

September 2015 Update

This is the final month of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities’ (AUCD) one-year contract to develop a *Diversity & Inclusion Blueprint* to include guidance, resources, and action plans for network Centers, AUCD, AIDD and MCHB, so each can better serve diverse populations.

In August, we sponsored a **Community Conversation: Engaging Diverse Local Communities** with Facilitators Walt Bower and Christina Espinosa of the Kentucky UCEDD, the University of Kentucky's Human Development Institute and Respondent Barbara Wheeler, of the University of Southern California University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities and the AUCD Multicultural Council. It’s archived in the AUCD Webinar Library and available here: <https://www.aucd.org/template/event.cfm?event_id=7789>.

The Diversity & Inclusion Fellowship team has been reviewing numerous suggestions, recommendations and resources received from advisors during the past couple of months to finalize the strategies and resources that will populate the Blueprint website. This website will at: <http://www.implementdiversity.tools/> is planned for launch by Sept. 24, and will be introduced to the network with a webinar held Sept. 24, 3:30-5:00 pm eastern. An announcement of the date and time for this webinar is coming soon!

Engaging the network and ensuring it addresses your needs is key to the success of this effort. As always, we are open to your comments, suggestions, and additional resources; if you have feedback. Every faculty, staff, trainee, and advisory group member within AUCD’s network is encouraged to participate.

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