

Message from the Director

Dear friends and colleagues,

You may have noticed that you haven't seen the *Sonoran News* in your mailbox since January. Jacy Farkas, the *Sonoran News* Editor, has been busy working on planning with foster youth with developmental disabilities statewide. She also just found out that she'll be part of the PhD Program in Family Studies & Human Development here at the U of A next fall. Congratulations to Jacy! We will be moving to bi-monthly production of our newsletter. We hope to still stay in touch and provide you with information on upcoming events on a more regular basis. As always please let us know what you'd like to hear about.

All the best,



Leslie J. Cohen
Director
Sonoran UCEDD
Family and Community Medicine
University of Arizona

Thanks to your generous support, we continue to ensure that equal opportunities and a quality of life are accessible to all persons with developmental disabilities.

If you would like to learn more about making a tax-deductible gift to one of these vital programs, please contact Thom Melendez, Director of Development, at 520-626-4961 or by email at tmelende@email.arizona.edu. You may also make a gift online through the University of Arizona Foundation Sonoran UCEDD designation at <http://www.uafoundation.org/give/fund/02110101564>.



Sonoran UCEDD Updates

Judith Heumann: The Global Landscape on Disability Rights – March 27th



[Judith Heumann](#) is an internationally recognized leader in the disability community and a lifelong civil rights advocate. As [Special Advisor for International Disability Rights](#) at the U.S. Department of State, Heumann leads the U.S. comprehensive strategy to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities globally. Heumann served as the World Bank's first adviser on disability and development and Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services under the Clinton administration.

Join the UA Disability Resources and Sonoran UCEDD in welcoming Judith Heumann to Tucson for a conversation on the Global Landscape for Disability Rights. Judith will discuss the international climate around disability and disability rights, highlight challenges and opportunities to access around the world and offer

perspective on the [Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#).

A Conversation with Judith Heumann

March 27, 2014; 4:30 PM – Reception to follow
Marriott University Park
880 East Second Street
Tucson, AZ 85719



**DISABILITY
RESOURCES**



Sonoran UCEDD Awarded Special Hope Foundation Catalytic Community Outreach Model: Comprehensive Health Care for Adults IDD Grant

Excerpted from Special Hope Foundation Press Release, Palo Alto, CA, February 10, 2014

The Special Hope Foundation, in collaboration with the American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry (AADMD), announced that four universities within the UCEDD/LEND network were selected to each receive \$50,000 of funding through the Special Hope Foundation's grant program. These grants will support the organizations within their projects that promote comprehensive health care for adults with developmental disabilities by raising awareness at the healthcare student level and by supporting their communities. The organizations receiving grants include: Sonoran UCEDD at University of Arizona, Center for Human Development at University of Alaska Anchorage, JFK Partners at University of Colorado, and University of Rochester UCEDD. The Foundation requested proposals throughout the UCEDD/LEND network and carefully reviewed and considered each application.

"I think the UCEDD's are strategically positioned to provide quality community services to their states, and I am particularly pleased to see how they are impacting healthcare by partnering with future medical and dental practitioners." Lynne O'Hara, Executive Director of the Special Hope Foundation.

"What makes this so exciting for us is that each of the grantees has strong healthcare leadership capabilities, but each is also taking a unique approach to this project," says Matt Holder, Executive Director of AADMD. "Not only will these four programs engage health education in a way that hasn't been done before, their legacy will be a roadmap of how other UCEDDs and LENDs can do the same."

The Sonoran UCEDD will work with the UA College of Medicine and their established patient centered medical home for adults with DD to increase the capacity of future and current health care providers to facilitate effective transitions from pediatric to adult health care for youth with DD. This will be accomplished through building a strong inter-professional AADMD student chapter, identifying needed skills, creating curriculum and providing targeted technical assistance. The project team includes Medical Home Coordinator, Sarah Guayante, BA; faculty, Lynne Tomasa, PhD; and staff, Martha Monroy, MA; and will be led by Tamsen Bassford, MD and Leslie Cohen, JD.

