

TO LEND A HAND.

TO LEAD.

Leadership Education
in Neurodevelopmental
Disabilities Program



CHALLENGING QUESTIONS

How can we help youth with disabilities and chronic medical conditions successfully transition into adulthood?

How can we meet the medical, developmental and behavioral health needs of historically underserved children, such as those living in homeless shelters or placed in foster care?

How can we collaborate with community agencies, schools and families to best serve children with lifelong conditions such as sickle cell disease, cerebral palsy or autism spectrum disorders?

How can we improve systems of care to better meet the needs of all of these children?



The Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Program provides interprofessional fellowship training for healthcare professionals and family members of children with chronic medical or developmental conditions.

It includes clinical and classroom training at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) and the University of Pennsylvania, collaboration with families, community service projects, research training and more.

The fellowship complements discipline-specific training by providing a broad perspective on vital quality-of-life issues and by building knowledge of the complicated systems — healthcare, education, social services, families and others — that profoundly affect children.

HELP DEVELOP SOLUTIONS

The LEND Program is dedicated to improving the systems of care for children with neurodevelopmental disabilities and chronic health issues and for children who historically have been underserved. LEND fellows train to become leaders in the many professions that work together to improve the lives of children and youth with special needs, and their families.

ABOUT LEND FELLOWS

Who

Professionals who are completing or have recently completed an advanced degree in healthcare fields associated with maternal and child health are eligible for the LEND fellowship. Also eligible are individuals who have lived experience as a person with a disability or chronic illness and family members who care for children with neurodevelopmental or related conditions.

We seek applicants from the following fields:

- Audiology
- Dentistry
- Developmental/behavioral pediatrics
- Family leadership
- Genetic counseling
- Healthcare administration
- Nursing
- Nutrition
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Psychology
- Self advocacy
- Social work
- Special education
- Speech-language pathology

Where

The LEND Program is based at CHOP. Founded in 1855 as the nation's first pediatric hospital, today CHOP has more than 1.3 million patient visits per year and is consistently ranked among the top pediatric hospitals in the United States. Our training programs are among the best in the world.

Support

LEND is supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal Child Health Bureau. There are 53 LEND programs in the United States and its protectorates.

Training options include funded or unfunded long-term (12 months or 300-plus hours) and unfunded short-term or medium-term (less than 300 hours) fellowships at an advanced master's, doctoral or post-doctoral level; or the candidate is the parent or legal guardian of a child with a chronic medical or developmental condition, or an adult with life experience with a disability or chronic condition since childhood. To be eligible for funding support, the candidate must be a U.S. citizen or holder of a permanent visa and not receiving any other federal funds.

Committed to Diversity

Creating a diverse workforce is a priority at CHOP. We take many steps to ensure that we are a leader in the recruitment, retention and promotion of minorities. The LEND Program encourages applications from minority candidates.

LEND FELLOWSHIP REQUIREMENTS

In addition to discipline-specific clinical training, each LEND fellow must:

- Attend core curriculum classes
- Develop an individualized training plan with a preceptor within the fellow's discipline
- Complete a mentored leadership project
- Complete experiences in community collaboration and research
- Complete a family collaboration experience

CORE CURRICULUM

The following topics are addressed in seminars, didactic presentations and case-based learning:

- Overview of neurodevelopmental and related disabilities
- Understanding autism
- Leadership skills
- The interdisciplinary team and case conferences
- Public policy and advocacy
- Family-professional collaboration
- Planning for transition to adulthood
- Research in neurodevelopmental disorders and related conditions
- Healthcare administration and children with special needs
- Building foundations for culturally competent care
- Feeding disorders in infants and young children
- Assistive technology

FACULTY

LEND fellows are taught by an interdisciplinary faculty:

- Clinicians and leaders from Children's Hospital
- Faculty, researchers and leaders with appointments at the University of Pennsylvania and its schools of Social Policy and Practice and the Perelman School of Medicine
- Families of children with special needs
- Speakers from the Disabilities Rights Network, the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, the Education Law Center of Pennsylvania and other organizations

LEARN MORE: chop.edu/lend

WHERE YOU CAN HELP

As a LEND fellow at CHOP, you'll work with nationally recognized experts who have dedicated their lives to helping children with special needs and their families.

LEND fellows participate in the REACH Transition to Adulthood Initiative, which helps youth with developmental disabilities and/or chronic medical conditions address issues of education, housing, job training and healthcare as adults.

Through the Homeless Health Initiative, LEND fellows empower families by helping to provide a fitness and nutrition program for children and parents, and health education in homeless shelters serving mothers with children in Philadelphia neighborhoods.

LEND fellows provide training in developmental issues for parents and staff in an Early Head Start program. They join with a community health center serving immigrant children and families to improve resources about autism.

Is your heart — and your future — in any of these places? Become a LEND fellow at CHOP.

QUESTIONS?

Contact the LEND program manager at
215-590-6336 or lendinfo@email.chop.edu.



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of Philadelphia®**

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