



# Institute on Human Development & Disability



## MISSION STATEMENT

The Institute on Human Development and Disability (IHDD) works with others to create opportunities that will improve the quality of life for people with disabilities and their families.

IHDD advances the understanding of the ability of all people through education, research and public service.

## WE BELIEVE

- Individuals, families and communities are unique and have inherent value.
- We are all strengthened when that uniqueness is recognized, respected and nurtured.
- Individuals and families have the right to information, their own definition of needed supports, options for choice, and the right to exercise control over their lives.
- Individuals and families need to be connected to their communities in ways that enhance their own roots and history, and strengthen the capacity of communities to respond.
- Supports and services for individuals and families can be developed in ways that are flexible, responsive, non-intrusive, and non-judgmental, and which nourish and enhance local involvement and ownership.
- Individuals have the right to define their own needs, have opportunities for growth and self-determination, and define their own quality of life.
- Individuals have the right to equal opportunities to meet their own basic needs, and the right to participate in all aspects of community life, free from attitudinal, physical and policy barriers.
- While family is defined in many ways, its essence is its unity. The family unit is to be recognized as the primary focus of support, commitment, and love.
- Communities have the responsibility to provide equal opportunity for participation in all aspects of community life.
- Communities have the capacity to meet human need and to foster opportunities for awareness, relationships, and action that strengthen independence, interdependence and community resourcefulness.
- All people have gifts to bring to community life.

## Contact Us

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