



**NORTH DAKOTA CENTER FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

**Volume XXI, Issue I**

**January 2012**

## **Directors Message: The World of ALL**

**By: Brent A. Askvig, Ph.D.**

*Note: Dr. Askvig was a panel member for the Plenary Session at the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) Annual Meeting in Washington, DC on November 9, 2011. This is an edited version of his comments during that conference.*

We are charged today with answering two questions about the future: What is the issue or direction or idea or challenge that will shape the future of the AUCD network? And what can the network do to help promote the idea or to help solve the issue or challenge? I believe these are two huge, daunting questions, and I'll do my best to offer comments. Offering ideas for 10, 20, 30 or 40 years in the future is exciting, and I hope I'm around in 40 years to find out how right or wrong I was!

Our first two plenary sessions gave us all a nice view of where we started and what we are working on today. There is much to be learned from what we did and where we came from. It is said that we spend our first 20 years or so in formal learning situations, and that information is obsolete by the time we are 40. And then during the next 20 years, those things we do and the machines, technologies and issues we face weren't even part of our imagination at 40.

What science fiction writer Isaac Asimov, once said, is probably true. "To succeed, planning alone is insufficient. One must improvise as well." So I think that we need to keep that in mind as we plan our futures in our centers, programs and home states.

Let me begin with the first question:

What is the issue, or direction, or idea, or challenge that will shape the future of the AUCD network?

*In preparing my remarks today, I've used my grandsons McKale and Dyson as my filters and my guides for what I envision as the future of our work. I want to talk about what I envision the future for them to be in 40 years, when they are 42 and 41 years old.*

I envision the World of ALL. We often hear, and ourselves often say, "all means all". But does it really? I think we can and should continue to work for more inclusiveness in all aspects of our lives.

In the next 10, 20 or 40 years, our organizations will need to approach disability issues from a more holistic and generic architecture approach. By that I mean that I believe we will need to discuss issues from a whole-population or associated-population aspect, instead of a more common "disability as an issue you need to add to the discussion" line of reasoning.

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## The World of ALL: Continued

Two UCEDD directors – Carl Calkins and Bryce Fifield –and several other speakers at this conference - have influenced my thinking greatly in this area. These leaders, and I'm sure many others of you in this room, have begun to link disability to more global issues such as poverty, unemployment, aging, and community health. I think that by looking at similarities instead of differences, that by talking about ALL instead of pieces of ALL, we will have a different world in 40 years. So let me give you two examples that might illustrate what I'm talking about.

The Chronicle of Higher Education recently had an article about Steve Jobs, the recently deceased leader of Apple Inc. Most of the article focused on Jobs' team approach to solving problems and making Apple a leader in innovation and technology. But the piece that struck me as most relevant to my comments today was that perhaps Jobs' greatest contribution was that he made sure the APPLE hardware and software were designed so that nearly anyone could use the technology. It was not specified for any particular group; instead it was for everyone. You can use your iPod or iPad or iTouch with your voice, your finger, typing, or any of a number of other access devices. The design was one that didn't target any one group; it targeted the universe of users – ALL of us.

The second example came from my work the last several years in Norway. Many have heard about the Scandinavian systems of healthcare, and Norway's may be the best example of how things work there. It is really pretty simple – all citizens have access to comprehensive healthcare. Neither age, area of residence, income, label, nor community status are relevant to getting care. You only need to be a citizen. There isn't a separate system for those who are unemployed, or who have been injured or who happen to have a developmental disability. All citizens essentially get what is needed in healthcare. In Norway, all means all.

So let me just summarize what I envision for the future. If productivity, independence, and integration into society are the goals we are working on – because they are in the DD ACT for all of us who work at UCEDDs – then we need to have legislation, and services, and discourse where ALL means ALL. We talk about this, we have signs with these words, but I think the World of ALL needs to change.

Our second question to answer is: What can the network do to help promote the idea or to help solve the issue or challenge?

In looking at this idea of making our future discourse one of all people, not just people with disabilities, of differences, or some other set of features, where do we begin? I think Sue Swenson's comments in yesterday's plenary really struck home on this point. She talked about how we need to bring other disciplines such as economics, law, marketing, and others into our work. We need to branch out to other areas and expand our horizons if the ultimate horizon is ALL.

I believe that the first thing we do is continually, with vigor and unrelenting enthusiasm, point out similarities rather than differences. I believe that every person in our country knows someone with some type of difference. But let's not focus on difference, let's focus on sameness. When we do that we will see the vast array of similarities that we all have.

Now, this doesn't mean that we don't talk about disabilities – in fact, I'd argue that we talk about it more, while emphasizing ALL. And I think we are starting to do this.

