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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
**CEHD** COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
 + HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

**ICI** INSTITUTE *on*  
 COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

Ensuring that all people with disabilities have the opportunity to be participating members in their communities of choice

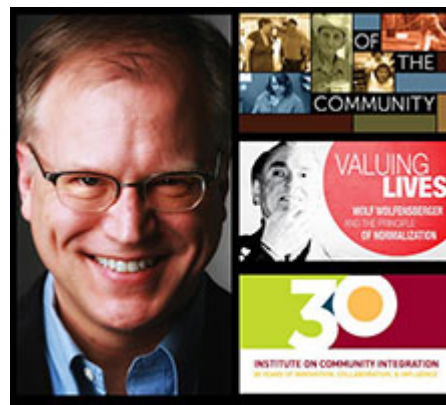
**JANUARY 2017**

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**FEATURE STORIES**

### ICI Filmmaker Jerry Smith to Receive AAIDD Historic Preservation Award

Jerry Smith, a filmmaker and media director specializing in documentary and social issue media, has been selected to receive the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) 2017 Hervey B. Wilbur Historic Preservation Award. The award recognizes significant contributions to historic preservation of the archives of the



field of intellectual and developmental disabilities and/or AAIDD. Smith will receive the award at [AAIDD's 141st Annual Meeting](#) in Hartford, Connecticut on June 28.

"It is a tremendous honor to be recognized by AAIDD, the oldest professional organization promoting the rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities," says Smith. As Media Producer/Director with ICI's [Research and Training Center on Community Living](#), he has conceived of and directed [dozens of films](#) that promote greater awareness and understanding of disability issues, giving voice to many under-told stories of disability history, community, and activism. Among them are [Higher Ground](#), a documentary exploring the work of Direct Support Professionals during and through the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina; [We Watch the City](#), a documentary telling the stories of New Yorkers with developmental disabilities in the aftermath of 9/11; and the recently-released [Valuing Lives: Wolf Wolfensberger and the Principle of Normalization](#), which has renewed interest in the history of the deinstitutionalization movement and the principle of Normalization.

*Star Tribune* reporter Chris Serres has been selected by AAIDD to receive its Media Award at the same

ceremony this summer. He was nominated for the award by ICI for "[Failing the Disabled](#)," a series of award-winning, in-depth articles he wrote in 2016 about disability issues.

## ***Changing Landscapes Celebrates 10th Anniversary with New Exhibit Featuring Art from Interact***



On January 11, ICI's [Changing Landscapes initiative](#) mounted a new art exhibit for the first quarter of 2017 showcasing the artists from Interact Center for Visual and Performing Arts in Minneapolis. Interact is a nonprofit organization that provides studio and performing arts opportunities for artists with disabilities ages 18+ to pursue a career in the creative field of their choice. The exhibit runs through March 31 in [Pattee Hall](#) on the East Bank of the University of Minnesota's Minneapolis campus. A public reception featuring the artists will be held on Friday, March 31, 4-6 p.m., to celebrate the art and artists featured in this exhibit. The artwork pictured here is Victor Van's *Iglesia de la Compañia de Jesus, Cusco, Peru*, and is part of the current exhibit.

"We are always delighted to exhibit art from Interact artists. Interact was our first partner showcasing colorful and varied art mediums in 2007. It's perfect that we're celebrating our 10th year with the same organization that helped us get started!" says Changing Landscapes Arts Committee chair [Megan Dushin](#). For the past 10 years the Changing Landscapes initiative has been supporting the creative work of artists with disabilities through celebrating their art throughout Pattee Hall. The exhibits are open to the public and offer an opportunity for the greater community to come together to appreciate the art as well as to purchase individual works. Exhibits are displayed throughout the building and open for public viewing between 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please stop by now to see the new exhibit.

Changing Landscapes has received support from a memorial fund established by Sheryl and David Evelo in honor of their daughter: The Stephanie Evelo Arts & Disability Memorial Fund. Stephanie was a beloved ICI employee and talented artist who passed away in 2012. The Evelos have supported the growth of the Changing Landscapes initiative with funds providing stipends to exhibiting artists and the arts agencies that support them and by fostering new partnerships to showcase art in the Twin Cities. For more information and to consider donating, please visit <https://ici.umn.edu/art/evelofund/>.

