

Great Cities Commitment Programs at UIC

Rehabilitation and Disability Studies

Accessing the World of Work

Description: Survey of African Americans with disabilities to determine how personal factors and characteristics of the vocational rehabilitation service system interact to affect employment status.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Workforce development

UIC Partners: Liberal Arts and Sciences

Contacts: **Comer, Christopher M.**

Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

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Partners: N/A

ADA Training for Staff of the Illinois Employment Training Centers (IETC) in Chicago

Description: Providing training and technical assistance to staff and partners within the One-Stop employment delivery systems funded through the Chicago Workforce Development Board regarding serving customers with disabilities. Training includes disability awareness, facility accessibility planning and effective communication.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Workforce development

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Chicago Workforce Development Board

City of Chicago

Mayor's Office for Workforce Development

Health and Disability Advocates

United States Department of Labor

Adult paraplegics Diet & Activity Prevention Trial (ADAPT)

Description: ADAPT is a free, three-month nutrition and exercise program and research study for people who are spinal cord-injured with paraplegia. Participants are recruited through the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago (RIC) and the program is held at the Institute on Disability and Human Development at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Included in the program are free body fat, bone density, strength, blood pressure, cholesterol and dietary measurements. The program addresses the increased risk of developing secondary conditions related to spinal cord injury due to such factors as sedentariness and the physiologic changes that occur with a spinal cord injury (for example, a decrease in muscle mass and an increase in body fat). The goal of the program is to improve food choices, fitness and strength, leading to improved independence and overall health. To qualify to join the study, a person must have paraplegia, must be a patient at RIC and must be either overweight, have high cholesterol, high blood pressure and/ or diabetes.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: National Institutes of Health

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research

Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago

Advocacy and Empowerment for Minorities Program

Description: Our purpose is to develop model programs that will address the needs of the growing African American and Latino disability communities within the Chicagoland area. Projects conducted in this program attempt to provide consumers and their families with empowering strategies for improving the quality of life and that of other members of their communities. Included in this program are four projects which are "Capacity Building for ADA Implementation," "Disabling Bullet," "Empowering Choices" & "Transitions," and "Recruiting Mentors."

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

Contacts: **Heller, Tamar**

Director, Institute on Disability and Human Development

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Partners: N/A

Aging and Disability Resource Center Evaluation

Description: Provides technical assistance to the Illinois Department on Aging to develop and evaluate community centers which provide information and facilitate access to long-term care services for older adults and people with disabilities. Current demonstration sites are in Rockford, which has a concentration of African American and Hispanic families, and Decatur. We are also developing and providing resource materials on aging and disabilities for center dissemination to staff, families and consumers.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Geriatric empowerment

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging

Illinois Department on Aging

Macon County (IL) Department of Public Health

Northwestern Illinois Area Agency on Aging

Assistive Technology Services to Consumers of the Illinois Department of Human Services-- Division of Rehabilitation Services--Bureau of Home Services

Description: Through the Assistive Technology Unit's grant from the Illinois Department of Human Services--Division of Rehabilitation Services--Bureau of Home Services, services are provided to adults utilizing Assistive Technology to maximize their independence at home.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Illinois Department of Human Services

Division of Rehabilitation Services--Bureau of Home Services

Assistive Technology Services to Consumers of the Illinois Department of Human Services-- Division of Rehabilitation Services--Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation

Description: Through the Assistive Technology Unit's grant from the Illinois Department of Human Services--
Division of Rehabilitation Services--Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation, services are provided to
adults utilizing Assistive Technology to achieve employment, or to pursue higher education.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Illinois Department of Human Services

Division of Rehabilitation Services--Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation

Assistive Technology Services to Consumers of the Illinois Department of Human Services-- Division on Developmental Disabilities

Description: Through the Assistive Technology Unit's grant from the Illinois Department of Human Services--
Division of Developmental Disabilities, services are provided to adults trying to move out of
developmental centers or nursing homes and into community-based living environments.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Illinois Department of Human Services

Division of Developmental Disabilities

Center on Capacity Building on Minorities with Disabilities Research

Description: This is a national Center funded to promote organizational capacity among CBOs and vocational
rehabilitation providers to better serve consumers with disabilities from minority groups. The center
also provides cultural competence training to interested agency staff.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago / Centers for Independent Living
Illinois Department of Human Services
Department of Rehabilitation Services

Center on Health Promotion Research for Persons with Disabilities

Description: Examines the effects of exercise and health promotion on persons with stroke, diabetes, arthritis, spinal cord injury, and Down syndrome. The goal of the research is to reduce secondary conditions and improve health among these patients.