Project SEARCH AZ Interns Hired as Employees Mid-Program

Ryan Chambers Hired at UAMC South Campus

Brande Kitzberger, Instructor, Project SEARCH at UAMC South Campus
Pima Joint Technology Education District (JTED)



Ryan Chambers started the Project SEARCH High School Transition program at UAMC South Campus last fall. In January, he was hired as a Food Service Assistant in the Nutritional Services department here at the UA Medical Center South Campus hospital.

During his first 10-week rotation in the fall in Nutritional Services, Ryan handled a variety of tasks. Those duties included washing pots and pans, working on the dishwashing line, returning patient meal carts with trays to the kitchen, and preparing the daily supply of box lunches.

Ryan, who came to Project SEARCH from Santa Rita High School, said, “My goal was getting a job and I did it! I focused and completed it.”

Veronica Hernandez, the food service manager in Nutritional Services, said,

“Every day he would say ‘hello’ and said he would like to apply if there ever were any openings. What impressed me about him was that he had a great work ethic, was always consistent with effort, and was always on time.”

Martha Mata, the dietary *Catering To You* supervisor, added, “Ryan is non-stop, always asking for things to do. If he completed a task, he would go help others. He’s a go-getter, and a team player here. We’re looking forward to having him on the staff.”

He will work about 35 hours per week. Besides what he has already learned, his new duties will include ensuring proper temperatures on the dish line and making sure galleys are always stocked in patient areas.



Garrett Porterfield Hired at Sheraton Phoenix Airport Hotel Tempe Restaurant

Caroline Ellis, Lead Job Coach, Project SEARCH Sheraton Tempe
The Centers for Habilitation (TCH)



Garrett Porterfield began Project SEARCH at the Sheraton Phoenix Airport Hotel Tempe in August 2013; just 3 short months later he was offered a full-time position working in the hotel’s restaurant Fire + Spice.

Garrett selected Fire + Spice for his first rotation. His strong work ethic and good attitude were immediately noticed. When a position opened up in this department, management responded to the unanimous request coming from food and beverage staff - “Can’t we hire Garrett?”

Since transitioning to the status of a Sheraton employee, his confidence has continued to grow. One of Garrett’s supervisors, Tom, comments on working with him saying, “Garrett is super conscientious and that goes without

saying. He is genuinely concerned about doing a good job.” Another co-worker adds, “He also keeps everyone updated on current sports!”

With the help of Project SEARCH, Garrett has grown his self-confidence and has found an environment where he is comfortable, appreciated, and happy to work.

For more information about Project SEARCH AZ programs coordinated by the Sonoran UCEDD, please visit the website: <http://projectsearchaz.org>

Interdisciplinary Trainee Spotlight: Austin Duncan

*UCEDD Trainee, Spring 2014 Cohort
Doctorate Candidate – Anthropology*



I am a PhD student in sociocultural anthropology here at the University of Arizona with a minor in medical anthropology. Specifically, my research focuses on how societies treat (in both biomedical and social definitions of the word) those with bodily, mental, and cognitive impairments. When I first heard of the Sonoran UCEDD, long before learning about the training seminar, I was inspired and wanted to know how I could collaborate with them. Happily, I was able to enroll in the training seminar this semester. As part of my training experience, I am working on a project with ArtWorks, an innovative local project that aims to promote independence for adults with developmental disabilities, and an organization with which I hope to collaborate throughout my graduate career and beyond.

In many ways, this is exactly what I want to do and where I want to go with my career after school: helping people with impairments lead enjoyable and meaningful lives through activities in the community. Not only does my work with ArtWorks align with my interests in engaged medical anthropology, but it also uses my earlier skills in policy and program evaluation. My dissertation research in the implementation of Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) strategies in Cameroon, West-Central Africa—where I was both a Peace Corps volunteer and program evaluator for my Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree with the University of Washington—will also follow a similar model.

The training program is also helping me to respond productively to my own experience with disability. In 2003, I sustained and rehabilitated from a severe Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), although in my case “rehabilitation” means learning to adapt to the many deficits which I still have. Working with individuals with many of the same challenges I faced (and continue to face) allows me to give meaning to my own story and to make use of my identity as a TBI survivor to help impaired individuals. Thus in the end, my time as a Sonoran UCEDD trainee will benefit my research, my career, and my own life in innumerable ways.

