

**Advisory Committee on Increasing Competitive  
Integrated Employment for Individuals with Disabilities**  
**Public Meeting: July 20, 2016**

Dear Advisory Committee Members,

Thank you for providing the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) with the opportunity to submit public testimony regarding The Committee's final report.

We thank The Committee for your dedication and considerable efforts in formulating recommendations in response to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) to ensure that job seekers, including those with intellectual or developmental disabilities (I/DD) and other significant disabilities, have access to the services they need in order to succeed in competitive integrated employment (CIE).

We are pleased with the recommendations set forth in the interim report and are encouraged by what we have heard about the final report, which addresses ways to increase employment participation of individuals with I/DD through opportunities for CIE; improve oversight of the use of certificate program carried out under Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA); and expand capacity building efforts for youth and specific federal agencies and programs.

We recognize that creating infrastructure and implementing the recommendations from your final report will be the most important next steps in increasing CIE for individuals with I/DD and other significant disabilities. We pledge to be a partner in the effort to secure more support and to take necessary actions to ensure all individuals with disabilities have the option for CIE.

AUCD is a membership organization that advances policies, practices, and research that improve the health, education, social, and economic well-being of people with disabilities, their families, and their communities through a national network of university-based centers in every state and territory, consisting of:

- 67 University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD), funded by the Administration on Intellectual Developmental Disabilities (AIDD)
- 49 Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Programs, funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB)
- 15 Intellectual and Developmental Disability Research Centers (IDDRC), most of which are funded by the National Institute for Child Health and Development (NICHD)

Once again, we thank you for your leadership and commitment on expanding CIE for those with I/DD and other significant disabilities, and we thank you for the chance to share our testimony with you.

Sincerely,

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