(Note: Project ended 2002?)

Dates active: 19?? -- present

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Health and wellness

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

Contacts: **Rimmer, James**

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Partners: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Chicago Center for Disability Research

Description: The Chicago Center for Disability Research (CCDR) is a research unit established for the study of social, psychological, and educational issues relevant to the life experience of people with disabilities. CCDR staff is committed to making key information available and useful not only to the academic and professional sector but to all people with disabilities, their supporters, and advocacy groups.

CCDR uses a social model for exploring disability issues--one that views disability as coming from a wide-ranging relationship of individual and environmental influences. Projects are selected in response to needs expressed by people living with disabilities in the community and are supervised by researchers with direct disability experience. This contributes significantly to the creative energy and relevance of CCDR's work. It advances the principle of "self-determination for disabled people" to the world of research, education, and community service.

Dates active:

Category: Health and wellness
Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners:

Chicago Disability Arts and Culture Festival

Description: Works to increase disability awareness, at all levels, by holding an arts and culture festival for two weeks in April 2006 (20th to the 30th) to promote the perspectives of disabled persons. Monthly meetings or more from a seed group that began 3 years ago. UIC works on the steering committee, the program committee and the access and arrangements committee. UIC has authored major documents including missions statements, explanatory pieces, and a new commitment to access guidelines being reviewed by different art consortiums in the city.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Arts and culture

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences
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Partners: Access Center
Art Institute of Chicago
Chicago Public Schools
City of Chicago
Chicago Cultural Center
Mayor's Committee on Disability Issues
Gallery 37
Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum
Museum of Contemporary Art
Progress Center for Independent Living
Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago
Snow City Arts Foundation

Chicago Early Intervention Project

Description: Improves child developmental outcomes by teaching low-income urban parents how to enhance available learning opportunities for their child with a disability.

Dates active: 01/01/2004 -- 12/31/2007

Category: Education innovation
Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Education
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Partners: United States Department of Education

Chicagoland Provider Leadership Network

Description: The CPLN is a collaboration of key stakeholders who enhance the employment of people with disabilities, the majority of which provide direct employment services. The mission of the CPLN is to establish partnerships with employers which result in people with disabilities successfully filling the employment needs of the Chicagoland labor market, and to enhance the provider's capacity to deliver services to their target markets.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce development
Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences
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Partners: AbilityLinks
 Chicago Lighthouse
 Chicago Workforce Development Board
 Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce
 City of Chicago
Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities
Mayor's Office for Workforce Development
 Community Support Services, Inc.
 EmployAlliance WSCCI
 Goodwill Industries International, Inc.
 Guild for the Blind
 Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities
 Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
 Illinois Department of Human Services
Department of Rehabilitation Services
 Illinois Department of Labor
 Jewish Vocational Service Chicago
 National Able Network
 Partners for Inclusive Employment
 Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago
 Thresholds Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center
 United States Social Security Administration
 Victor C. Neumann Association

Child and Family Development Center (CFDC)

Description: CFDC provides citywide developmental and therapeutic intervention services to infants/toddlers with identified disabilities in their homes, at the Center, and in the community. CFDC uses family-centered practices with culturally responsive materials and strategies. CFDC also prepares professionals to support young children with special needs and their families, and conducts research on issues that affect the children and families served by the center.

Dates active: 1970 -- present

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
 Healthcare for at-risk populations

UIC Partners: Education

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Partners: Illinois Department of Human Services

Choices in Transition Program

Description: This is a model dissemination program funded by the US Department of Education intended to improve the transition outcomes of minority youth with disabilities graduating from inner city high schools. The program disseminates a transition curriculum to be implemented by teachers from the Chicago Public Schools. The curriculum prepares youth with disabilities for their transition from school to work or higher education.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Education innovation

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Chicago Public Schools

City Colleges of Chicago

Illinois Department of Human Services

Department of Rehabilitation Services

College Connection for Career Development Opportunities

Description: This is a model demonstration project funded by the US Department of Education intended to improve the transition outcomes of minority youth with disabilities graduating from inner city high schools. The program offers case management support and skills development. Youth are encouraged to attend college programs in the City Colleges of Chicago.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Education innovation

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Chicago Public Schools

City Colleges of Chicago

Illinois Department of Human Services

Department of Rehabilitation Services

Marriott Foundation for People with Disabilities

United States Department of Education

College Connection Project

Description: The overall goal of the CC project is to develop, implement and evaluate a comprehensive model for increasing the number of individuals with disabilities from the CPS successfully attending and completing programs of higher education in the CCC. Pursuing venues of higher education will increase the likelihood that individuals with disabilities will seek out and obtain employment opportunities that develop into long lasting careers.

