



Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND)



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LEND Programs

- Purpose

- To improve the health status of infants, children and adolescents with or at risk for neurodevelopmental and related disabilities and their families
- Through the training of professionals for leadership roles in the provision of health and related care, continuing education, technical assistance, research and consultation



LEND Programs

- Funding Agency
 - Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
 - Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS) portion of the Title V Block Grant
 - Competitive application process



LEND Programs

- Structural Framework
 - Interdisciplinary Trainees and Faculty
 - Long-Term, Medium-Term and Short Term Training
 - Didactic, Practicum and Research Components
 - Best Practice Principles
 - Family-Centered Care
 - Cultural Competence
 - Interdisciplinary, Coordinated and Integrated Services
 - Inclusive, Community-Based Practices and Partnerships



LEND Programs

- Core Disciplines
 - Health and Related Disciplines (Varies Across Programs)
 - Audiology, Dentistry, Education, Medicine, Nursing, Nutrition, Occupational Therapy, Parent-Family Issues, Physical Therapy, Psychology, Public Health, Social Work, Speech-Language Pathology
 - Parent-Family Discipline Required*
 - Other Additional Disciplines in Individual Programs
 - Examples: Assistive Technology, Genetics, Rehabilitation, Self Advocate Issues



LEND Programs

- National LEND Network
 - 35 LENDS in 28 States each with a unique focus on individual strengths (AUCD Website)
 - Regional Initiatives
 - National LEND Directors' Meetings



LEND Program Impact

- Impact on Communities and States
 - Develop and promote best practices
 - Produce exceptional clinicians and leaders in a variety of disciplines
 - Further systems change



LEND Program Impact

- Selected Network Highlights
 - LEND Programs train thousands of health care professionals each year
 - Individuals with special health care needs and disabilities receive clinical services in LEND clinics
 - Individuals participate in LEND continuing education and technical assistance activities
 - LEND faculty and trainees develop publications that are nationally disseminated



LEND Program Access

- National Website
 - www.aucd.org
 - Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)
- LEND Program Location and Contact Information
 - LEND Program Directory on website
- Developing and/or Supporting a State LEND Program
 - Contact the LEND Program in your state to inquire about program support
 - Contact AUCD to inquire about program development