**Program Purpose**

Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) training program provides interdisciplinary training to enhance the clinical expertise and leadership skills of professionals dedicated to caring for children with neurodevelopmental and other developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder. LEND is federally funded through the Autism CARES Act and is administered by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

**Faculty**


**Trainees**

An annual cohort of ~35 diverse graduate students, post-graduate fellows, mid-career community-based health professionals, families and self-advocates are enrolled and complete 300 hours of training. Training experiences include: participation in interdisciplinary practice in CHDD clinics and community-based practice sites, weekly didactic seminars and monthly leadership workshops, advocacy community engagement, self-directed activities, and a leadership project. UW LEND supports a satellite training site at Children’s Village in Yakima, WA and provides distance-learning opportunities for trainees outside the Seattle area.

The program prepares trainees to provide high level interdisciplinary, family-centered clinical care, assume leadership roles, become advocates for disability, and promote relevant clinical and population level research.

**KEY FACTS**

- Interdisciplinary training to prepare a workforce in caring for individuals with neurodevelopmental disabilities
- 27 LEND Faculty representing 13 core disciplines
- >16 disciplines represented in enrolled trainees

**Post-LEND Trainee Outcomes**

- Work Relates to MCH Population
- Work Relates to Field of Disability
- Works in Public Health Organization
- Work Relates to Underserved Populations

- 713
  - Total number of LEND Trainees from 2014-2019
  - 176 Long term trainees
  - 477 Intermediate term trainees
  - 60 Short term trainees

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