Since 1970, the Indiana Institute has been a leader in the transfer of knowledge in disability from the university setting to the field in Indiana and nationally.
A Foundation of Excellence

Founded in 1970, the Indiana Institute on Disability and Community, Indiana's University Center for Excellence in Disabilities, is a leader in the transfer of research and new knowledge in disability from the university setting to communities in Indiana and nationally. To accomplish this, our work is conducted through seven Centers that address issues across the lifespan and major life areas.

Employment

• Indiana is reaching out to large corporations and smaller businesses, helping them directly tap into the Indiana disability community as a powerful labor (and customer) base. The Indiana Institute and its partners, along with Vocational Rehabilitation Services, are providing resources, training, and other services to Indiana businesses as they discover the benefits of hiring employees with disabilities.

Autism Spectrum Disorders

• Recognizing that the prevalence rate of autism spectrum disorders is increasing (1 in 68 as of March 2014 - CDC data), the Institute engages in work that leads to improved quality of life for individuals on the spectrum and their families. Specifically, work is focused on goals in early detection and diagnosis, effective early childhood and school-age programs that utilize evidence-based practices, transition across grade levels and across stages of life, post-secondary opportunities, community employment and living options, and family support.

Supports for Self-Advocates and Families

• The Indiana Institute works to increase the full participation of individuals with disabilities and their family members in their local communities. Our work is designed to ensure that persons with disabilities and families have access to information and choice. This is achieved through training and dissemination activities promoting the use of person-centered planning, self-directed funding, and self-advocacy.

Livable Communities

• The vast majority of aging adults in Indiana want to be able to age in place, maintaining their independence, contributing to their community, and enjoying their family and friends. Supporting age- and ability-friendly communities statewide is another focus area of the Indiana Institute.

Early Childhood

• Advancing early education practices that bring about successful school readiness practices for all children is embedded in the work of the Institute’s early intervention focus. The Institute’s work links research and practice in advancing the field of early education by providing leadership and assistance to agencies, organizations, and communities serving all young children (birth through five years), including children with disabilities and their families.

Education

• Our work in education is interdependent between schools and community. We see a responsibility to collaborate and connect with community partners in an effort to build school and communities that welcome, include, educate, and support all learners across the lifespan.

• The Institute engages in a collaborative process to advise school districts as they work with stakeholders to design a teacher appraisal system that meets the requirements of the Indiana’s teacher evaluation legislation.

Transition

• Successful transition planning across the lifespan includes an interdisciplinary and interagency approach. The Institute’s work in transition and related services includes best practices that encompass innovative, approaches, with knowledge gained from policy implementation, research findings, and the promotion of networks and relationships.
The Indiana Institute on Disability and Community is a part of the Office of the Vice Provost for Research at Indiana University, Bloomington (OVPR).

**Our Mission**

The Indiana Institute works with communities to welcome, value, and support the meaningful participation of people of all ages and abilities through research, education, and service.

**Our Centers**

- Early Childhood Center
- Center on Education and Lifelong Learning
- Center on Community Living and Careers
- Center on Aging and Community
- Indiana Resource Center for Autism
- Center for Planning and Policy Studies
- Center for Disability Information and Referral

**Resources**

The Center for Disability Information and Referral is the library at the Indiana Institute. We are here to help you find the information and resources you need, when you need it. We are a full service lending library with a wide variety of resources about disabilities across the lifespan available online and for checkout.

Subscribe online to receive the Indiana Institute’s weekly FYI Newsletter and follow us on Facebook and Twitter as well as other Institute-sponsored newsletters and blogs. For online access to the Indiana Institute and our seven Centers, visit [http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/](http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/).

**Contact Us**

Indiana Institute on Disability and Community
1905 North Range Road
Bloomington, IN 47408-9801
Phone: 812.855.6508
Fax: 812.855.9630
e-mail: iidc@indiana.edu

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