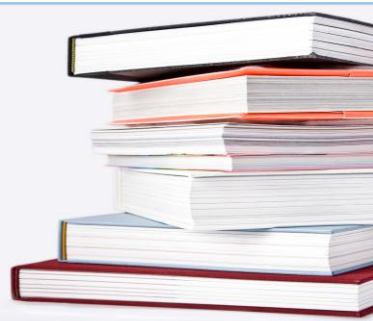




## Community Integration and Olmstead: A Brief History

*Olmstead v. L.C.*, the 13 year old landmark Supreme Court decision, marked the beginning of the end of the segregation of individuals with disabilities in institutions, and served as the catalyst for society's move towards providing individuals with disabilities the opportunity to live, work, and receive services in the greater community. At last, states were required to "administer services to individuals with disabilities in the most integrated settings appropriate to their needs." Since 1999, Presidents Bush and Obama have committed to this goal (establishing the New Freedom Initiative and the Year of Community Living, respectively), and while overt discrimination has slowly decreased, the focus in our network continues to promote the opportunity to lead quality lives in the community. Today, 67 University Centers throughout the country, work to establish and implement best practices and resources to ensure individuals who live in, and are preparing to live in, the community can lead fulfilling lives.



## Resources

[Year of Community Living Initiative](#)

[Keeping the Promise Report \(NDRN\)](#)

[Supreme Court's Olmstead Decision and Factsheet](#)

[Obama Recommits to Olmstead's promise](#)

[New Freedom Initiative](#)

[DD Network Collaboration White Paper](#)

[NIRS Public Search for UCEDD Projects and Resources](#)

[AUCDigest](#)

[Capacity Building Tool-Kit](#)

[Resources can be found at the following Web address:](#)

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**UCEDD Resource Center**  
A project of AUCD, in partnership with AIDD, to strengthen and support the network of UCEDDs

## Advancing Community Integration & Quality Services:

A UCEDD's Role



*A Life in the Community for Everyone can be Realized*



# The Promise of Olmstead Brought to Life

In light of the Olmstead decision, the DD network has worked toward ensuring states uphold the promise of this landmark decision and work toward community integration. The DD Network encompasses three statutory entities, outlined in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance Act of 2000 (the DD Act) – the University Centers on Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDDs), the Protection and Advocacy Agencies (P&As), and the Developmental Disabilities Councils (DD Councils), each with a national organization tasked to provide technical assistance. Each entity works collaboratively to protect and provide necessary supports to individual persons (as represented by the diagram above) moving out of institutions and into the community.



All three entities play a unique role in enacting Olmstead: The P&A agencies (supported by the National Disability Rights Network [NDRN]), diligently monitor community and integration services. The DD Councils (supported by the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities [NACDD]), implement the DD Act and promote the interests of individuals with disabilities. The UCEDDs (supported by the Association of University Centers on Disabilities [AUCD]) provide a comprehensive set of services and resources to support individuals' needs. Specifically, UCEDDs (1) initiate model and demonstration services, (2) conduct research to provide evidence base for best practices, (3) educate legislators and policy makers, (4) train community providers who establish service systems, (5) provide technical assistance to local and state entities, and (6) promote and evaluate quality service delivery in community settings.

As a result, UCEDDs and their DD network partners collectively serve as tremendous resources for persons with disabilities and their families, policy-makers, and community providers.

## Development of a Capacity Building Tool-Kit

In order to highlight the UCEDDs' specific functions, AUCD has developed a Tool-Kit. Its Purpose is two-fold.

**Inform UCEDDs** of the activities and initiatives created throughout the network that further the goal of community integration and quality services in order to **encourage UCEDDs** to collaborate on key national initiatives, develop leadership, promote partnerships, and advance training opportunities and initiatives that will result in greater quality, and quantity, of community care.

Serve as a **foundation for informing the larger DD network** to the role of UCEDDs in this critical area, for the development of future collaborative efforts. The tool-kit will serve to provide suggestions and ideas for collaborations based on such efforts already in progress.

The Tool-kit consists of information on the following seven **topic areas**: (1) Housing/Community Living, (2) Employment, (3) Family Support, (4) Education, (5) Person-Centered Ideology, (6) Transportation, and (7) Healthcare. It identifies the **activity** (projects, initiatives, trainings, course development, etc.), **related resources**, **partnerships** needed to achieve the activity (external entities that are experts in the issue area or provide funding), and the **network experts**.

