



Knowledge | Support | Empowerment

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

MAY 2011

Newsletter

Inclusive Communities: Pathways to Realizing the Vision

AAIDD Annual Conference • The Twin Cities, Minnesota • June 6-9, 2011

June 6-9, 2011 in St. Paul, Minnesota

Conference location: The Crowne Plaza
Riverfront, St. Paul, Minnesota

The AAIDD 135th Annual Meeting, *Inclusive Communities: Pathways to Realizing the Vision*, will provide leading practitioners, researchers, teaching faculty, policymakers, funders, and advocates with effective and emerging practices, cutting edge research, and valuable information on important policy initiatives. The conference will feature plenary sessions, panel and poster presentations, interactive cafés, task force and special interest group meetings, and networking events. Pre- and post-conference workshops will address special topics in depth.

New Jersey AAIDD Meeting

The NJAAIDD will hold its next meeting at 3:00 PM on Thursday, June 23, 2011 at the office of Community Access Unlimited, Board Room, 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ. Tel. (908) 354-3040; website www.caunj.org.

The Agenda will include developing a training/workshop schedule for the new year as well as receiving nominations from the floor for the new officers for the NJAAIDD.

Mission Statement

AAIDD promotes progressive policies, sound research, effective practices, and universal human rights for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

AAIDD's Principles

AAIDD has adopted a 13-point set of principles (or core values) relative to its mission:

- Achieving full societal inclusion and participation of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Advocating for equality, individual dignity and other human rights.
- Expanding opportunities for choice and self-determination.
- Influencing positive attitudes and public awareness by recognizing the contributions of people with intellectual disabilities.
- Promoting genuine accommodations to expand participation in all aspects of life.
- Aiding families and other caregivers to provide support in the community.
- Increasing access to quality health, education, vocational, and other human services and supports.
- Advancing basic and applied research to prevent or minimize the effects of

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AAIDD's Principles

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- intellectual disability and to enhance the quality of life.
- Cultivating and providing leadership in the field.
- Seeking a diversity of disciplines, cultures, and perspectives in our work.
- Enhancing skills, knowledge, rewards and conditions of people working in the field.
- Encouraging promising students to pursue careers in the field of disabilities.
- Establishing partnerships and strategic alliances with organizations that share our values and goals.

AAIDD's Goals

AAIDD's goals are to

1. Enhance the capacity of professionals who work with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
2. Participate in the development of a society that fully includes individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
3. Build an effective, responsive, well managed, responsibly-governed, and sustainable organization.

Benefits of Membership

AAIDD is the definitive membership organization and the authoritative source of information for those in the intellectual disability profession.

Our membership is over 5,000 professionals strong, in over 55 countries around the world. Joining AAIDD lets you tap into a network of top professionals who can help you find a job, show you the ropes, and deepen your involvement in your profession.

As an AAIDD member, you can take advantage of a host of professional benefits designed specifically for practitioners in the field:

AAIDD Provides Timely Information to Members

Members receive weekly emails on upcoming webinars, conferences, career advancement opportunities, and job postings. Our monthly e-newsletter, [*AAIDD F.Y.I.*](#), keeps professionals and families current on news and information in the developmental disability field.

AAIDD Influences the Future

AAIDD has played a crucial role in helping to set Federal policy and priorities, working closely with many agencies in the US Department of Education and the US Department of Health and Human Services.

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Benefits of Membership

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AAIDD Links You to Top Professionals

The members of AAIDD continue to be an impressive group. Latest surveys indicate that over 71% have advanced degrees and 81% have over 10 years in the field. Our Student and Early Career Professionals group offers career and networking benefits to new professionals and support personnel to help you get started.

AAIDD Divisions and Special Interest Groups Address Your Interests

The field of intellectual disability is extremely diverse, and few AAIDD members have precisely the same interests, specialties and concerns. With this in mind, AAIDD offers Special Interest Groups and unique Divisions—enabling individuals to tailor their memberships to their own needs and goals.

AAIDD Publishes Books That are the Definitive Works in the Field

Nothing is as valuable to the disability professional as ready access to proven solutions, promising approaches and fresh perspectives. [AAIDD's online bookstore](#) focuses on five major areas: Assessment, Management, Reference, Research to Practice, and Training. These essential resources are available to members at a 15% discount.

AAIDD's Annual Meeting Provides Common Visions and Uncommon Innovations

Each year, [AAIDD's Annual Meeting](#) brings together colleagues from around the world. They come to meet, to interact, and to learn about the latest programs, research, policies, technologies and emerging trends in the field of disability.

Within the field, the meeting is unrivaled in scope and size, with over 500 presenters and 60 exhibitors. AAIDD members attend the Annual Meeting at exclusive member discounts.

AAIDD Journals Deliver Cutting Edge Research and Practice in Intellectual and Developmental Disability

AAIDD publishes two well-respected and peer-reviewed journals. Online articles date back to 1997 and are free to members to read and download.

[*American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*](#)— reports current and critical research in the biological behavioral and educational sciences.

[*Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*](#)— covers practical solutions, perspectives and research.

AAIDD Submits Amicus Curiae Briefs to The Supreme Court

AAIDD has frequently played a key role in crucial court cases on issues such as: medical decisions affecting newborns; school exclusion; the ADA; the exclusionary zoning of group homes; and the rights of defendants charged in criminal cases.

It's a powerful community — and that power is growing.

Please check one:	
Candidate for Chairperson:	Write in:
<input type="checkbox"/> Sidney Blanchard	<input type="checkbox"/>
Candidate for Vice President:	Write in:
<input type="checkbox"/> Bernadette Griswold	<input type="checkbox"/>
Candidate for Secretary:	Write in:
<input type="checkbox"/> Sheila McDowell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Candidate for Treasurer:	Write in:
<input type="checkbox"/> Mercedes Witowsky	<input type="checkbox"/>
Candidates for Member-at-Large:	Write in:
<input type="checkbox"/> Sid Katz	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Alvin Cox	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> (Vacant)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> (Vacant)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Your  is Your Voice

Mail / Fax / E-mail / or return ballot to:

Sid Blanchard, President

c/o Community Access Unlimited

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www.caunj.org



American Association
on Intellectual and
Developmental Disabilities

Formerly known as American Association on
Mental Retardation

New Jersey Chapter
c/o Sidney Blanchard
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It's a powerful community, and that power is growing.



Say **"YES!"** to AAIDD. Join/Renew Today! www.aidd.org