Multicultural Council

Purpose

The Council provides leadership and assists the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) to respond to the requirements for inclusion, diversity, and cultural competence as set forth in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000. The Council supports AUCD to implement its Strategic Map with an emphasis on growing diverse and skilled leaders, and modeling diversity, equity, and inclusion with and on behalf of people with developmental disabilities and their families throughout the network.

How MCC Relates to AUCD Work

The Council helps the AUCD network to:

- Ensure the meaningful participation of individuals from culturally diverse and underrepresented groups in all activities and across all levels of the AUCD.
- Incorporate relevant and key issues in public policy initiatives at the national, state, and territorial levels that disproportionately impact individuals with developmental disabilities and their families across racially, ethnically, culturally, and linguistically diverse groups.
- Create professional development and learning opportunities that increase capacity and leadership for diversity, equity, inclusion, and cultural and linguistic competence.
- Identify and build partnerships with organizations and communities concerned with diversity, equity, and inclusion that are outside of the AUCD network to create systems change.
- Support cross-network collaborations to incorporate diversity, equity, inclusion, and cultural and linguistic competence in their deliberations and activities.

Membership

The Council membership consists of individuals from UCEDDs, IDDRCs and LENDs. The Council welcomes the participation of anyone who is interested in collaborating to advance the vision, mission, and values of AUCD. The Council centers the experiences of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families from historically marginalized populations and communities in the U.S., territories, and tribal nations.

Focus Areas

Foster collaboration among members to shift policies, practices, attitudes and behaviors to advance diversity, equity, inclusion, and cultural and linguistic competence.