plans address transportation for people with disabilities. She plans to survey people with disabilities and their families affected by recent hurricanes to determine their transportation needs in the course of these natural disasters. Ms. Giovingo is acutely aware of the impacts of a natural disaster as she was one of the millions of residents forced to evacuate from New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina, heightening her awareness and concern regarding disaster preparedness for people with disabilities.

*Ms. Anna Long*, a Psychology Intern and LEND Trainee at the Oregon Institute on Disability and Development, will focus on the unique challenges people with physical disabilities encounter when traveling to and from an airport. She will examine barriers to transportation experienced by persons with physical disabilities and strategies they use to overcome these barriers. Ms. Long will also develop a quick reference tool based on this information that will provide tips and strategies for individuals with physical disabilities in their travel to and from an airport.

Ms. Giovingo and Ms. Long will complete work on their projects by August 2006, and will present their products at a meeting of ESPA's National Steering Committee in Washington, D.C. as well as a potential presentation at the AUCD Annual Meeting in October 2006. ■

# LEND Program Highlights

## Is Your Hospital Culturally Competent?

An article by Georgetown's National Center for Cultural Competence  
From "Trustee" Vol. 58 No. 2  
"Is Your Hospital Culturally Competent? (And What Does That Mean Exactly?)"  
By Laurie Larson

Trustee

Summary: This article advocates the importance of cultural competence in modern health care. Defined as "the ability of systems to provide care to patients with diverse values, beliefs and behaviors, including tailoring delivery to meet patients' social, cultural and linguistic needs," a firm grasp of cultural competence allows for hospitals to better meet the needs of today's diverse patient population. Rapidly changing ethnic demographics combined with a more diverse uninsured population and a health care system that is difficult to navigate for even "mainstream" patients bring hospitals to come to terms both with what cultural competence means and how "competent" they are. According to Tawara Goode, director of the National Center for Cultural Competence based at Georgetown University in Washington D.C., "We used to have to rationalize cultural competence [in presentations], but now, it's how-to and explaining the nuts and bolts of it." Describing how hospitals can approach the subject of cultural competence, the article summarizes how "cultural humility," "leadership buy-in," and cross cultural communication lead to the final goal of getting patients the care that they need.

To learn more about cultural competence initiatives and resources on the Web, access this article online at [http://www.trusteemag.com/trusteemag/hospitalconnect/search/article.jsp?dcrpath=TRUSTEEMAG/PubsNewsArticleGen/data/Back%20Up/0502TRU\\_FEA\\_CULTURE&domain=TRUSTEEMAG](http://www.trusteemag.com/trusteemag/hospitalconnect/search/article.jsp?dcrpath=TRUSTEEMAG/PubsNewsArticleGen/data/Back%20Up/0502TRU_FEA_CULTURE&domain=TRUSTEEMAG). ■

## KKI Web-Based Training Plan

By Bettea Hoofnagle  
Kennedy Krieger Institute

The Kennedy Krieger Institute/Johns Hopkins University (KKI/JHU) LEND has developed a web-based Training Plan linking MCHB training goals and objectives to associated requirements. The plan, based on a comprehensive needs assessment involving KKI MCHB faculty and trainees, was developed by KKI's Training Administration and Curriculum Committee (TACC). The web-based plan incorporates eleven *Areas of Expertise* including Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities, Interdisciplinary Team Process, Cultural and Linguistic Competence, Family-Centered Coordinated Care, Clinical and Community-Based Best Practices, Ethical Practice, Systems of Service and Supports, Provision and Analysis, Leadership, Advocacy, Public Policy, Public Health and Research. Each area of expertise is hyperlinked to activities to help trainees complete training requirements. Activities include completing department-specific and individualized training plans; participating in core course activities; attending clinics in various settings; attending courses and lectures and pursuing self-study opportunities. A *Fundamentals* section includes links to MCHB-related organizations and programs and links to major legislation in the field of developmental disabilities. Links are also provided to the Johns Hopkins University Welch Medical Library, the National Library of Medicine, the Maternal and Child Health Library and KKI's Resource Network which is a centralized resource on developmental disabilities in Maryland.