For more information about the Sonoran UCEDD Interdisciplinary Training Program and to meet all our trainees, visit our website: http://sonoranucedd.fcm.arizona.edu/trainee_program

If you’re interested in becoming a trainee or know someone who might be, please contact Training Director, Lynne Tomasa, at 520.626.7823 or ltomasa@email.arizona.edu.

Fall 2014 Interprofessional Training Program Flyer

For more information about ArtWorks, please visit the website:
<http://sonoranucedd.fcm.arizona.edu/artworks>



Arizona News

Survey to Enhance Independent Living Services in Southern AZ Communities



DIRECT Center for Independence, in partnership with the Sonoran UCEDD, is seeking your assistance in planning DIRECT's service delivery system and practices in Southern Arizona. DIRECT's mission is to provide services to individuals with disabilities; to encourage, equip, and empower them to live independently in the community. These services include, but are not limited to independent living skills training, information and referral, peer counseling, advocacy, home modifications, financial sustainability education and other support services.

DIRECT's service area includes Pima, Cochise, Santa Cruz, Graham and Greenlee counties.

If you live or work in one of these five counties, your help in filling out this short survey will make sure your voice is heard in the planning process for DIRECT's services.

You can complete the survey online by going to the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DIRECT2014>

If you would like the survey in an alternative format (i.e. paper copy or large print), please contact the Sonoran UCEDD at 520.626.0442 or ucedd@email.arizona.edu.

Please feel free to share this survey with your friends, clients and colleagues throughout Southern Arizona. **The survey will close April 1, 2014.**

The Sonoran UCEDD has a contract with DIRECT Center for Independence to conduct a needs assessment for people with disabilities within Southern Arizona to assist in planning its service delivery systems and practices. For more information about the needs assessment or survey, please contact project coordinator, Sarah Guayante, at 520.626.0442 or sguayant@email.arizona.edu.

Connecting Tucson: Southern Arizona's Disability Resource and Transition Expo – April 12th

Thirteen local agencies are again teaming-up to bring together the hundreds of people with disabilities and their families in Southern Arizona with local service providers for what is expected to become a "signature" event for Tucson.

For those dealing with a disability and asking themselves "What's next?..." CONNECTING TUCSON is the one-stop shopping opportunity to find those answers!

Last year's expo was a huge success with nearly 500 attendees and 90 exhibitors. This year, we'll have up to a hundred service providers that you'll be able to meet with face-to-face.

You are an important piece of this puzzle!

Come to learn about all of the many options and services available right here in Southern Arizona. There is no registration or entry fee. Come anytime between **9:00am and 1:00pm on Saturday, April 12, 2014** for this third annual event.

Beacon Group
308 W. Glenn Street (near Oracle Road)
Tucson, AZ 85705

For more information, **sponsorship/vendor opportunities**, and event updates, visit the Connecting Tucson website at <http://www.connectingtucson.org> or contact Patrick McCarthy at (520) 622-4874 ext. #166 or pmccarthy@beaongroup.org



About CONNECTING TUCSON

CONNECTING TUCSON is a non-profit cooperative effort of 13 disability service providers within Southern Arizona. The mission of Connecting Tucson is to bring together thousands of people with disabilities as well as family members and caregivers of those with disabilities in Southern Arizona with local service providers. The founding organizations of Connecting Tucson include; the Arizona Division of Developmental Disabilities and Rehabilitation Services Administration, the Sonoran UCEDD, Amphitheater School District, Easter Seals/Blake Foundation, Goodwill Industries of Southern Arizona, Pima County School Superintendent, DIRECT Center for Independence, Community Partnership of Southern Arizona, DK Advocates, The Centers for Habilitation, Linkages and Beacon Group.



