



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MAINE

**Center for Community Inclusion
and Disability Studies**

University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities

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**2018-2023 CCIDS Goals and Objectives
Year 2 (2019-2020)**

Goal 1: Interdisciplinary Education

- 1.1 Continue to offer undergraduate and graduate programs in Disability Studies and related areas.
- 1.2 Continue to provide interdisciplinary Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) graduate study for NH-ME LEND.
- 1.3 Provide continuing education programs in the areas of early intervention, education, health, child care and employment. (NH-ME LEND Conference; may substitute employment conference co-sponsorship for World Usability Day in Year 2).

Goal 2: Community Education, Technical Assistance, and Consultation

- 2.1 Provide training and technical assistance on inclusive practices for early care and education professionals.
- 2.2 Provide training to early care and education technical assistance professionals through mentoring, coaching, consultation and peer-to-peer networks.
- 2.3 Provide technical assistance to families and schools on inclusive practices for students with disabilities.
- 2.4 Provide training for youth with disabilities and parents on supported decision-making and effective transition planning.
- 2.5 Provide staff training on inclusive practice at Maine Career Centers to increase access to employment for people with disabilities.

- 2.6 Develop training materials to educate health care providers about the needs of adults with chronic health conditions.
- 2.7 Improve the quality of life for senior citizens with disabilities and family caregivers through the use of family-centered planning.
- 2.8 Improve support for students with disabilities in postsecondary education.
- 2.9 Provide opportunities for college students to consider careers working with individuals with developmental disabilities.
- 2.10 Identify resources to increase self-employment opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- 2.11 Serve on committees whose activities are relevant to persons with developmental disabilities.

Goal 3: Research, Evaluation and Policy Analysis

- 3.1 Collect and analyze data to maintain and improve the quality of early care and education practice at Educare Central Maine.
- 3.2 Using the nationwide database of Educare schools, research outcomes for children with disabilities.
- 3.3 Study the use of isolation and physical restraint in schools and psychiatric settings. Study how often children with disabilities are suspended or expelled from public preschool programs.
- 3.4 Develop strategies to promote healthy “aging in place” for persons with disabilities across the lifespan.
- 3.5 Conduct research in augmented reality for persons who are blind or visually impaired. (In augmented reality, a person has an interactive experience of his or her real-world environment with computer-generated sensory information.)
- 3.6 Evaluate how well housing alternatives enhance community inclusion, employment, and quality of life of adults with developmental disabilities.

- 3.7 Study how well a project by the DD Council and Maine Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics improves the transition of youth with disabilities to adult health care.
- 3.8 Analyze policy proposals on restraint and seclusion, critical incidents, employment, housing, and other issues important for people with disabilities.
- 3.9 Conduct other research relevant to people with developmental disabilities.

Goal 4: Creating and Sharing Important Information About the Needs of People with Disabilities

- 4.1 Share news about the work of CCIDS and the UCEDD network statewide and nationally.
- 4.2 Share information about competitive integrated employment and community inclusion of persons with developmental disabilities.
- 4.3 Communicate with advocates and potential advocates about important public policy issues.
- 4.4 Produce accessible materials that are sensitive to and respectful of differences in culture, language and literacy level.
- 4.5 Educate legislators, policymakers and Maine's congressional delegation about the DD Act of 2000 to improve their understanding of disability issues and disability-related policy.