CDCI envisions a future where all people, including people who experience developmental and other disabilities, are fully included in their homes, schools, and communities. We envision a future where people with disabilities help design and have access to culturally competent community supports and services leading to self-determination, independence, productivity, and inclusion in all parts of community life.

The Center on Disability and Community Inclusion’s (CDCI) mission is to provide collaborative education, support, research, and information sharing that ensures Vermonters with disabilities and their families can live their lives as they choose. CDCI is part of the College of Education and Social Services at the University of Vermont. There are 67 centers like CDCI in the United States. These centers were created by a law called the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act).

Every year, CDCI reports on how we’re doing to our national network, the Association of University Centers on Disability. We created this summary to show you what we’ve accomplished from July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017.
Deborah Lisi-Baker, Associate Director of CDCI and Coordinator of the Certificate of Graduate Studies in the Interdisciplinary Study of Disability, retired this year. Deborah started working at the Center in 2009. In addition to coordinating the certificate program, Deborah also acted as the liaison to CDCI’s Community Advisory Council. Her wealth of knowledge and experience helped all who took the Culture of Disability course or who participated in the certificate program be more inspired, competent leaders and advocates for our community.

This year CDCI had contributions to interdisciplinary coursework in Disability Studies, Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS), Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE), and school mental health.
Community Service and outreach includes trainings, technical assistance, and community events. It is the majority of the work we do at CDCI and where we have the most partners outside of the university.

CDCI’s largest project, the Vermont I-Team helps support teams of family members, educators, and professionals work with students so that they can experience and access inclusive education. For Miley to achieve this, the I-Team identified that she needed a way to move independently. They teamed up with Champlain Valley High School to modify a motorized toy car, allowing Miley the opportunity to keep up with her peers on the playground and in the classroom.
This year, Community Advisory Council member and self-advocate Nicole Villemaire received funding to study employment outcomes for the Think College Vermont project. Nicole will work with Research Core Function Coordinator Dr. Jesse Suter, Think College Project Coordinator Dr. Bryan Dague, and CDCI Developmental Disabilities Research Affiliate Dr. Shana Haines to conduct research. Their work together will also help provide guidance to other University Centers on Excellence in Developmental Disabilities on how to work with IRBs to include people with intellectual and developmental disabilities as co-researchers and participants.

CDCI conducts evaluation and research to improve outcomes and to share what we have learned. We also work with and support researchers in our college and university, as well as external partners.
WE SHARE: Dissemination

CDCI takes the work, findings, and stories from our projects, affiliates, and partners to share them with the University and the Vermont community in-print and online. CDCI works to produce all materials using Universal Design principles to ensure accessibility.

CDCI partners with Green Mountain Self-Advocates to produce videos every year that highlight the lives of Vermonters with disabilities. These videos highlight their experiences, challenges and accomplishments that all play a part in shaping our state. This year GMSA interviewed LGBTQ and self-advocate David Frye. Frye, in his 50s, has dedicated his life to helping the LGBTQ community with disabilities, especially those individuals who live in Vermont. He has received recognition from United Way for his work in advocacy and is a pillar at the Pride Center of Vermont.

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67 NEW PRODUCTS
97.5% WEBSITE SATISFACTION
19 NEWS ARTICLES
FUNDING

In addition to our Core funding from the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD), CDCI leverages other external grants and cooperative agreements from federal and state agencies. Support is also provided by the University of Vermont, College of Education and Social Services (UVM CESS). CDCI leveraged nearly $4.5 million this year to carry out our work.

TOTAL LEVERAGED FUNDS: $4,494,585

PERCENTAGES:
Federal: 27%
State: 55%
University: 1.7%
Fee for Service: 4.7%
Other: 11.6%

STAY CONNECTED

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