



September 15, 2009

ICI Staff Travel to Zambia to Continue Work with Partners

This summer, ICI staff members Matthew Bogenschutz, Derek Nord, and Kristin Hamre traveled to Zambia to continue the work of the Twin Cities-Zambia Disability Connection. For nearly three weeks, from August 14 until September 2, they traveled around the country delivering training and conversing with various stakeholders interested in improving the status of people with disabilities.

The purpose of this trip, the third by ICI staff, was to train self-advocates, parents, educators, and government officials on the importance of including individuals with disabilities in all aspects of daily life, with the hope of building grassroots leadership aimed at helping Zambians with disabilities to gain a greater sense of belonging in their communities. Principles for taking community action were also presented to give the leaders ideas about realizing their plans within the Zambian context. "The trainings allowed us to connect with people with disabilities, parents, and professionals throughout country, but more importantly, these groups were able to connect with each other," Derek said. In addition, demonstrations of the College of Direct Support were offered to several groups, who were also provided access to this online learning tool for ongoing learning. Highlights of the group's work in Zambia include:

- Six half-day advocacy and capacity-building trainings with self-advocates, parent advocates, and leaders from educational and faith communities.
- Demonstrations of the College of Direct Support with faculty and students at the University of Zambia and the Zambia Institute for Special Education, as well as a special education teacher group.
- Meetings with Ministry of Education officials in Kitwe and at the country's largest hospital, where new project partners were discovered.
- A 30-minute interview about disability issues on Radio Mosi-O-Tunya in Livingstone, reaching a listenership of about 65,000.

Matthew, Derek, and Kristin also saw firsthand the impact of the intensive training that was provided to a group of Zambian partners who visited Minnesota in the spring of 2008. Participants Mikala Mukongolwa, Sister Namangolwa Liamunga, Friar Joseph Ntumbila, and Sister Agnes Daka were all instrumental in coordinating training sessions and, along with several other trainees, have assumed leadership roles in the movement to improve conditions for people with disabilities. "The energy of the leaders we met was amazing, and their commitment will help build relationships that will help people with disabilities throughout the country," Kristin said.

The disability movement in Zambia is still new and much remains to be done. Disability is still stigmatized and many people with disabilities are not afforded the opportunity to participate in daily life in their communities. But progress is being made and will continue as awareness grows. "The time seems right to push for better human rights for people with disabilities in Zambia, and I'm very hopeful that ICI's work has helped in some small way to add awareness and equip leaders who can continue a uniquely Zambian disability rights movement," Matthew says.

FFI, visit the project's blog at <http://twincitieszambiadisabilityconnection.blogspot.com> or contact Matthew at boge0021@umn.edu or 612-625-0171.

Staff Update

- **Staff Hires:** **Ryan Myers**, GRA, NCEO; and **Lindsey Hugstad-Vaa**, GRA, Adult Services. **Staff Departures:** **Marina Aleixo** and **Yenseong Cheon**, GRAs, Global Resource Center's Korea Project; **Viveca Braganza**, **Jennifer Davie**, **Daniel Nordin**, **David Parker**, **Rebecca Pierce**, and **Sarah Scholin**, GRAs, School Age; **Maggie Brockel**, GRA, Administration; **Jared Dixon**, GRA, Transition; **Catherine Kelly**, GRA, NCEO; and **Lexi Schmidt**, Student Support, Adult Services.
- ICI will participate in the University's Social Justice Film Festival Saturday, October 24 by showing "Offense Taken," a documentary produced by **Jerry Smith** of RTC Media about a group of self-advocates who protested the public use of the word "retarded." FFI, see www.housing.umn.edu/filmfestival.
- On September 1, ICI began a four-month, \$7,000 contract from Hennepin County Department of Public Health to study food environments in group homes and day training and habilitation settings (DTH) that serve adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the county. ICI will consult with the county team on research, interview adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and observe selected group home and DTH settings. **Sherri Larson** is the Principle Investigator from ICI and Gayle Geber is the Hennepin County Project Lead.

Dates to Remember...

- September 18: Pizza Forum, 12-1, 118 Pattee
- October 6: ICI Council, 10-12, 118 Pattee
- October 16: Pizza Forum, 12-1, 118 Pattee

From the Front Office

News from ICI's Administrative Staff

- **Academic Vacation Reminder.** Professional and Administrative (P&A) staff who are eligible for vacation time should submit their vacation forms prior to, or immediately after, taking vacation days. The form is on the Web at <http://ici.umn.edu/hr.html>. Questions? Call Beth at 6-8042.
- **Phone List.** The ICI phone list has been updated. To find a copy, visit ICI's intranet, Orpheus, at <http://ici.umn.edu/intranet/> and click on the "ICI Staff Directory" link on the right.
- **Updating Personal Information.** To change your name and/or address in the Student-Staff Directory, visit the Employee Self-Service Web page at <http://ecommunication.umn.edu/t/124090/685265/29/0/>, click on

the "Update Personal Information" link, and enter your changes by September 23. If you update your personal information with Employee Self-Service, please tell Beth (nels0106@umn.edu) or Amy (kuro0008@umn.edu) so they can update your personnel file at ICI.