To date, the feedback from MCHB faculty and trainees has been very positive and recommended changes will be incorporated as approved by the KKI TACC. ■



Kennedy Krieger Institute

# LEND Program Highlights

## LEND Health Administration Workgroup

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**By Andrew Morris**  
**Policy Liaison, Portland OHSU**

The LEND Health Administration workgroup has been working for close to two years on developing new curriculum. The first portion of the curriculum, for LEND Health Administration trainees, was completed last spring. The workgroup is now completing curriculum to assist LENDs in teaching non-HA trainees about Health Administration. The curriculum will include descriptions of central ideas of HA as well as a number optional exercises and resources. This second phase of the work group has expanded and new network members have been providing additional input, including a number of LEND trainees. The workgroup's goal is to have a product ready to present at the spring LEND Directors meeting. You are encouraged to check out the Health Administration website at [http://www.aucd.org/health\\_administration/main.htm](http://www.aucd.org/health_administration/main.htm). If you have questions contact Crystal Pariseau ([cpariseau@aucd.org](mailto:cpariseau@aucd.org)) or Andrew Morris ([morrisa@ohsu.edu](mailto:morrisa@ohsu.edu)). ■

## LEND Promising Practices in Family Mentorship Workgroup

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**By Ruth Roberts & Elaine Ogburn**  
**Workgroup Co-Chairs**

There was much excitement at the LEND Family Discipline in DC in February 2005. Many Family Faculty members from LEND programs across the country met one another for the first time and began sharing information about the Family components of their curriculums. Out of this meeting two workgroups were formed, one of which was the Promising Practices in Family Mentorship workgroup. This workgroup has continued meeting to further discuss the development of a resource for LEND Programs and Family Faculty.

The finished product will be a *Guidebook for Promising Practices on Family Mentoring*, which will be available primarily on the Internet and as a hard copy by request. Questions about this workgroup can be directed to Elaine Ogburn ([esogburn@vcu.edu](mailto:esogburn@vcu.edu)), Ruth Roberts ([rrobert8@utm.edu](mailto:rrobert8@utm.edu)) or Crystal Pariseau ([cpariseau@aucd.org](mailto:cpariseau@aucd.org)). ■

## LEND Family Trainee Competencies Workgroup

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**By Darla Cohen**  
**Workgroup Chair**

After the initial meeting of LEND Family Faculty held in February of 2005 in Washington, DC, a workgroup was formed to examine competencies for family trainees. The task of this workgroup is to develop common curriculum goals and competencies for Family as a Discipline within the LEND interdisciplinary structure. The workgroup is well underway sharing documents, teleconferencing and meeting face-to-face, and participants hope to have a product ready in early 2006. Questions about this workgroup can be directed to Darla Cohen, workgroup chair at [darla.cohen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:darla.cohen@sbcglobal.net) or Crystal Pariseau of AUCD at [cpariseau@aucd.org](mailto:cpariseau@aucd.org). ■

# LEND Program Highlights

## Oklahoma LEND – Sooner SUCCESS Issue Briefs

By Linda Wilson, OK LEND Training Director and  
Louis Worley, Sooner SUCCESS State Coordinator



Oklahoma LEND and Sooner SUCCESS, a statewide interagency systems change initiative, are collaborating on a series of Issue Briefs to provide targeted information about community-based strategies that promote family-centered, culturally effective, interdisciplinary and comprehensive service approaches. The Issue Briefs will provide background information and activities focusing on the principles of Oklahoma LEND and the overarching goals of Sooner SUCCESS. The Oklahoma LEND program supports Sooner SUCCESS in its work to increase capacity of local areas to provide integrated, comprehensive and exemplary services in the systems of health, mental health, education and human services. The Oklahoma LEND-Sooner SUCCESS collaboration allows the interdisciplinary training of health care and related professionals to include experience with a statewide community-based systems change initiative. Linda Wilson, Oklahoma LEND Training Director, and Louis Worley, Sooner SUCCESS State Coordinator, serve as Issue Brief co-editors. An interdisciplinary review panel with family and trainee involvement provides review comments before each Issue Brief is finalized and disseminated.

