



Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and related Disabilities (LEND) Program Overview of Neurodevelopmental Disabilities and Systems of Care

Course Description 2023-2024

Course Director: Jenean Castillo, PhD

Course Description

The WIHD LEND Training Program consists of three courses: Neurodevelopmental Disabilities and their Systems of Care; Seminar in Evidence-based Methods, and Interdisciplinary Leadership in Action. The Neurodevelopmental Disabilities and Systems of Care course (NDSC) provides a population-based perspective and epidemiology of childhood disabilities and examines key issues in assessment and treatment of children with or at risk for neurodevelopmental disabilities and their families. It also examines the broad context of health care systems and service delivery for children with disabilities from birth through young adulthood with a strong emphasis on family centered practice and family partnership. In addition a module on policy and advocacy provides an understanding of the history of the disability rights movement, landmark federal and state legislation, and court decisions as well as strategies for community advocacy. This two semester course is taught in nine modules: 1) Early Intervention, 2) Autism Spectrum Disorders, 3) Inclusive Education, 4) Genetics and Genomics, 5) Family Partnerships, 6) Policy and Advocacy, 7) Vulnerable Populations, 8) Coordinated Care and 9) Transition.

Course Goals

The learning activities of this course assist trainees to develop a higher level of competency in these MCH Leadership Competency areas.

Course Objectives

Learning Objectives for this course are found in individual module descriptions.

Course sessions

Early Intervention (EI) and Special Education (SE); Module Coordinator: J. Lequia, PhD

- Early Intervention 1: Low Birth Weight
- Early Intervention 2: Systems of Care and Intervention Settings
- Overview of Special Education
- Social Skills Intervention
- Essential Elements of Inclusive Education

Autism Spectrum Disorders/Developmental Disabilities (ASD/DD); Module Coordinator: N. Turygin, PhD

- Autism Spectrum Disorder 1: Epidemiology, Diagnosis, and Etiology
- Autism Spectrum Disorder 2: Treatment Options
- Autism Spectrum Disorders 3: Guest Speaker
- Introduction to Disabilities
- ADHD

Genetics and Genomics (Gen); Module Coordinator: J. Villiers, MS, CGC

- Genetics 1: The Vast World of Genetics



- Genetics 2: Finding Red Flags in the Family History
- Genetics 3: Genetic Testing: Impact of a Diagnosis and Social and Ethical Issues

Family Partnerships (FP); Module Coordinator: K. Millman MS Ed

- Introduction to the Family Partnerships and Transition Modules
- Family-Centered/Family-Directed Practices and Family-Professional Collaboration
- Family Quality of Life and Advocacy Presentations
- Family-Focused Disability Organizations
- Siblings of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities
- The Intersection of Disability with Race, Gender, and Culture
- Family Mentorship Experience Share-back

Policy and Advocacy (PA); Module Coordinator: K. Leader, MS

- Overview of Disability Policy
- Impact of Community Advocacy on Policy
- Disability Issues and Policy: Puerto Rico
- LEND Trainee Report-back from AUCD meeting
- LEND Trainee Report-back from Disability Policy Seminar
- Research & Policy Discussion
- Community Advocacy and Leadership: Policy Assignment Share-back

Vulnerable Populations (VP); Module Coordinator: T. Rao, PsyD

- Understanding the Child Welfare System through Policy, Public Health and System of Care Perspectives
- Child Abuse and Neglect: A Multidisciplinary Model for Assessment
- The Developmental Risks Resulting from Exposure to Abuse and Neglect

Cultural and Linguistic Competency and Health Disparities (CLCHD); Module Coordinator: J. Castillo, PhD

- Cultural Diversity & Cultural and Linguistic Competency
- Health Disparities among Individuals with I/DD
- Bilingualism
- Cultural Responsiveness in Special Education

Behavioral Health Integration (BHI); Module Coordinator: N. Turygin, PhD

- Behavioral Health Integration for the IDD/MH Population
- Coordinated Care and Services at WIHD
- Interdisciplinary Work and Teams in IDD

Developmental Concerns and Assistive Technology (DCAT); Module Coordinator: J. Castillo, PhD

- Overview and Evaluation of Children with Motor Impairments
- Identification, Evaluation and Habilitation of Pediatric Hearing Loss
- Telehealth Services



Transition and the Lifespan (TL); Module Coordinator: K. Millman MS Ed

- Life Course Theory and Social Determinants of Health
- Person-Centered Planning for Transition from School to Post-Secondary Education, Integrated Employment and Community Living
- Health Transition and the Medical Home
- Self-Determination and Self-Advocacy
- Aging and Disability

Course Assignments and point values:

1. Attend in-class sessions (5 points)
2. Participation and Completion of pre-assignments for each session (10 points)
3. Family Focused Disability Organization Interview (15 points)
4. Family Mentorship Experience (20 points)
5. Mid-year Reflective Writing Exercise (15 points)
6. End of Year Reflective Writing Exercise (20 points)
7. Community Advocacy and Policy Assignment (15 points)