

A.J. PAPPANIKOU CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

ABOUT THE CENTER

Established in 1985, the Center is committed to improving the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families. The Center employs interdisciplinary staff representing a variety of experiential, training, and multicultural perspectives. Three-quarters of the Center's employees either has a disability or has a family member with a disability.

The Center provides model programs in innovative disability related research, training and technical assistance. Strong collaborations with the University of Connecticut, University of Connecticut Health Center and Developmental Disabilities Network contribute to the Center's success in advancing policies and practices to support individuals with disabilities.

All activities of the Center are guided by a belief in individualized supports, inclusion, self-determination, natural supports and collaboration with organizations to address policy issues and systems change.

The goal of the Center is to develop, implement, and disseminate a coordination group of applied research, demonstration and training projects directed at meeting the needs of persons with disabilities and their families in community based settings.

MISSION

We will work collaboratively to promote advocacy, capacity building and systems change to improve the quality of life for persons with disabilities and their families.

THE CENTER PROVIDES

- Interdisciplinary preparation of students and fellows
- Continuing Education for individuals who serve people with developmental disabilities and their families
- Community and family education, technical assistance, and model demonstration activities
- Applied research and policy analysis

PRIORITY AREAS

- Early Intervention and Schools
- Health and Mental Health
- Community Inclusion
- Leadership

