The Center on Disability and Development at Texas A&M University was established in 2005. The projects currently affiliated with the CDD are listed below. Details about each project can be found online on our website http://cdd.tamu.edu.

COMMUNITY SERVICES, TRAINING and TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
- Aggie Guide-Dogs and Service-Dogs (ags.tamu.edu) Texas A&M students raising future service animals
- Camp LIFE (camplife.tamu.edu) An inclusive adventure for children with disabilities and their siblings
- Brazos Valley Center for Independent Living (BVCL) (bvcl.org) Promoting the full inclusion and participation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of community life
- Bryan ISD GEAR UP (gearup.tamu.edu) Preparing underrepresented students, including those with disabilities, for college and beyond
- Family Support Network (FSN) (fsn.tamu.edu) A resource hub for parents of children with disabilities living in Texas
- Institute for Person-Centered Practices (person-centered-practices.org) A collaboration with the Texas Center on Disability Studies at the University of Texas at Austin to offer training on person-centered thinking and plan facilitation
- Texas Transition Conference (TTC) (ttc.tamu.edu) Equipping Texans with information about youth in transition to improve postsecondary outcomes
- Project LEAD (projectlead.tamu.edu) Partnership between the CDD, TCD, and College Station Independent School District which provides self-determination training and local impact projects for at-risk students and students with disabilities in CSISD
- Project STEP (projectstep.tamu.edu) is a partnership between the CDD and Brazos Valley Community Action Agency Head Start program. Provides professional development and support to Head Start teachers to promote social and emotional development in young children

RESEARCH SHARING
- Career and Technical Special Populations Training and Resource Education Center (ctsp.tamu.edu) Providing career technology and special education information
- Directory of Community Resources in Texas (disabilityresources.tamu.edu) Add, edit and search disability-related resources in Texas
- Public Policy and Advocacy Forwarding disability policy initiatives to improve services and supports for individuals with disabilities
- Mobile TIPS Mobile-based website (disabilitytips.tamu.edu) with tips for first responders when interacting with people with disabilities or special health care needs

INTERDISCIPLINARY PRE-SERVICE TRAINING
- Interdisciplinary Graduate Training Doctoral Programs Training researchers, teachers, practitioners and activists interested in disability issues from various disciplinary perspectives
- Autism Across the Lifespan Doctoral Program Prepares educators to effectively meet the needs of students with disabilities served in educational environments
- Postsecondary Access and Training in Human Service (PATHS) (paths.tamu.edu) Providing certification for people pursuing careers as Direct Support Professionals
- Bridge to Career in Human Service (B2C) (b2c.tamu.edu) Providing wraparound supports and training for people with developmental disabilities pursuing a career as a Direct Support Professional

RESEARCH and EVALUATION
- The Autism Collaborative / The Autism Clinic (autism.tamu.edu) Improving outcomes for individuals with autism spectrum disorders through research, training and outreach
- Disability Training Network Improving the access, retention and success rates of college students with disabilities through training, innovation and research
- Early Reading Intervention (ERI) Advancing early reading skills in kindergartners through curriculum studies
- Project Early Literacy Measurement (ELM) This project is investigating ways to monitor the reading progress of at-risk kindergarten students
- Promoting Adolescents’ Comprehension of Text (PACT) Improving the reading comprehension of 7th–12th graders through university and school collaboration
- Research and Education on Disability and Disaster (REDD) (redd.tamu.edu) Providing research and training on the effects of disaster at its intersection with disability
- Texas AgrAbility (txagability.tamu.edu) Connecting, assisting and empowering those who work in agriculture and have disabilities and/or chronic health conditions
- Words of Oral Reading and Language Development (WORLD) (world.tamu.edu) Accelerating vocabulary and background knowledge in at-risk preschoolers

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WHO WE ARE

The work of the Center on Disability and Development at Texas A&M University is focused on promoting inclusive schools and communities, improved outcomes, and better lives for people with disabilities and their families through research, education and service activities. Highlights from 2013 include:

- New funding was secured for doctoral education in autism services across the lifespan, and for an inclusive postsecondary certificate program to train Direct Support Professionals working in community settings.
- Total annual funding leveraged by the CDD in 2013 exceeded $4.3 million. Twenty-four research, education, and service projects were affiliated with and supported by the CDD.
- Forty-Eight graduate students from eight academic disciplines participated in CDD-affiliated research projects.
- CDD research projects generated findings which advance the knowledge base in education, early intervention, and community inclusion.
- Collectively, CDD faculty and staff authored 55 publications and made 42 presentations.