This doesn't mean that we do away with disability services and support programs, especially right away – the risk of having larger gaps is too great – but instead we need to look for existing generic programs, or develop new programs that include everyone. And I think we are starting to do this.

**(Continued on page 3)**

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The North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities is a member of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD). AUCD is a national network of interdisciplinary centers advancing policy and practice through research, education and services for and with individuals with developmental and other disabilities, their families, and communities.



## The World of ALL: Continued

This doesn't mean that we split apart, and separate ourselves from others – instead we need to find new collaborators and enhance existing collaborations with others who are focused on the best for all of us. And I think we are doing this.

And this doesn't mean that we stop pushing for the right and good legislation that citizens need – instead we must push for legislation that truly says all, and fight against “difference” legislation unless it will ultimately lead to overall inclusiveness. And I think we are doing this.

I must admit that there may be some people concerned about losing things such as identity, and power and public awareness of disability in this process. And what about the current rules, laws, programs and gaps that leave persons with disabilities and their families disenfranchised from sometimes even the most basic supports? These are real concerns and things that will take us time to work through.

I think this is a difficult challenge. I'm reminded by another science fiction writer, Arthur C. Clarke, who said that: “New ideas pass through 3 periods: 1) It can't be done; 2) It probably can be done, but it's not worth doing; and 3) I knew it was a good idea all along!”

In looking back at the 40 years of AUCD, and the nearly 50 years since the passage of important legislation promoted by President Kennedy, I have hope. I have hope that the world of ALL for my two grandsons is different than the world of ALL that was present in 1963, in 1971 and in 2011. And I hope that I get to share in that new world of all in 2051! Thank you!

## NDCPD's Giving Tree

**By: Wendy Thomas**

The NDCPD Giving Tree has been a long-standing project supported by NDCPD employees. Each November, the Minot Infant Development program makes “ornaments” for the tree. Each ornament represents a child in need of a toy or clothing item. NDCPD employees take 1-2 ornaments, and purchase a needed item. Staff from MIDP then distribute the gifts on their next home visit. It is estimated that the giving tree provides 50 toys or clothing items each year. It's one small way our employees give back to our community!



For additional copies of the Collaborator contact Linda Madsen at 1-800-233-1737. Please feel free to copy and distribute articles or excerpts from The Collaborator, provided the following acknowledgement is used: Used with permission from the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities, a center of excellence at Minot State University, Minot, North Dakota, USA.

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## Who's Calling? Recognize & Report Phone Fraud

**By: Linda Madsen, ND SMP Project Director**

**Telemarketing fraud is a crime.** Professional criminals posing as legitimate telemarketers try to worm their way into your wallet. They are very good at what they do: their “pitch” is perfect, their tone is friendly and sincere, and their answers to your questions seem to make sense. It’s no wonder that consumers, regardless of their age, education or experience, can fall for telemarketing frauds.

By learning how to recognize and report telephone fraud, you can help stop some scams — and if you put your phone numbers on the National Do Not Call Registry, you can reduce the number of unwanted telemarketing calls you get.

### Recognize Phone Fraud

Every sales call you get by phone is an opportunity for a gut check: Ask yourself these questions —and if the answers give you some doubt about the caller’s intentions or methods, end the call.

**Who’s calling — and why?** Telemarketers must tell you it’s a sales call, the name of the seller and what they’re selling before they make their pitch. If they don’t, say “no thanks,” and get off the phone.

**What’s their hurry?** Fast talkers who use high pressure tactics could be hiding something. Take your time. Most legitimate businesses will give you time and written information about an offer before asking you to commit to a purchase.

**If it’s free, why are they asking me to pay?** Question charges you need to pay to redeem a prize or gift. Free is free. If you have to pay, it’s a purchase — not a prize or a gift.

**Why am I “confirming” my account information — or giving it out at all?** Some callers have your billing information before they call you. They’re trying to get you to say “okay” so they can claim you approved a charge.

**What time is it?** The law allows telemarketers to call only between 8 am and 9 pm. A seller calling earlier or later is flouting the law.

**Do I want more calls like this one?** If you don’t want a business to call you again, say so. If they call back, they’re breaking the law.

### Report Phone Fraud

Recognizing fraudulent callers is important; reporting them to the appropriate law enforcement authorities is critical, too. When you report, you can help stop telephone scammers. Report telephone hucksters to the FTC and your state Attorney General so they can prosecute fraudulent telemarketers who try to steal your money.

If your number is on the National Do Not Call Registry, you should get calls only from those companies with which you do business — or those that have your permission to call. If you get calls from a company you don’t have a relationship with — or from a company you have told not to call you — report it. Jot down the name and number of the caller, and the date and time of the call.

