



About the Indiana LEND Program (formerly the Riley Child Development Center)

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The Indiana LEND program (formerly the Riley Child Development Center) has been a program in the Department of Pediatrics in the Indiana University School of Medicine since 1970. The faculty of the Indiana LEND program provide direct patient care services through IU Health as well as performing many other functions, including advocacy, research, technical assistance, continuing education, and training. The Indiana LEND Program is one of 63 programs across the country made possible through funding provided by the Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau (HRSA, MCHB) as part of the Autism CARES Act of 2014. Other funding is received from a variety of national, state, and local sources to support related activities and projects.

The purpose of the Indiana LEND program is to provide an interdisciplinary training experience that prepares graduate and post graduate professionals from numerous health, education and related disciplines to deliver high quality services which result in improved systems of care for persons with autism spectrum disorders and other neurodevelopmental and related disabilities (including cognitive disabilities, neurodegenerative and acquired neurological disorders) and their families. The LEND program is composed of core faculty representing health administration, nursing, occupational therapy, parents of children with neurodevelopmental disabilities, pediatric dentistry, physical therapy, psychology, public health social work, self-advocacy, speech/language pathology, , behavioral pediatrics, and special education. All training activities occur within an interdisciplinary framework of exemplary services, research, and advocacy, and ensure that trainees develop the necessary skills for effective participation in the interdisciplinary team process. Furthermore, this framework increases trainees' awareness and ability to appropriately assimilate the contributions of professions from a variety of disciplines in the evaluation and treatment of individuals with autism and other neurodevelopmental and related disabilities.

The LEND training clinic provides interdisciplinary evaluation and diagnosis of children that have known or suspected developmental delays, behavior and/or learning problems and stressful life situations. The Indiana LEND program's clinic is located in the Pediatric Care Center (PCC) at 1002 Wishard Blvd, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Trainees are accepted at different levels with different commitments related to time and activities to be completed. If you are interested in accessing more training through the RCDC LEND Program, please contact our Training Director, Christine Raches at craches@iu.edu for details. You may also go here for more information and for an application to become a LEND trainee:

<https://medicine.iu.edu/pediatrics/specialties/child-development/lend-training>