The primary target population to be served by this project are the ethnic minority individuals with disabilities (African American and/or Latinos) graduating from special education programs from CPS. Participants should express an interest in pursuing post-secondary education opportunities within the certification programs of the CCC campuses.

The project will consist of four phases that include evaluation of current practices, staff development, recruitment and direct services and follow-up monitoring.

Dates active: 2000 -- 2005

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Undergraduate support

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

Liberal Arts and Sciences

Rehabilitation and Disability Studies

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Partners: Chicago Public Schools
City Colleges of Chicago
Illinois Department of Human Services
Office of Rehabilitation Services

Commemoration Event for the Disabled Victims of Nazi Genocide

Description: Featured film showing of World Without Bodies and presentations on the history of eugenics from forums across the community.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Arts and culture

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago
City of Chicago
Chicago Cultural Center
Progress Center for Independent Living

Cultural Frameworks for Disability Studies

Description: Directs discussions and research into the political and social implications for disabled persons living across a range of social environments and settings. Beyond focusing on access, led a series of teach-ins on ideas about disability collectivities, interdependence, social and cultural events, and histories (including crossover histories with oppressive or colonial practices. Attended by a range of the national and international community and the local government and university officials where they plan to now begin setting up curriculum for disability studies in Perth on the models we shared from UIC.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
International collaboration

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Allied Community Centers
City of Perth, Australia
University of Western Australia
World Social Forum

Disability as Art/ Disability as Culture

Description: An involved plan that educates local disability communities, many in the break-away republics of the former Soviet Union, in the mechanics and ideas of producing disability documentaries. Concludes every few years with an international competitive festival. Won awards for our low-budget, self-generated disability documentaries and attended with U.S. sponsorship twice in the last four years. Most recently in November 2004.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Arts and culture

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: City of Moscow (Russia)

Mayor's Office

Rehabilitation International

US Agency for International Development (US AID)

World Institute on Disability

Disability Takes on the Arts

Description: Video documentary that features Chicago arts, playwrights, comedians, artists, etc. Funded by Buddy Mayer Foundation and distributed by RIC. Won award in Moscow and set the stage for the Chicago Disability Arts Fest to occur by working as a promotional and outreach vessel. Featured showings in Chicago include for invited guests and board members of the Museum of Contemporary Art with an evening catered reception.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Arts and culture

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago

Buddy Mayer Foundation

Chicago Consortium of Disabled Artists

Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago

True North Foundation

Disabling Bullet Project

Description: The Disabling Bullet is a four-year model demonstration project that addresses the need to reintegrate into the community an increasing population of individuals disabled as a result of violence.

The main goals of the Disabling Bullet Project are to:

- 1) Develop a training manual for peer-mentors to assist African- American and Latino men with violently-acquired spinal cord injuries through the rehabilitation process;
- 2) Implement the peer-mentor program in three rehabilitation hospitals; and
- 3) Evaluate the effectiveness of this program.

Dates active: May 1, 1999 - April 30, 2003

Category: Violence prevention

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: United States Department of Education

Office of Special Education Programs

Family Caregiver Support Project

Description: Provides training and technical assistance to state and local aging and developmental disability agencies on joint outreach, planning, and service delivery to meet the needs of unserved and underserved older families caring for an adult relative with developmental disabilities. The project serves the Chicago metropolitan area, the state of Illinois, and is available to cities in other states.

Dates active: 2000 -- present

Category: Geriatric empowerment
Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Arc of Illinois

Arc of the United States

Chicago Department on Aging

Illinois Department of Human Services

Illinois Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

Illinois Department on Aging

United States Department of Education

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research

Family Support 360 Project

Description: The Institute on Disability and Human Development, in partnership with Community Support Services, will facilitate the development of a family-driven plan for a one-stop family support center in the predominately Hispanic neighborhoods of Berwyn and Cicero. Researchers anticipate that the finalized plan will lead to the implementation of the one-stop family support center.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Health and wellness

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Arc of Illinois

Berwyn Township Mental Health Board

Cicero Township Mental Health Board

Community Support Services, Inc.