### Register Your Number

You can limit the number of telemarketing calls you receive by placing your phone number on the National Do Not Call Registry. You can register your phone number at [DoNotCall.gov](https://www.donotcall.gov), or by calling **1-888-382-1222** from the number you wish to register. Your registration will not expire. Your number is on the list until you take it off, or your number is disconnected and reassigned to someone else.

Placing your number on the Registry stops most telemarketing calls, but not all. Once your number has been on the Registry for 31 days, you still may get calls from, or on behalf of:

- Political organizations, charities, and pollsters
- Companies with whom you have an existing business relationship
- Companies you’ve given permission to call

## Who's Calling? Recognize & Report Phone Fraud: Continued

Companies that you do business with may call for 18 months. If you ask a company for information, it may call for three months. However, if you request that the company place your number on its own do-not-call list, it must honor your request. You should keep a record of the date you make the request.

The Registry accepts personal cell phone and home phone numbers. Federal Communications Commission regulations prohibit the use of automated dialers to call cell phone numbers, so most telemarketers won't cold-call consumers on their cell phones — despite urban myths and emails to the contrary.

To report phone fraud, visit **FTC.gov** or call **1-877-FTC-HELP**.  
To report violations of the National Do Not Call Registry, visit **DoNotCall.gov** or call **1-888-382-1222**.



Resource: This information was obtained from the Federal Trade Commission ([www.ftc.gov/phonefraud](http://www.ftc.gov/phonefraud))

## Perceptions Project

**By: Emily Rodacker, Activities Coordinator**

The *Perceptions Project* was recently funded by the ND State Council on Developmental Disabilities. In recent years, individuals with disabilities have become more active and visible in their communities and have increased access to opportunities in education, employment, and community services. Although persons with disabilities have made great advancements in these areas, many common misperceptions of these individuals still present challenges.

The *Perceptions Project* seeks to improve the public's perceptions of persons with disabilities by developing a Youth Education Campaign, a Workplace Education Campaign, and a Community Awareness Campaign. The Perceptions project will develop sustainable practices and activities that will continue to benefit individuals with and without disabilities for years to come.

The *Perceptions Project* is currently forming a stakeholder group for both the Youth Education Campaign and the Workplace Education Campaign. If you are interested in participating as a stakeholder in either campaign or learning more, please contact Steve Peterson, Project Director, at [steve.peterson@minotstateu.edu](mailto:steve.peterson@minotstateu.edu).



Perceptions Project

## Self-Advocacy Through Technology

**By: Emily Rodacker, Project Director**

NDCPD received funding through the ND State Council on Developmental Disabilities for the *Self-Advocacy through Technology* (SATT) project. The SATT project recognizes the need to increase access to and use of mainstream technology by individuals with intellectual disabilities (ID). To fulfill this need, SATT will recruit at least 20 individuals with ID across North Dakota to participate in the program. SATT staff will train the individuals how to use different features of a technology device they already own that will benefit the participant in their daily activities. Participants will also learn to educate their supports including friends and family on how they are using their technological device. Each participant will receive custom instructional reports to keep after training is complete. SATT staff will publish a report highlighting the different applications and techniques used in this project to support duplication in other communities.

For more information about SATT or how to participate, please contact Emily Rodacker, Project Director, at [emily.rodacker@minotstateu.edu](mailto:emily.rodacker@minotstateu.edu) or visit our web site at [www.ndcpd.org/satt](http://www.ndcpd.org/satt).



## GIPC Clinic

**By: Connie Irey, Project Director**

The Great Plains Interdisciplinary Autism Diagnostic Clinic (GIPC) is funded through North Dakota Department of Health Children's Special Health Services Division. We will be holding our next GIPC clinic in Minot on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012. We welcome professional, educational or parent referrals to be a part of this clinic. GIPC clinics use an interdisciplinary, arena style approach for the assessment. We are able to assess two children per clinic. The grant supports clinics held at the Anne Carlsen Center in Jamestown and at NDCPD in Minot. For more information please contact Connie Irey, Project Director/Family Support Specialist, at 858-3286 or 1-800-233-1737 ext.3286.

## Community Staff Training Program Meets Initial Benchmarks to Move forward in NADSP Accreditation

**By: Mary Mercer, Provisional Assistant Director**

Based on demographic trends and the anticipated demand for direct support professionals (DSPs), who provide community-based supports, the labor shortage in Developmental Disability services is projected to intensify dramatically over the next 5-15 years. These dire projections prompted the North Dakota Association of Community Providers (NDACP) to collaborate with the Department of Commerce in the development of a Talent Pipeline initiative for the DD service system. A strategic plan was developed to proactively address the potential crises in meeting workforce demands to support people with DD to live and work in the communities of their choice.

