The Institute on Disability/UCED (IOD) was established in 1987 to provide a university-based focus for the improvement of knowledge, policies, and practices related to the lives of people with disabilities and their families and is New Hampshire’s University Center for Excellence in Disability (UCED). Located within the University of New Hampshire, the IOD is a federally designated center authorized by the Developmental Disabilities Act. Through innovative and interdisciplinary research, academic, service, and dissemination initiatives, the IOD builds local, state, and national capacities to respond to the needs of individuals with disabilities and their families.

The 2017 IOD Annual Report contains data from the FY 2017 Report on Scholarly Activity and Engagement which can be downloaded from the IOD website at: iod.unh.edu
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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am happy to present to you the Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Report for the Institute on Disability (IOD) at the University of New Hampshire. We are particularly proud of all we were able to accomplish this past year and hope this report paints a comprehensive picture of our work and impact in an accessible and user-friendly format.

This year, which included our 30th Anniversary and the end of our most recent strategic plan, was a year of reflection. We ended our fiscal year with the adoption of a new five-year strategic plan to strengthen our impact on policy and practice, enhance services to individuals, and ensure the long-term viability of the organization. We look forward to sharing our successes in those areas in the coming years.

Thank you for taking the time to review this report. I welcome any comments and feedback you have about the work of the IOD and appreciate your ongoing support and partnership.

Sincerely,

Linda Bimbo

Acting Director, Institute on Disability,
University of New Hampshire
Tobey Partch-Davies is working to increase opportunities for individuals with disabilities. An IOD Project Director, she teaches *The Right to Be Disabled* and is the Co-Chair of the University of New Hampshire’s (UNH) President’s Commission on the Status of People with Disabilities.

Tobey, using NH-ME LEND trainees, spends much of her time evaluating the implementation fidelity and outcomes for NH’s Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program, which works to support and strengthen families with children up to 3 in their home to improve outcomes. In addition, Tobey serves on the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau’s Disability Review Committee, where she’s introducing their financial empowerment training for individuals with disabilities to NH.

Tobey has been working to build a coalition to design a transition program at UNH. Students with intellectual disabilities would be able to attend UNH classes, receive academic and peer mentoring, and have a fully-inclusive UNH experience. The model has strong support, and is currently working to secure funding.

“Students with intellectual disabilities don’t have the access to higher education as others do,” explains Tobey. “It is an important rite of passage which opens doors to independent living and competitive employment.”

All of her work is positioned to take off in the next year, and its impact will be exciting.

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To learn more about MIECHV, visit [www.iod.unh.edu/projects/MIECHV](http://www.iod.unh.edu/projects/MIECHV).

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**RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS**

- **12** PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES
- **1** BOOKS AND BOOK CHAPTERS
- **4** TRAINING CURRICULA
- **27** OTHER DISSEMINATION MATERIALS
Hannah Lane has always been particularly drawn to kids with behavioral challenges. In May 2015, she received her Masters in Early Childhood Education: Special Needs from the University of New Hampshire.

In her first year of graduate school, Hannah applied to the Early Childhood Special Education Assistive Technology (EC-SEAT) Project to be more competitive in the job market. One of the program’s strengths, according to Hannah, was the team approach the faculty took in a way that mirrored the workplace.

Hannah is now an Early Intervention Specialist with Easterseals New Hampshire, the site of her EC-SEAT program internship. She recently introduced one of her families to an app she learned about in her class to help them work with their child at the dinner table to make choices.

“With the amount that children know about technology, often before we do, it is important to show parents and families how they can use it,” shares Hannah. “Instead of looking at technology as a babysitter, I teach them how to use it as a tool to further their own knowledge.”

Hannah’s involvement with EC-SEAT didn’t end at graduation, she still finds herself in touch with faculty and staff, and serves as a mentor to EC-SEAT participants. Thus far, she’s mentored two students, where her experience in the program makes her a valuable resource.

“Instead of looking at technology as a babysitter, I teach them how to use it as a tool to further their own knowledge.”