The first Oklahoma LEND-Sooner SUCCESS Issue Brief features information gathered in a survey of families and providers regarding how Oklahoma families prefer to partner with service providers in planning, developing and evaluating services for children and youth with special needs. The second Issue Brief will focus on family-centered care and its inter-relationship with cultural competence. Future Issue Briefs will draw from a wide range of topics such as transition, financing and interdisciplinary services. The Issue Briefs will be disseminated to a broad base of family members, self advocates, service providers, organizations and agencies focused on services and supports for individuals with special needs and their families, community representatives and others at the local, state and national levels.

If you are interested in receiving the Issue Briefs, contact Maria Sierra with the Oklahoma LEND Program at [maria-sierra@ouhsc.edu](mailto:maria-sierra@ouhsc.edu) or (405) 271-6824 ext 45103. Please indicate if you prefer to receive future Issue Briefs electronically or by mail. ■

## PPC Article in 'Evaluation and the Health Professions' Journal

**Julie A. Mcdougal**, University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Medicine; **C. Michael Brooks**, University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Health Related Professions; **Mark Albanese**, University of Wisconsin, Medical School–Madison.

Achieving Consensus on Leadership Competencies and Outcome Measures –The Pediatric Pulmonary Centers' Experience

*Abstract: Pediatric Pulmonary Centers (PPCs) are federally funded interdisciplinary leadership training programs aiming to improve the health of families and children. This article describes the process PPCs used to efficiently and effectively achieve consensus on leadership training competencies and outcome measures among a large and diverse group of health professionals. Phase 1 used a modified Delphi technique to develop an initial set of competencies and outcome measures. Phase 2 used the nominal group technique and modified focus group strategies to refine and prioritize the competencies and outcomes measures. Participants reported being highly satisfied with the process and outcomes. In Phase 3, a formal program evaluation instrument was implemented, designed to measure the competency and describe the career paths and leadership accomplishments of previous trainees. The consensus process adopted can serve as a model for academic and public health entities seeking to achieve consensus on program goals, strategies, methods, priorities and outcomes.*

Access the full article at: <http://ehp.sagepub.com/content/vol28/issue4/>. ■

# Events

## February 2006

### ***February 6-8, 2006--2006 Disability Policy Seminar: Sharing a Vision to Strengthen the Future***

The Annual Disability Policy Seminar brings national, state and local disability organizations as well as self-advocates, families and providers to our nation's Capitol for three days of intense public policy discussions and meetings focused on issues affecting people with disabilities. Hosted by The Arc, UCP, AAMR, AUCD & NACDD, the Disability Policy Seminar is an opportunity for the disability community to educate the U.S. Congress and their constituents on how to preserve and strengthen federal policies and programs that are important to people with disabilities.

Learn more and register at [http://www.aucd.org/events2006/disability\\_policy\\_seminar\\_2006.htm](http://www.aucd.org/events2006/disability_policy_seminar_2006.htm).

## March 2006

### ***March 4, 2006--LEND Discipline Meeting: Social Work***

Crystal Gateway Marriott, Crystal City, VA. Registration and information at [http://www.aucd.org/aucd\\_lend.htm](http://www.aucd.org/aucd_lend.htm).

### ***March 4-5, 2006--LEND Directors Meeting***

Crystal Gateway Marriott, Crystal City, VA. Registration and information at [http://www.aucd.org/aucd\\_lend.htm](http://www.aucd.org/aucd_lend.htm).