One goal in the plan is to transform the image of the DSP from a transitional to primary career through expansion of professional development opportunities. Through technical assistance from the Research and Training Center (RTC) at the Institutes on Community Living at the University of Minnesota, a list of strategies was developed to achieve this goal. The RTC recommended that ND seek national accreditation of the Community Staff Training Program (CSTP), the Minot State University (MSU) training curriculum delivered statewide for DSPs and other professionals since 1982.

Through the generous support of a grant funded through the ND State Council on Developmental Disabilities, with 25% match supplied by the NDACP and MSU, NDCPD has initiated the application process for national accreditation through the National Alliance of Direct Support Professionals (NADSP). The NADSP accreditation process involves four steps: 1) Application, 2) Provisional Accreditation, 3) Full Accreditation, and 4) Site Visit. Accreditation will allow DSPs who have completed their training in ND to become a fully certified DSP (DSP-Certified) through NADSP, an option not currently available to them.

We are pleased to report that NADSP reviewed the CSTP Step 1: Application and determined that the training program met the benchmarks to move forward in the NADSP accreditation process. The next step is to complete the provisional accreditation self-study process. NDCPD will work with NDACP and the Department of Human Services DD Division to complete this process. We plan to complete Step 2 and begin to move into Step 3 by the end of the first year of the grant.



## Upcoming Training

### **PDA's, Smartphones and Tablet PCs as Cognitive Behavioral Aids in Autism Webinar**

By: Tony Gentry  
 Wednesday, January, 11 2012  
 Time: 1:00pm-2:30pm Central Time  
 Fee \$30.00  
 To sign up email or call: Vickie Brabandt  
 (800) 233-1737  
 Vickie.brabandt@minotstateu.edu

### **Positive Behavioral Supports for Individuals with ASD**

By: Lori Kalash  
 February 16, 2012  
 Time: 1:00-2:30pm Central Time  
 Fee: \$30.00  
 To sign up email or call: Stacey Johnston  
 (800) 233-1737  
 Stacey.johnston@minotstateu.edu

### **Seizure Disorders: More Than They Seem Webinar**

By: Karen McGowan  
 Thursday, March 1, 2012  
 Time: 1:00pm-3:00pm Central Time  
 Fee: \$30.00  
 To sign up email or call: Stacey Johnston  
 (800) 233-1737  
 Stacey.johnston@minotstateu.edu

### **Train-the-Trainer in Therapeutic Intervention**

By: Ron Odden  
 Bismarck, Comfort Inn  
 Wednesday, April 11, 2012 from 9:00 am -3:30 pm  
 and  
 required follow up on Thursday, July 12 from 9:00am – Noon  
 To sign up email or call: Vickie Brabandt  
 (800) 233-1737  
 Vickie.brabandt@minotstateu.edu

### **2012 NDACP Conference**

May 9-11  
 Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center  
 Bismarck, ND

## New Staff

**Cassie Tofteland**, started working with NDCPD as an Early Interventionist with MIDP in September. She currently holds a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from Mayville State University and was recently accepted into the Master's Program for Early Childhood Special Education at Minot State University where she will begin classes January 2012. Cassie previously worked for Child Care Resource and Referral as an Early Childhood Consultant. When she is not working she enjoys spending time with her husband Jeremy, family and friends.

**Cassie Tofteland**



## The Ram Good Job Award



**Ram Good Job Award**

The Ram Good Job Award is given to a staff member each month to recognize them for doing such a "ram good job." This award is given by the preceding month's award recipient, and honors the staff member's work to enhance the lives of people with disabilities and further the center mission. Winners over the past months include:

**October 2011, Megan Laudenschlager - Project Coordinator**  
**November 2011, Kari Schmidt - Program Director**



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**Available in alternative  
format upon request.**

## The Collaborator

The Collaborator is the quarterly newsletter for the North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities (NDCPD). NDCPD is a University of Excellence on Developmental Disabilities in Education, Research, and Services at Minot State University. It is part of a network of similar programs at universities throughout the United States.

### Our mission...

To provide leadership and innovation that advances the state-of-the-art and empower people with disabilities to challenge expectations, achieve personal goals and be included in all aspects of community life.

### Vision Statement...

We believe that people with disabilities have the same rights as all citizens. We believe that people with disabilities who receive publicly funded services have the right to expect that those services appropriately promote their independence, productivity, integration and inclusion. Furthermore, we believe that the public expects that these services will be provided in an effective manner.

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