Together, the Center and its partners improve the lives of children and adults with disabilities.

The CDD appreciates our Texas partners:

- DISABILITY RIGHTS TEXAS (www.disabilityrightstx.org)
- TEXAS CENTER FOR DISABILITY STUDIES (http://rcds.utexas.edu/)
- TEXAS COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (www.todd.texas.gov)

WHAT DO WE DO

- Develop and provide outreach services, training, and technical assistance for individuals with disabilities, their families, and those who support them.
- Conduct research and evaluation to improve education services and outcomes and quality of community life for individuals with disabilities.
- Offer interdisciplinary pre-service training and continuing education through Texas A&M University.
- Develop tools for better information and resource sharing to people with disabilities, and their support systems.

The IMPACT of CDD

Activities & Projects in 2013

- 19,000+ People served at one or more of the CDD’s outreach and service projects in 2013.

- 9,185 Hours of technical assistance provided by the CDD in 2013.

- 2,560 Students and teachers who took part in research studies with Project WORLD, Project PACT, and the ERI Project conducted to improve reading and language development in students from pre-K to high school.

- 100 Texas A&M students active in Aggie Guide Dogs & Service Dogs puppy raising service program.

- 19 Puppies raised since 2005 preparation for specialized service dog training, and will support individuals with a disability.

- 206 Children with disabilities, siblings, parents, and Texas A&M students who participated in Camp LIFE, an inclusive weekend camping adventure.

- 1,290 Farmers and ranchers with disabilities and their families who received training, support, and accessibility equipment to continue working in their field of farming and ranching through the CDD’s AgrAbility partnership project.

- 1,000 People served at Project PACT, a program for working-aged adults with disabilities and their support systems.

- 485 participants: 231 participants at the 2013 Texas Transition Conference and 254 at the 2013 Texas Advanced Leadership and Advocacy Conference.

- 1,290 Visitors to CDD sites in 2013:

- 3,300 Site Views:

- 3,384 Unique visitors to the CDD sites in 2013.

- 414,404 Unique visitors to the CDD sites in 2013.

- 15.2 million Americans have hearing impairments.
- 15.2 million Americans have cognitive or mental health impairments.
- 7.6 million Americans have vision impairments.
- 8.1 million Americans have speech impairments.
- 2.8 million Americans have mobility impairments.
- 19% of the U.S. population works and earns below the poverty level.
- 28% of people 25+ with a disability have less than a high school education.

WHY WE DO IT

Americans have a disability. That equals nearly 19% of the U.S. population.

- 1 in 8 children in the U.S. has an autism spectrum disorder (ASD).
- 65% of children are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).
- 28% of people 25+ with a disability have less than a high school education.
- 28% of working-age adults with disabilities are unemployed. Of those who work, nearly 1/3 earn income below poverty level.

DISABILITY TIPS for FIRST RESPONDERS

A mobile-friendly website includes information about disability-specific supports, an acronym guide, and disability resources in Texas.

- Site Views: 3,300
- Users from all 50 states and in 40 countries across the world have accessed http://disabilitytips.tamu.edu

AUTISM ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTIONS

Hours of intensive behavioral interventions provided to children with autism spectrum disorder in 2012-2013 through the CDD’s Autism Assessment Research and Intervention Clinic “The Autism Clinic”

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES SHARED

Websites

Visits to CDD-affiliated websites in 2013:

- 414,404 Unique visitors to the CDD sites in 2013:
- 77,564

Visit cdd.tamu.edu for more updates and information.