### ***March 5, 2006--MCHB Joint Meeting Emergency Preparedness & Interdisciplinary Training***

Crystal Gateway Marriott, Crystal City, VA. Registration and information at [http://www.aucd.org/aucd\\_lend.htm](http://www.aucd.org/aucd_lend.htm).

### ***March 13-15, 2006--22nd Annual Pacific Rim Conference***

Sheraton Waikiki Hotel & Resort, Honolulu, Hawaii. Learn more about Pac Rim 2006 at [www.pacrim.hawaii.edu](http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu).

### ***Tourette Syndrome Association Medical Education Program***

The Tourette Syndrome Association (TSA) is now offering a second year of medical education programs for physicians and allied health professionals. Programs are free of charge to your medical center/hospital or professional organization. Sponsored in partnership with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), expert faculty from the TSA Medical Advisory Board will present. CME credits are available. For more information contact: Gary Frank, ACSW LCSW, Exec. Vice President, Tourette Syndrome Association [gary.frank@tsa-usa.org](mailto:gary.frank@tsa-usa.org), 718-224-2999 ext.235.

# Resources

## ***MCH Library: New Knowledge Path on Autism Spectrum Disorders***

Knowledge Path: Autism Spectrum Disorders offers a selection of current, high-quality information and resources about autism spectrum disorders (ASD) identification and intervention. The knowledge path is intended for use by health professionals, educators, researchers, policymakers and families.

[http://www.mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/kp\\_autism.html](http://www.mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/kp_autism.html).

## ***Cross Cultural Health Care - Case Studies***

This online interactive self-study program consists of a series of five tutorials in cultural competence, aimed at familiarizing health care providers with common issues that arise while working with people of diverse cultures. The Cross Cultural Health Care - Case Studies were developed collaboratively by the seven Pediatric Pulmonary Centers. This resource is available free to MCH trainees; for a small cost, CEUs are available for Nurses and CMEs for Physicians. CEUs for other disciplines will be available in the future. For more information contact Susan Horky, LCSW at [Chaunst@peds.ufl.edu](mailto:Chaunst@peds.ufl.edu). MCH trainees and others: <http://ppc.mchtraining.net/> click "Links & Resources, Curricula."

## ***National Survey Findings Available Online***

"What have you learned about child and adolescent health today?"



The Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative (CAHMI) is

pleased to announce the Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health. This resource is a free, easy-to-use website that puts national, state and regional survey findings right at your fingertips!

## ***Transition to Adult Health Care Training Guide***

From the Waisman Center's Wisconsin Healthy and Ready to Work Project, this training guide is intended to serve as a framework for anyone interested in helping young people with special health care needs and their parents prepare for the transition to adult health care.

Download: [http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/hrtw/Adult\\_Teen.pdf](http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/hrtw/Adult_Teen.pdf).

Purchase: <http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/hrtw/Publications.html>.

## ***Your Baby and Down Syndrome: Answers to Questions You Might Have***

This brochure is available in English and Spanish in PDF format, free of charge. It provides new parents with a foundation of knowledge for further self-study and talking points for a physician during a diagnostic consultation. The brochure was developed under an AUCD-funded RTOI Grant (through an interagency agreement with CDC, NCBDDD). The goal of the project was to educate primary care providers on Down Syndrome.

For further information, contact Project Co-Directors:

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# Trainee Corner

## Virtual Trainee Update

**By Paul Lesnik**  
**AUCD Virtual Trainee and UNM LEND Trainee**

Hello to all LEND & UCEDD trainees for the 2005-2006 academic year! I hope that all of us are finding a way to balance our academic demands, our clinics, jobs, families, and lives, with our LEND & UCEDD activities and tasks.