Changing Landscapes recently welcomed five new members to its committee, which is responsible for arranging and curating each exhibit. They are ICI staff members [Rebecca Dosch Brown](#), [Nik Fernholz](#), [Rachel Freeman](#), and [Amy Hewitt](#); and community member and LEND fellow [Julia Anderson](#) from the Walker Art Center. Besides Dushin, the continuing committee members include [Tony Baisley](#), Sheryl and David Evelo, [Sara J. B. Foster](#), [Mark Olson](#), and [Cliff Poetz](#).

## Minnesota Positive Behavior Support Gathering on February 10



The Minnesota Positive Behavior Support (MN PBS) Network Gathering, titled "Road to Success," will be held on February 10, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., at the Minnesota Department of Education at 1500 Highway 36 West in Roseville. Founded last June by a number of Minnesotans including ICI's [Rachel Freeman](#) and [Eileen Klemm](#), the MN PBS Network connects practitioners, teachers, administrators, and family members practicing or interested in Positive Behavior Support (PBS) and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) across settings, populations, and lifespan. The purpose of the gathering is for participants to learn more about PBS; share stories about how PBS works across the lifespan; connect with other people implementing PBS; join a network of people who want to help make PBS available across the state; and encourage collaboration across education, human services, and other relevant partners.

Participants can attend the event in person or remotely from anywhere in Minnesota. Barry McCurdy, who directs the Devereux Center for Effective Schools and is a PBS leader in education and other support settings, will deliver the keynote address on implementing PBS in schools and other settings. This will be followed by discussions on PBS issues within three "strands" from across the lifespan: children birth through age 6, children and youth 7-21, and adults and elderly populations. Stories at the all-day event will demonstrate how positive behavior support in these life stages improve quality of life and promote social growth, skills, and interactions, with examples describing individualized PBS planning when more support is needed. "The PBS Gathering will be a great opportunity to: (a) meet and network with other people using PBS in school, home, and community settings; (b) listen to real stories about assessment, intervention, collaboration, measurement, training, and how it has changed peoples' lives at home, at work, in the community, and at school; and (c) learn from our local experts in PBS working collaboratively with schools, in-home support providers, and community support providers," says Tim Moore of the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

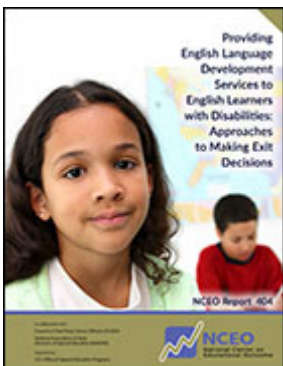
The Gathering is free and all are welcome, but [registration is necessary](#). ICI is co-sponsoring the event, along with the Minnesota Department of Human Services, the Minnesota Department of Education, and the University of St. Thomas.

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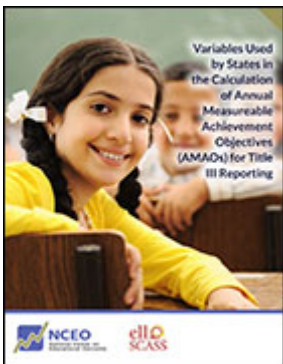
### NEW RELEASES

## Providing English Language Development Services to English Learners with Disabilities: Approaches to Making Exit Decisions (NCEO Report 404)

Authors: [Martha Thurlow](#), [Vitaliy Shyyan](#), [Sheryl Lazarus](#), and Laurene Christensen



The purpose of [this publication](#) is to provide a baseline report, prior to the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act, on factors that affect decisions to exit English learners (ELs) with disabilities from English language development services, including the relationship of these decisions to students' Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). Although many critical educational decisions are made for these students, the determination that an EL with disabilities should be reclassified and exited from services is one of the more critical decisions made for individual students. Published by ICI's [National Center on Educational Outcomes \(NCEO\)](#).



