

# Leadership Education for Children With Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND)

The LEND program is based at the Child Development and Rehabilitation Center (CDRC) at OHSU. LEND is funded by the Maternal Child and Health Bureau (MCHB) and is one of thirty similar programs across the United States. The program actively recruits long-term trainees from approximately 16 disciplines, providing them with a core of experiences that are deemed essential for professionals who will become leaders focused on the needs of children with neurodevelopmental and related disabilities and those children's families.

Leadership and mentoring opportunities are infused throughout the curriculum, which also emphasizes cultural competency and family-centered and community-based care. Participants are typically postgraduate students who begin their year-long experience each fall. Participants receive a modest stipend, and many of them serve part of their responsibilities at off-site locations to broaden their experience. The disciplines represented include:

- Administration
- Pediatrics
- Assistive technology
- Physical therapy
- Audiology
- Psychiatry
- Dentistry
- Psychology
- Genetics
- Social work
- Nursing
- Special education/rehabilitation counseling
- Nutrition
- Speech-language pathology
- Occupational therapy

Teachers and students who are interested in the many ways they may be able to work with children with disabilities are encouraged to contact LEND staff for more information.

## Contact Information

Nicole Valdivia Nava: 503 494-2734 or e-mail: [navan@ohsu.edu](mailto:navan@ohsu.edu)