Equip for Equality

Family Support Network of Illinois
Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities
Illinois Department of Human Services
Illinois Department on Aging
Latino Family Institute
MacNeal Hospital
Office of State Senator Martin A. Sandoval
South Berwyn School District #100
Suburban Access, Inc.
United States Department of Health and Human Services
Administration on Developmental Disabilities

Future Planning Training for Older Families and Their Adult Relative with a Developmental Disability

Description: Training curriculum geared towards families and their adult relative with a disability. The curriculum focuses on making future residential, legal and financial plans and has been translated into Spanish. Training and technical assistance are provided to families and staff at the Chicago area community services agencies. The project also includes an evaluation of the training.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners:

Chicago Arc

Clearbrook

El Valor

Illinois Department of Human Services

Illinois Department on Aging

Ray Graham Association for People with Disabilities

United States Department of Education

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research

Health Promotion for Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities: Train-the-Trainer Project

Description: The Train-the-Trainer Project is a five-year research study focused on establishing best practices for training staff to develop health promotion programs within community-based organizations providing services for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability services
Health and wellness

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Anixter Center
Avenues to Independence
Chicago Arc
Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago
Misericordia Heart of Mercy
Retirement Research Foundation
Special Olympics International
Trinity Services, Inc.
United States Department of Education
National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research
Victor C. Neumann Association

Hispanic Diagnostic and Family Support Program

Description: This program provides specialized diagnostic and family support services to Hispanic families living in Chicago in the area of learning and developmental disabilities. The emphasis of the program is working with parents to prepare them to interact more effectively with their child who may have a disability.

One technique used by this program is the Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS), which is a unique augmentative/ alternative training package that allows children and adults with autism and other communication deficits to initiate communication. According to the creators of the technique, "PECS does not require complex or expensive materials. It was created with educators, resident care providers and families in mind, and so it is readily used in a variety of settings."

Program bilingual staff have been trained in this technique. In turn, approximately 40 Hispanic family members and/or community workers will be trained in the use of PECS. The Illinois Autism/PDD Training and Technical Assistance Project and The Autism Project are funding this project. The entire two-day workshop will be conducted in Spanish.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability services

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: El Valor

Illinois Autism Training and Technical Assistance Project (IATTAP)

LaGrange Area Department of Special Education

Illinois Direct Support Professional Workforce Development Initiative

Description: This initiative will create the infrastructure necessary to increase the recruitment and retention of quality direct support professionals throughout the state.

Dates active:

Category: Workforce Development
Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: AFSCME Council 31
American Association on Mental Retardation (AAMR)
Illinois Chapter
Arc of Illinois
ARC of Rock Island County
Clearbrook
Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities in Illinois
Community Support Services, Inc.
Cornerstone Services, Inc
Family Support Network of Illinois
Habilitative Systems, Inc.
Human Services Research Institute
Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (IARF)
Illinois Community College Board
Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities
Illinois Department of Human Services
Division of Developmental Disabilities
Division of Rehabilitation Services
Illinois Health Care Association (IHCA)
Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living (INCIL)
Institute on Community Integration
Little Friends, Inc.
New Hope Center, Inc.
Oak Leyden Developmental Services, Inc.
Ray Graham Association for People with Disabilities
Seguin Services, Inc.
Service Employee International Union (SEIU)
Local 880
Southern Illinois University--Carbondale
SPARC, Inc.
State of Illinois
Office of the Governor
United Cerebral Palsy of Illinois
United States Department of Labor
Victor C. Neumann Association

Improving Health Experiences and Access to Health Services for Women with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Description: Collaborative Chicago-area research and training project addressing health disparities and perceived health issues of women with developmental disabilities. Helps women with disabilities to understand and articulate their own health concerns, and trains local agency staff and health professionals to work with women with developmental disabilities in developing increased access to appropriate health services.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Healthcare for at-risk populations

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Chicago Arc

El Valor

Northwestern University

Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago

United States Department of Education

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research

Institute on Disability and Human Development

Description: IDHD is the federally designated University Center for Excellence (UCE) in Developmental Disabilities for the state of Illinois. Its mission is to promote the independence, productivity and inclusion of people with disabilities into all aspects of society. The IDHD serves as a bridge between academia and the community of Americans with developmental disabilities.

