Preparing Future Leaders
The Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities (MCDD) prepares trainees for leadership roles advancing inclusion for people with disabilities. Undergraduate and graduate students from a range of disciplines train at the MCDD, including law, health policy, public health, special education, community health, neuropsychology, mental health and behavioral psychology. Trainees gain practical skills and knowledge that inform their work about the needs, strengths and perspectives of people with disabilities across the lifespan. A number of learning opportunities are available.

Pre-Service, Discipline-Specific Training
LEND
The Maternal and Child Health Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Other Related Disabilities (LEND) offers trainees didactic, clinical, community and research experiences. LEND training is provided to trainees from varied disciplines, including audiology, behavioral psychology, medicine, nursing, nutrition, occupational therapy, physical therapy, neuropsychology and speech-language pathology.

RISE-UP
The Maternal and Child Health Careers/Research Initiatives for Student Enhancement provides opportunities for enhanced public health and related training for up to 50 undergraduate students from underrepresented populations to encourage and support the pursuit of graduate degrees.

MCDD Teaching
MCDD staff have faculty appointments at local universities and actively teach disability-related coursework in program evaluation and special education law. They also guest lecture on a variety of disability-related topics.

Discipline-Specific Internships
Research and Policy
The MCDD works with universities and clinical departments to offer significant research and policy experiences as part of an overall pre-service preparation experience. The cornerstone of this effort is the work done through the Wendy Klag Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities at The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, including two funded internships to work directly with the MCDD on research, evaluation and policy experiences.

Disability Perspective Experience
Through training from the point of view of families and self-advocates, students have the unique opportunity to discover and develop sensitivities to the complexities and challenges facing people with disabilities on a daily basis.

Discipline-Specific Placements
Professionals and students are invited to train with the MCDD in specific disciplines such as special education, law, mental health and community health.

Key Partners
The MCDD partners with many dedicated individuals and organizations that work together to advance training opportunities for students and professionals. Trainees come from Maryland and around the nation. Partners include:

- The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- Towson University
- University of Baltimore School of Law
- University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law

We are all born with great potential. Shouldn’t we all have the chance to achieve it?

For more information, visit MCDD.KennedyKrieger.org
Tylea Powell
Towson University, December 2015
Bachelor of Science in Health Care Administration

The experience I had at the MCDD was very eye-opening and rewarding. I had the opportunity to work in grant writing, research, working with families, and conducting needs assessments. The internship has shaped the path that I want to take for my career.

Kelsey Crowley
Towson University, May 2016
Bachelor of Science in Health Care Management

It is one thing to learn about health care organizations in a classroom, but to actually be exposed to one every day in a hands-on manner is extremely valuable. At the MCDD, every work day is different and filled with meaningful projects that benefit the organization and the community.

For more information about internships and other training opportunities at the MCDD, call 443-923-9555 or visit MCDD.KennedyKrieger.org.