To find information about community events and trainings throughout the state of Arizona, please go to our **Community Events Calendar** on the Sonoran UCEDD website:

http://sonoranucedd.fcm.arizona.edu/community_events

National News

CMS Releases Final Rule on Home and Community Based Services

AUCD

On January 10, 2014 Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released the final rule on Home and Community Based Services. The final rule largely reflects the proposed rule with some changes that provide more clarity and respond to the approximately 1,700 public comments. It strengthens the requirements for personal autonomy, community integration, and choice in home and community-based services funded through Medicaid. It makes clear that the requirements apply to both residential and non-residential settings and sets specific and more stringent rules for provider-owned or controlled residential settings. It requires an independent assessment of individual needs and strengths and a person-centered planning process to ensure that individuals receive the services they need in a manner they prefer. The rule establishes more public notice and input requirements related to proposed changes to waivers. States must work with CMS to create transitional plans to bring current programs into compliance and allow for public input on those transitional plans.



Learn more:

[The Rule as Published in the Federal Register](#)

[Issue Brief](#) - CMS Final Rule on HCBS Settings and Other Requirements

[Press Release](#) - AUCD Applauds Stronger Medicaid Rules on Community Living

[Slides](#) from CMS webinar on the final rule

[Slides](#) from CMS/ODEP webinar on implications for non-residential settings

For more information and access to CMS fact sheets regarding final Home and Community-Based Services regulations, visit: <http://www.medicaid.gov/HCBS>

Consumer Voice Clearinghouse

The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care has developed a clearinghouse for long-term care information geared toward promoting effective advocacy of consumer-directed care. The Clearinghouse is a one-stop-shop of information that includes a variety of types of resources such as best practices and fact sheets, reports and briefs, state and federal legislation, presentations, research and statistics, training materials and presentations. These resources cover a wide range of long-term care issues (for example, abuse, consumer's rights, ombudsman program), particularly for those who wish to advocate for consumers. After registering, the Clearinghouse is free to use and includes nearly 1000 resources from the Consumer Voice and National Long-Term Care Ombudsman Resource Center (NORC) as well as a multitude of resources from other organizations. New resources are also being added every day. [Click here](#) to register and start using the Clearinghouse. [Click here](#) to watch the video tutorial and learn more about the Clearinghouse.

<http://clearinghouse.theconsumervoice.org>

Person-Centered Resources

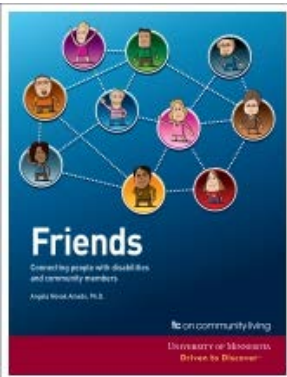
Quality Mall: Website for Person-Centered Supports

Quality Mall is a place where you can find lots of free information about person-centered supports for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities. Each of the Mall stores has departments you can look through to learn about positive practices that help people with intellectual/developmental disabilities live, work and participate in our communities and improve the quality of their supports.

<http://qualitymall.org>



Friends: Connecting People with Disabilities and Community Members



This new manual provides concrete, "how-to" strategies for supporting relationships between people with disabilities and other community members. It describes why such friendships are important to people with disabilities and why it is important to promote community belonging and membership. The manual includes specific activities to guide users in creating a plan for connecting people. It is designed for agency staff, but can be used by parents, support coordinators, teachers, people with disabilities, and others to support community relationships. Additional Activity Worksheets are available in a separate document. Published by the Institute's Research and Training Center on Community Living.

Available online for free at http://ici.umn.edu/index.php?products/view_part/579

Join our Mailing List!

The Sonoran UCEDD produces a variety of publications, including *Sonoran UCEDD News*, that communicate the ways we are connected to individuals and activities in Arizona and across the country. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please [click here to subscribe to our newsletter](#) or call 520-626-2207.

Current and archived issues of the newsletter can be viewed at <http://sonoranucedd.fcm.arizona.edu/newsletter>

If you would like to receive this document in an alternate format, please call the Sonoran UCEDD at 520-626-0442.



To submit comments or news items, please email the Editor, Jacy Farkas, at ucedd@email.arizona.edu