Dates active: 1999 -- present

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

Contacts: **Heller, Tamar**

Director, Institute on Disability and Human Development

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Partners: N/A

Integrating Disability and the Arts

Description: Walk through advisory tours with staff, curators, and program directors on ways to make Chicago venues more accessible across a range of disabilities. Most recently, Museum of Contemporary Art in March 2005. Will also serve as panelists for upcoming integrated dance programs in April 2005.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Arts and culture

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Museum of Contemporary Art

Legacies of the T-4 Program from the Perspective of Disability Studies

Description: "Disability Studies and the Legacies of Eugenics" provided an opportunity for U.S. and Canadian disability studies scholars to understand the contemporary situation of disabled people in Germany today through an assessment of the historical facts surrounding the killing of more than 240,000 disabled people during World War II. To assess this legacy, the seminar contemplated the development of German Disability Studies and critiques of practices in modern day disability arenas such as education, medicine, rehabilitation, genetics, and bio-ethics. The program included visits to contemporary memorial sites, archives, and former T-4 locations. In addition to seminar sessions, four public lectures by contemporary scholars in German disability studies were offered as featured events. The lectures were all open to the public as a part of the Einstein Forum lecture series in

Potsdam, Germany. (July 2004)

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Bernburg Memorial Center

DAAD (Deutsch Akademischer Austausch Dienst)

Einstein Forum (Potsdam, Germany)

Hadamar Memorial Center

Moving out of the Nursing Home and to the Community: Examining and Affecting Social Change

Description: Develop, evaluate and disseminate a social action intervention to support disabled people as they transition out of nursing homes into long term community living and participation.

Dates active: 2001-2004

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

Contacts: **Tate, Charlotte**

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Partners: United States Department of Education

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research

National Center on Physical Activity and Disability

Description: The mission of the National Center on Physical Activity and Disability (NCPAD) is to promote the substantial health benefits that can be gained from participating in regular physical activity. The slogan of NCPAD is Exercise is for EVERY body, and every person can gain some health benefit from being more physically active.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Health and wellness

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

Contacts: **Tate, Charlotte**

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Partners: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

National Center on Accessibility

Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago

Partners for Inclusive Employment

Description: A coalition of various partners working to increase employment of people with disabilities through business, provider, and consumer partnerships.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Workforce Development

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: AbilityLinks

Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago

Anixter Center

Chicago Anti-Hunger Federation

Chicago Lighthouse

City of Chicago

Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities

Mayor's Office for Workforce Development

Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities in Illinois

Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago

EmployAlliance WSCCI

Goodwill Industries International, Inc.

Illinois Department of Employment Security

Illinois Department of Human Services

Illinois Employment and Training Centers (IETC)

Jewish Vocational Service Chicago

South Austin Coalition Community Council

United States Social Security Administration

Westside Jobs Collaborative

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Aging with Developmental Disabilities

Description: Works closely with local community agencies in conducting training, technical assistance and intervention research; focus is on promoting the health of adults with developmental disabilities and providing support and training to the families.

Dates active: 1998 -- present

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Geriatric empowerment

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Director, Institute on Disability and Human Development

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Partners: National Center on Physical Activity and Disability

United States Department of Education

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research

Special Teachers and Exceptional Pupils = Urban Promise (STEP=UP)

Description: Special Teachers and Exceptional Pupils Equals Urban Promise is a grant program that supports preparation of highly qualified special education teachers to work with linguistically and culturally diverse urban students with disabilities. This program prepares candidates for Learning Behavior Specialist certification.

Dates active: 2006 -- 2009

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Education innovation

UIC Partners: Education

Contacts: **Chou, Victoria**
Dean, College of Education

Phone: 312.996.5641 **Email:** vchou@uic.edu

Partners: Chicago Public Schools

Youth Leadership Development Program

Description: This program offers advocacy and self-determination skills development training and support for participating students with disabilities from the Chicago Public Schools. Youth participate in a summer internship and develop a community education project.

Dates active:

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Education innovation

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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Partners: Chicago Public Schools

City of Chicago
Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities

Youth Leadership Development Project

Description: Provides a comprehensive social skills component for ethnic high school students with disabilities that leads into leadership development

Dates active: 1996 -- Present

Category: Rehabilitation and disability studies
Education innovation

UIC Partners: Applied Health Sciences

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