## Variables Used by States in the Calculation of Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs) for Title III Reporting

Authors: Laurene Christensen, Vitaliy Shyyan, Kelly Koenig, and Crystal Fields

[This report](#) presents information on the approaches used by states to calculate each of three annual measurable achievement objectives (AMAOs) about the language acquisition and academic achievement of English learners (ELs). Although states report their AMAO calculations to the federal government, there is no mechanism of comparison across states. This report provides a snapshot of the inputs states used for calculating AMAOs for the 2014-15 school year. Published by [NCEO](#) and prepared in collaboration with the English Language Learner State Collaborative on Assessments and Student Standards (ELL SCASS).

## Book Published



## Special Education Administration: How it Evolved in Minnesota

Author: [Norena A. Hale](#)

Through the Minnesota Special Education Leaders Foundation, this book shows how the history of general and special education administration evolved through two separate paths in Minnesota. This history is summarized with timelines, charts, and numerous historic photographs. The graphic design is by [Connie Burkhart](#) and [Mike Sharpe](#) provided technical assistance on the book. The book was made possible, in part, through a grant that ICI helped secure through the Minnesota Historical Society from the Minnesota Arts Cultural Heritage Fund. Published on the CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform. [Available through Amazon.](#)

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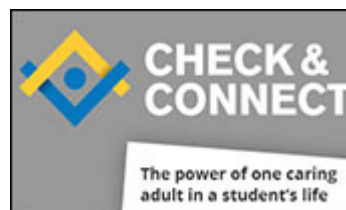
## EVENTS

## Check & Connect Trainings

### Comprehensive Implementation Training

February 23-24, 2017 • Medford, Oregon, (register by Feb. 2)

March 9-10, 2017 • Kahului, Hawaii (register by Jan. 26)



[Check & Connect's Comprehensive Implementation Training](#) prepares administrators and mentors with the knowledge and skills needed to begin implementing Check & Connect - an evidence-based student engagement intervention developed at ICI - in their schools or community-based organizations. Participants receive an overview of Check & Connect's foundational theories and evidence base; learn how to prepare their site for Check & Connect; and gain the information, competencies, and skills needed to be effective Check & Connect coordinators and mentors. The printed [Check & Connect manual](#) and access to electronic implementation files are included. Cost: \$575 per participant.

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### STAFF UPDATES



**Amy Hewitt, Amos Hewitt-Perry, and Macdonald Metzger:** [Hewitt-Perry](#) (right), [Metzger](#) (second from left), and [Hewitt](#) just completed a trip to Zambia, a country in southern Africa, where they collaborated with longtime Zambian colleagues Mikala Mukongolwa and Bishop Patrick Chisanga, as well as Bill and Sandy Beddor, to conduct training on disability rights, awareness, and community inclusion. The hope is to replicate the Home Based Education program in the Mansa diocese area in Zambia. Additionally, planning is in place to pilot the use of [DirectCourse](#) as a tool to support Home Based Educators and Special Education teachers throughout Zambia. Metzger continued on to Liberia where he is promoting training and inclusion.

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### ALUMNI UPDATES



**Ashwak Hassan:** Hassan is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist who works in Minneapolis at St. David's Autism Day Treatment for Somali Families. During the 2015-2016 school year, she was a Fellow at ICI's [Minnesota Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities Program \(MN LEND\)](#).

"The fellowship was immensely valuable and a wonderful experience for me where I had the opportunity to interact and collaborate with other fellows from multi-disciplinary backgrounds and learn how experts in the field work together and think about disability and neurodevelopmental disorders," she recalls. "The fellowship seminars enhanced my knowledge of the intersectionality of race, class, culture, gender, and disability, and helped improve my own clinical skills of providing mental health services to families from multi-cultural backgrounds. The LEND fellowship inspired me to take on a leadership position with St. David's Center. I am now a program coordinator where I supervise mental health practitioners, provide clinical services to families of Somali/East African background, and ensure a highly sensitive and culturally informed treatment is provided to these families. In Minnesota, there are only a handful of mental health professionals from a Somali background

who work with families and children impacted with neurodevelopmental disorders. It is a privilege and honor to be among them."

This email was sent by:

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