- **Parking Restrictions.** This fall there are five remaining Gopher Home Football Saturdays – September 19, October 10 and 31, and November 7 and 14 – and campus parking is restricted on these days. Staff members are not allowed to park on campus in any Official Vehicle spot or at the maroon and gold meters at any time on these game days, not even with an Official Vehicle hangtag. Violators will be tagged and/or towed.

Miscellaneous

- **Arts and Disability Symposium at Weisman.** "Changing Landscapes: Symposium on the Arts and Disability" will be held at the University's Weisman Art Museum on October 30, 12:30-5 p.m. Registration is now open at <http://ici.umn.edu/art/symposium.html> or by calling Megan Dushin at 612-626-8649. The event is free and open to the public, and registration closes October 15. The symposium is co-sponsored by ICI, the University's Disability Services, VSA arts of Minnesota, Interact Center for Visual and Performing Arts, Rise, Inc., and Partnership Resources Inc.
- **CEED Online Courses.** The Center for Early Education and Development (CEED) is still accepting applicants to two of its online courses this fall. Applicants must register for Introduction to Infant Mental Health (10/5/09-12/7/09) by September 28. The application deadline for Supporting Stressed Young Children Through Relationship-based Teaching (10/12/09-12/14/09) is October 5. Both courses are taught by Marit Appeldoorn, MSW, LICSW. Registration is at www.cehd.umn.edu/ceed/profdev/onlinecourses/OnlineCourseFeesandRegistration.htm. FFI, contact Karen Anderson, CEED

online course manager, at 612-625-6617 or ander352@umn.edu.

- **ACT Anniversary River Cruise.** Advocating Change Together (ACT) is celebrating its 30th anniversary on a riverboat cruise down the Mississippi on Thursday, October 1. The 5:30-8 p.m. sailing begins at Harriet Island opposite downtown St. Paul and features nature-watching, food, a cash bar, and live music, including a performance of *Grease* by Self-Advocacy Solutions of North Dakota. Recommended donation is \$50. RSVP by September 25 by calling Kathy at 651-641-0297 or e-mailing act@selfadvocacy.org.
- **New Bullying Prevention Web Site.** TeensAgainstBullying.org has been launched by PACER's National Center for Bullying Prevention, providing a resource where teens can become a powerful part of the movement to end bullying. FFI, visit www.pacerteensagainstbullying.org.
- **Birthdays.** **Matt Bogenschutz** (10/20), **Jennifer Hall-Lande** (9/26), **Kristin Liu** (10/7), **Manuel Barrera** (10/9), **Nicole Lindquist** (10/13), and **Lucy Luu** (10/16). Did we miss your birthday? Let us know! Call 4-2380 or e-mail kuro0008@umn.edu.

Bits & Pieces

Information on New Publications and Web Sites

- **New Publications.** The following new ICI publications are available:
 - *Achieving Transparency in the Public Reporting of 2006-2007 Assessment Results* (NCEO Technical Report 53, July 2009). Published by the Institute's National Center on Educational Outcomes (NCEO) and available on the Web at www.cehd.umn.edu/nceo/OnlinePubs/TechnicalReport53.pdf.
 - *Exploring the Use of Early Numeracy Indicators for Monitoring Progress in Two Intervention Contexts: 2007-08* (RIPM Technical Report 29, September 2009). Published by the Institute's Research Institute on Progress Monitoring (RIPM) and available on the Web at www.progressmonitoring.net/pdf/TR29IowaENI.pdf.
 - *Exploring the Use of Early Numeracy Indicators for Monitoring Progress in Two Intervention Contexts* (RIPM Technical Report 28, August 2009). Published by RIPM and available on the Web at www.progressmonitoring.net/pdf/TR28ENI.pdf.
- **Journal Article on High School Student Engagement.** "Staying on Track for High School Graduation: Promoting Student Engagement," co-authored by Karen Stout and Sandy Christensen, appears in *The Prevention Researcher*, 16(3), 17-20, September issue. It can be found on the Web at www.tpronline.org/article.cfm/Staying_on_Track_for_High_School_Graduation.
- **Projects + Centers Web Update.** Your project or center now has a single information page on the new ICI Web site. When visitors search for your project, they can find it more easily (search results will link directly to your project page), and they'll get more complete information. Visit <http://ici.umn.edu> (click on "Projects + Centers") and let the Web Development Team know what you think (e-mail iciweb@umn.edu).
- **FYI Deadline.** Items for the next FYI should be submitted to Tom (donag003@umn.edu) by Friday, October 9.