To learn more about the EC-SEAT Project, visit www.iod.unh.edu/projects/ec-seat

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**TEACHING**

**HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES**

- 15 UNH COURSES
- 12 GUEST LECTURES
- 6 E-LEARNING COURSES

**NUMBER OF STUDENTS:**

- 190
- 632*

**PRESENTATIONS**

- 10* INTERNATIONAL
- 116 NATIONAL
- 43 STATE AND LOCAL

*Represents an all-time high
### BUILDING CAPACITY TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR ALL STUDENTS

Michael McSheehan has been connected to the IOD for almost 30 years in many roles since his time as a UNH undergraduate, including assistive technology projects, refining and evaluating the Beyond Access Model, and working on working on school- and system-wide Inclusive Education efforts.

For the past six years, Michael has led work to design and implement the national technical assistance system for SWIFT (School-wide Integrated Framework for Transformation), based at the University of Kansas. SWIFT builds whole system—state, district, school, and community—capacity to provide academic and behavioral support to improve outcomes for all students.

This past year, Michael collaborated with Vermont’s state education agency to enhance their capacity with implementation science, apply use of the SWIFT framework at school and district levels, and build a unified understanding of Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS). Vermont is now using this to develop and roll out new state-wide guidance on MTSS which will set the standard for all Vermont schools and students.

Michael sees his current work as a continuation of many of the IOD projects he’s worked on in the past, particularly the Beyond Access Model school-based work and NH Responds broad systems work. “I can’t imagine doing anything else,” shares Michael. “I want to do this for the rest of my life.”

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**DISSEMINATION**

**OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT**

- **26,620** EMAIL SUBSCRIBERS
- **238* MASS EMAILS
- **544** BOOKSTORE ORDERS
- **96.2%** BOOKSTORE SATISFACTION RATE

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

- **3,410* TWITTER FOLLOWERS**
- **960** TWEETS
- **3,407* FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS**
- **716* POSTS**
- **22 IOD BLOG POSTS**
- **1,374* VISITS**
- **70* YOUTUBE VIDEOS**
- **10,662 VIEWS**
- **34,479* MINUTES WATCHED**

*Represents an all-time high
NH-ME LEND Training Director, Dr. Betsy Humphreys, speaks with Erin Tooley, a member of the 2016-2017 NH-ME LEND Cohort, during class.
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR

The LEND Program received a new grant and changed its name to reflect the **NH-ME LEND program** to reflect the strength of the collaboration between the two states.

**JULY 2016**

**NH-ME LEND PROGRAM**

The **New Hampshire Community of Practice on Transition** hosted its 10th Annual Transition Summit with a keynote by **Keith Jones**.

**NOVEMBER 2016**

The **New Hampshire Children’s Behavioral Health Workforce Development Network** released a report looking at the workforce challenges in NH’s Community Mental Health Centers.

**SEPTEMBER 2016**

Dr. **Therese Willkomm** presented at the White House Disability and Inclusive Technology Summit.

**AUGUST 2016**

**Assistive Technology in New Hampshire** hosted Camp CreAte, a week-long, hands-on experience making, taking, and exploring Assistive Technology for home, school, work, and play.

**OCTOBER 2016**

** Jonathon Drake** won the first annual Rockstar Award from Youth M.O.V.E. New Hampshire.

**DECEMBER 2016**

**New Hampshire Comprehensive Cancer Collaborative Equity Task Force** released a white paper examining cancer prevention and screening rates among hard-to-reach, vulnerable populations in NH.
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST YEAR


Melissa Mandrell is named New Hampshire Social Worker of the Year by the New Hampshire Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers at their annual meeting.

The NEGC program, as part of a 3-year grant renewal, changed its name to the *New England Regional Genetics Network (NERGN)* to highlight the national shift from a Collaborative to a Network Model.

The Endowment for Health funded the *NH Occupational Health Surveillance Program’s Needs Assessment Workshop on Health and Safety Training for People with IDD*.

The 2017-2018 *NH Leadership Series* concluded with a Gala honoring long-time NH disability advocate Freda Smith and a graduation ceremony for its 22-person class.

