Our mission is to work with communities to welcome, value, and support the meaningful participation of people of all ages and abilities through research, education, and service. The Indiana Institute on Disability and Community (IIDC) at Indiana University, Bloomington has pursued research, education, and service since 1970. For over four decades, our work has been about putting good ideas into everyday life in schools and communities in the interest of people with disabilities and their families.

Center Highlights - 2010

Early Childhood Center
- Managed the Indiana Family to Family (INF2F) project linking families of young children to people, information, and resources within their communities.
- Expanded the Early Childhood Meeting Place, a web-based information clearinghouse (5,000 visitors viewing 118,000 pages) for early childhood professionals.

Center on Education and Lifelong Learning
- Provided training and technical assistance to six school districts to develop culturally responsive behavior supports.
- Established a Resource Center for Improvement Activities focusing on effective assessment and instruction.
- Participated in a program of National Significance engaging 700 youth (ages 14-21) in community service.

Center on Community Living and Careers
- Provided training and technical assistance to 217 benefits Information Network (BIN) Liaisons in Indiana on the use of federal and state work incentives.
- Paired 10 teams of employment providers, schools, and businesses to provide transition-aged students and young adults with internship experiences in preparation for competitive employment.
- Established a Secondary Transition Resource Center to assist local education agencies to improve secondary outcomes for students with disabilities.
• Provided training to Indiana’s Vocational Rehabilitation counselors and community providers on VRS counseling, school-to-work, and community-based employment for persons with disabilities through the VRS Leadership Academy.
• Supported the Bureau of Rehabilitative Services’ Corporate Job Development initiative linking businesses with provider organizations. Relationships with 15 corporations were established hiring more than 30 persons with disabilities.

Center on Aging and Community

• Provided community planners with web-based resources titled Aging Indiana to transform communities into good places to grow old in Indiana. Census profiles for Indiana’s 92 counties are provided.
• Facilitated access to careers in the arts, through ArtsWORK Indiana, an employment-focused website that received the 2009 National Accessibility Leadership Award.
• Conducted a Building Leadership Training Series (BLS) for skill building in choice, self-determination, and person-centered planning for adults with disabilities. BLS has graduated 72 individuals to date.

Center for Planning and Policy Studies

• Conducted a survey focusing on implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in Indiana and across five states. In Indiana, more than 800 respondents participated. Survey results were reported at celebrations in conjunction with the 20th anniversary of the signing of the ADA.
• Conducted stakeholders meetings to gather input about needed changes in Indiana’s Medicaid waiver system.
• Collaborated with coalitions of parents and higher education faculty interested in postsecondary education for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

Center for Disability Information and Referral

• Provided a collection of over 8,000 electronic and print materials on disability related information.
• Participated in diversity activities in conjunction with the American Libraries Association (ALA) and Diversity Committee.

Indiana Resource Center for Autism

• Conducted Autism Team Training around evidence-based practices in autism spectrum disorders. 184 team leaders were trained.
• Collaborated with the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders to provide professional development standards to teachers and practitioners through technical assistance to three demonstration sites.