

National Goals, State-of-Knowledge and National Research Agenda: The Resource Center

(Washington, DC, January 6-8, 2003)

Overview

A national invitational conference was held in Washington, DC on January 6-8, 2003 to address national goals, the state-of-knowledge and a national agenda for research, evaluation and dissemination on intellectual and developmental disabilities. This conference was sponsored by federal government agencies with primary responsibility for national goals for citizens with intellectual and developmental disabilities and by national advocacy and professional organizations, leading academic centers, and others who share commitment to our national goals. (In this document the term "intellectual disabilities" is used as the definitional equivalent of the term "mental retardation" which appears in some national goals statements.)

The purpose of the conference is to identify the goals that this nation holds for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and carefully review the ways in which our national knowledge base and research activities are contributing to monitoring and achieving success in those national goals. A primary purpose of this invitational conference was to articulate a national agenda for research, evaluation, demonstration and dissemination that can better contribute to the realization of national goals by focusing on topics and issues of central importance and by focusing limited research dollars topics and issues of importance and relevance to those goals.

Sponsoring organizations have committed to bringing experts in policy, life experience, research, program administration and other relevant areas for a three-day conference to analyze the current and potential contributions of research to the development, assessment and achievement of our national goals. Sponsors are committed to outlining national goals in ways that integrate the responsibilities of participating organizations, but that also cut across traditional agency, organization, program and other boundaries.

Sponsoring Organizations

The Arc of the United States
The Arc of Washington Research Trust Fund
The National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research
The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services
The Office of the Assistant Secretary of Planning and Evaluation (DHHS)
The Administration on Developmental Disabilities
The Center for Disease Control and Prevention
The Social Security Administration, Office of Disability
The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid
National Institute on Child Health and Human Development
The President's Committee on Mental Retardation
The Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation
The American Association on Mental Retardation
The American Network on Community Options and Resources
The National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services
Association of University Centers on Disability
CARF...The Rehabilitation Accreditation
The Council on Quality and Leadership
The National Down Syndrome Society
The Research and Training Center on Community Living, University of Minnesota
The Institute on Community Integration, University of Minnesota
The Coleman Institute on Cognitive Development, University of Colorado

Institute on Community Inclusion, University of Massachusetts-Boston
Center for Community Inclusion, The University of Maine

Participating Organizations

AbleLink Technologies, Inc.
The Human Services Research Institute
The Center on Human Policy, Syracuse University
Beach Center on Families and Disability, University of Kansas
The Starr Center, Brandeis University
The Research and Training Center on Aging and Intellectual Disability, University of Illinois at Chicago
The Indiana Institute on Disability and Community
Research and Training Center, Virginia Commonwealth University
The Rose F. Kennedy University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities
Center for Disabilities and Development, University of Iowa
Institute on Disabilities, Pennsylvania's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at Temple University
The Center on Aging and Aged, Indiana University
California Department of Rehabilitation
Frank P Graham Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill
Department of Special Education, University of Utah
The Boggs Center, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, UMDNJ

Topical Groups

1. Early Identification, Interventions and Developmental Support
2. Effective Schooling in the Least Restrictive Setting
3. Transitions from Home and School to the Roles and supports of Adulthood
4. Positive Support for Behavioral, Mental Health, Communication and Crisis Needs
5. Comprehensive and Effective Health Services and Health Promotion
6. Bio-medical Research for Primary and Secondary Prevention
7. Employment, Productive Life Roles and Income Maintenance
8. Access and Support for Community Lives, Homes and Social Roles
9. Support of Families and Family Life Across the Lifespan
10. Self-Advocacy, Self-Determination and Social Freedom and Opportunity
11. Development, Access to and Use of Emerging Technologies
12. Supports and Services in the Experience of Aging