The release of the *2017 NH Disability & Public Health Report* provided information on health disparities and health risk factors experienced by individuals with mobility and cognitive limitations in NH.
Youth learn how to make positive change in their schools and communities during the “Be the Change! Youth Leadership in Action” strand at the 2016 Conference on School Culture, Climate, & Positive Behavior Support.
Nick Chestnut is a funny, friendly, and goal-oriented 29-year-old, who experiences Prader-Willi Syndrome. He lives in his own apartment, receives in-home support, and owns “Nickels & Dimes,” a recycling business. Changes to Iowa’s Medicaid program made finding consistent staffing difficult. This inconsistency led to challenging behavior from Nick, making staffing more difficult. That’s when the Iowa START (I-START) program became involved.

Nick and his family met with Nick’s START coordinator, Felicia, where she learned more about Nick, his family, and his system of supports. She developed a START Comprehensive Service Evaluation, which provides an in-depth review of an individual’s history of services in order to identify opportunities to strengthen service outcomes for individuals, their families, and teams. Felicia balanced the need for each member of the team to be heard, understood, and supported, while also promoting positive changes in the way Nick’s team worked with him.

“The Comprehensive Service Evaluation does what I always knew we needed – provides the big picture,” shares Karla Chestnut, Nick’s mother. “This is valuable as more new people enter into Nick’s care. No one person can hold the big picture in their mind, so this document helps teams and individual caregivers see it and how it relates to their work with Nick.”

Today, Nick is happy, safe, doing well with his business, and he and his staff enjoy working together.

To learn more about the Center for START Services, visit www.centerforstartservices.org.

**SERVICE**

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<td>81 LOCAL, STATE, &amp; NATIONAL COMMITTEES &amp; BOARDS</td>
<td>6,434 HOURS PROVIDED</td>
<td>48 WORKSHOPS, WEBINARS &amp; CONFERENCES</td>
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<td>52 MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS</td>
<td>1,197 INDIVIDUALS SERVED</td>
<td>4,025* PARTICIPANTS</td>
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<td>23 UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES &amp; COMMISSIONS</td>
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<td>3.65* AVERAGE SATISFACTION RATING (SCALE FROM 0-4)</td>
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<td>22 EDITORIAL AND REVIEW ACTIVITIES</td>
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*Represents an all-time high
Concord High School principal Gene Connolly is hugged by students during the 2016 graduation ceremony, Connolly’s last as principal. He retired after 14 years as principal after losing his ability to walk and speak due to the debilitating effects of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS).
MANAGEMENT TEAM

Linda Bimbo  
Acting Director

Jennifer Donahue  
Finance Manager

Matthew Gianino  
Interim Associate Director

Andrew Houtenville  
Director of Research

Betsy Humphreys  
NH-ME LEND Training Director

JoAnne Malloy  
Research Associate Professor

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Linda Bimbo  
Acting Director, Institute on Disability

Michael Ferrara  
Dean, College of Health & Human Services, University of New Hampshire

Stephanie Patrick  
Executive Director, Disability Rights Center - New Hampshire

Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre  
Executive Director, New Hampshire Council on Developmental Disabilities

Christine Santaniello  
Director, New Hampshire Bureau of Developmental Services

Santina Thibedeau  
Administrator, Bureau of Special Education

FACULTY, STAFF & LEADERSHIP

12 FACULTY

- Tenure/tenure-track: 2
- Clinical: 4
- Research: 6

86 STAFF

- Full-time: 52
- Part-time: 34

7 HONORS, AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS
CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE & OFFICE LOCATIONS

CONSUMER ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC)

Steve Alexander
Lisa Beaudoin
Forrest Beaudoin-Friede
Jennifer Bertrand
Deodonne Bhattarai
Gina Colantuoni
Bonnie Dunham
Bob English
Amy Girouard
Sandy Hicks

Amy Howe
Richard Johnson
Cabrinni Kulish
Darienne McGuinness
Jill Prakop
Marie Primeau
Chrissy Shaffer
Jim Tobin
Linda Wadensten
Kathryn Wallenstein

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Fax: 603.862.0034

CONCORD OFFICE
56 Old Suncook Road, Suite 2
Concord, NH 03301
Voice: 603.228.2084 | Relay: 711
Fax: 603.862.3270

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER
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Fax: 603.228.3270

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Poster Presentation at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, DC.
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