One of my goals over the coming year is to highlight the significance that our LEND & UCEDD experiences can have in our present and future lives. One way to do this is by strengthening our electronic network, so that we feel free to communicate with each other and we can have easier and more focused access to information about nationwide research, clinical, and career opportunities available in developmental disabilities. One exciting step toward this was a recent teleconference held between University of Tennessee Boling LEND trainees and myself. It was great to see and talk to some of my fellow trainees, though they were in Memphis and I was in Albuquerque. They had several excellent ideas on ways that we can make LEND & UCEDD information and opportunities in the field of developmental disabilities more electronically accessible and user-friendly, and I'd like to express my thanks to all of them, especially to Ruth Roberts and Elizabeth Bishop for making our teleconference possible.

As students in higher education, we will be part of the next generation of leaders, teachers, researchers, educators, clinicians, and policy makers in the field of developmental disabilities. Teamed up with the AUCD network we are a great resource for each other, if we communicate with one another. I'll be working with you on developing our abilities to do this in the coming months. See You! ■

Be sure to check  
the trainee website  
for message board  
news, virtual  
trainee updates,  
events, and more!

[www.aucd.org/  
aucd\\_trainees](http://www.aucd.org/aucd_trainees)



Jamie Hall (CMNC-DC LEND), Paul Lesnik (NM LEND, Virtual Trainee), Trish Frerking (OR LEND) and Mary Dollard (CHOP-PA, LEND) at the 2005 Alliance for Full Participation Summit.



Trainee John Kramer (ILL UCEDD) with his *Sibling Project* Poster at the 2005 AFP Summit.



Trainee Joe Caldwell (ILL UCEDD) with his *Outcomes of Consumer-Directed Family Support* Poster at the 2005 AFP Summit.



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## LENDLinks

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Current and back issues of *LEND Links* can be found on the AUCD website at: <http://www.aucd.org/LEND/newsletter.htm>

Submissions: Items of interest to LEND programs may be submitted for consideration by e-mailing [cpariseau@aucd.org](mailto:cpariseau@aucd.org). Items should be no longer than 250 words. Electronic copies of pictures are encouraged.

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**T**he Annual Disability Policy Seminar brings national, state and local Disability organizations as well as self-advocates, families and providers to our nation's capital for three days of intense public policy discussions and meetings focused on issues affecting people with disabilities. Hosted by The Arc of the US, United Cerebral Palsy, the American Association on Mental Retardation (AAMR), the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) and the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD), the 2006 Disability Policy Seminar is an opportunity for the disability community to educate the US Congress and their constituents on how to preserve and strengthen federal policies and programs important to people with disabilities.

*Sharing A Vision To Strengthen The Future* is the 2006 Disability Policy Seminar's theme, epitomizing our journey toward preserving and strengthening federal policies and programs to improve the future for people with disabilities, through a shared vision of a stronger tomorrow.

**SHARING A VISION  
TO  
STRENGTHEN THE FUTURE**

**WHO:** All faculty and trainees from UCEDDs and LENDs.

**WHEN:** February 6-8, 2006

**WHERE:** The Capital Hilton, Washington, DC

**REGISTRATION:** (Seminar) [http://www.aucd.org/events2006/disability\\_policy\\_seminar\\_2006.htm](http://www.aucd.org/events2006/disability_policy_seminar_2006.htm)

**HOTEL:** [http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/private\\_groups/dcashhh\\_dpc/index.jhtml](http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/private_groups/dcashhh_dpc/index.jhtml) or (202) 393-1000.

The group code for Internet reservations is "DPC."

**Why Should You Attend? To Show Congress You Care!** Federal public policy and programs affect our daily lives, so it is critical to stay informed about what is happening in Washington, DC. This Congress and this Administration continue to cut funding for programs important to people with disabilities and fail to support policies that favor full participation for people with disabilities. Participants will be actively involved in a three-day intensive seminar focused on public policy issues ranging from the federal budget and appropriations process (where the majority of funding for federal programs for people with disabilities occurs.) to Medicaid, long term care, employment and housing. *For more information, contact Kim Musheno at [kmusheno@aucd.org](mailto:kmusheno@aucd.org) or 301-588-8252.*