

# The Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center

Improving the lives of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



## Our Programs include:

- The University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)
- INDEX
- The Autism Insurance Resource Center
- The Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND)
- The Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)
- The Center for Developmental Disabilities Evaluation and Research (CDDER)
- Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorder (CANDO)
- Child and Adolescent NeuroDevelopment Initiative (CANDI)

## About Us

The Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center, part of the University of Massachusetts Medical School, is dedicated to understanding and addressing the challenges faced by individuals with autism, other intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), neurodevelopmental and psychiatric disorders, and their families. Since 1970, our faculty and staff have conducted cutting-edge research, offered world-class education and training, and provided expertise and high-quality services with the goal of enhancing the health, safety, and quality of life of people with IDD. We collaborate with individuals, families, agencies, organizations, and academic institutions all over the world.

## Research

At the Shriver Center, we conduct observational, translational, and applied research in collaboration with professionals from a wide array of disciplines as well as individuals and family members.

Our key research areas include:

- Behavior Analysis
- Neurobehavioral Science and Neurogenetics
- Health Promotion
- Learning Technologies
- Population Health
- Clinical trials related to pediatric mental illness and developmental disorders

## Education and Training

Our faculty and staff have developed a range of academic and training programs to educate those who share our mission to enhance the lives of people with disabilities.

- **Academic Programs** – We provide a number of educational programs aimed at training future leaders and clinicians to improve the lives of individuals with IDD and neurodevelopmental and psychiatric disorders. Some of our programs lead to graduate certificates or graduate degrees at partnering universities.
- **Instructional Programs and Training** – Our expertise comes from decades of work in computer-based instruction, distance and e-learning, and other forms of instructional design. This has resulted in learning programs for children, training programs and online courses for parents and professionals, and information resources for the community.

# Clinical Services, Community Resources, and Consultation

The Shriver Center has developed a number of programs and informational resources for individuals with disabilities, family members, clinicians, educators, human services workers, as well as evidence-based technical assistance to agencies that provide supports to individuals with IDD, neurodevelopmental and psychiatric disorders, and their families.

- Diagnostic, pharmacological and therapeutic evaluations
- Short-term treatment of comorbid developmental and psychiatric disorders
- Disability-related Information
- Autism insurance information
- Emergency preparedness and response
- Health promotion resources
- Disability technology
- Mortality review
- Program development and evaluation
- Professional development
- Quality improvement
- Instructional technology
- Early identification and screening of children with IDD
- Sibling support demonstration project

## Our Programs

**University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)** works with individuals, families, government agencies, and community providers to enhance the independence, productivity, and inclusion of people with disabilities in community life.

**INDEX** provides free information about programs, providers, and services for people with disabilities ([www.DisabilityInfo.org](http://www.DisabilityInfo.org)); develops online learning accessible to people with disabilities; and is making the web accessible to people with intellectual and other cognitive disabilities.

**Autism Insurance Resource Center** provides information to the public, organizations and agencies about insurance coverage for autism-related treatments and services under the law.

**Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND)** program prepares trainees from diverse professional disciplines to assume leadership roles in their respective fields to serve as agents of systems change.

**Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)** program offers training, certification, and support on the CANS tool to behavioral health professionals in Massachusetts serving children and adolescents who are Medicaid recipients.

**The Center for Developmental Disabilities Evaluation and Research (CDDER)** provides research, evaluation, and training to state agencies in order to enhance the quality of supports and services for people with IDD.

**Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorder (CANDO)** is a specialty clinic that offers diagnostic, pharmacological and therapeutic evaluations that focus on stabilization and short-term treatment for persons with autism, neurodevelopmental and psychiatric disorders while assisting families to secure ongoing and long-term care from community and school providers.

**Child and Adolescent NeuroDevelopment Initiative (CANDI)** conducts research with the goal of rapidly advancing the understanding diagnosis and treatment of individuals with neurodevelopmental challenges.

## Why Partner with Us?

The Shriver Center has a rich and deep history of working to improve the quality of life for persons with IDD, neurodevelopmental and psychiatric disorders, and their families. We seek to disseminate our work and to partner with individuals and organizations to fulfill our mission.



### Contact Information:

Jean Frazier, MD, Director  
Carol Curtin, PhD, Associate Director

Central Tel: 774-455-6562  
Email: [shriver.center@umassmed.edu](mailto:shriver.center@umassmed.edu)

Visit our website:  
<http://shriver.umassmed.edu>



Eunice Kennedy  
Shriver Center

55 Lake Avenue North, S3-301  
Worcester, MA 01655