**JFK Partners is:**

Colorado’s Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) Program, funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau;

Colorado’s designated University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (UCEDD), funded by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities; and

An Interdepartmental Program of the Departments of Pediatrics and Psychiatry of the University of Colorado, School of Medicine.

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**Sample graduate accomplishments**

- Investigation of cultural barriers to autism diagnosis and treatment;
- Service as Colorado’s Ambassador for CDC Learn the Signs Act Early Campaign;
- Leadership of a non-profit serving pre-mature infants and children with special health care needs;
- Development of state guidelines for educational identification of students with autism;
- Creation of an outpatient multi-disciplinary clinic for youth with autism and social learning difficulties;
- Received federal funding to develop a program of comprehensive support for families of children newly diagnosed with autism;
- Exploration of self-injurious behavior and co-occurring disability;
- Investigation of genetic factors that cause autism;
- Development of new LEND Divinity track.

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**Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND)**

**An Interdisciplinary Training Program**

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**Cordelia Robinson Rosenberg, PhD, RN**
Professor Pediatrics and Psychiatry
Director, JFK Partners
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Associate Professor Pediatrics
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Program support from HRSA/MCHB Award T73-MC11044
LEND training at JFK Partners, prepares multi-disciplinary professionals for leadership roles serving children and youth with neurodevelopmental and related disabilities, including Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Training options include:

- Fellowships for those who have completed a terminal degree in their discipline, or
- Traineeships for pre-doctoral students.

Program Focus

JFK LEND training emphasizes acquisition of population expertise; clinical, policy, systems, advocacy and research knowledge; and interdisciplinary skills for leadership roles.

Trainees and fellows take interdisciplinary coursework in leadership, key concepts in disability, screening, assessment, and treatment or interventions for core symptoms and co-morbid conditions.

Extensive practical experiences foster development of skills, including cultural competence and family-centered approaches.

An active research program affords ample opportunities to advance the developmental disabilities evidence base.

Eligible Applicants

U.S. citizens seeking careers serving the maternal and child health population, particularly children and youth with developmental disabilities and their families, who are graduate or post-graduate students or practicing professionals in the following areas may apply:

- Audiology
- Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics
- Divinity
- Nursing
- Nutrition
- Occupational Therapy
- Parents
- Physical Therapy
- Psychiatry
- Psychology
- Public Health
- Social Work
- Special Education
- Speech & Language Pathology

Other disciplines may also be considered.

How to Apply:

Applications can be found on our website at: [http://www.jfkpartners.org](http://www.jfkpartners.org) (Education/Training Tab)

Questions:

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Frequently Asked Questions ...

What does LEND training offer?
- Enhanced clinical skills for care of people with autism and developmental disabilities
- Home visiting early intervention opportunities
- Interdisciplinary teaming skills
- Rich research and product development opportunities
- Access to wide array of resources for professional and career development
- Support for conference attendance and specialized trainings

When are applications accepted?
Applications are accepted year round, decisions about placements are made in the spring.

How long will it take to complete training?
LEND training is a 12 month program that generally follows an academic year and a 40 hour commitment per week. A second year fellowship may be an option.

Is there a clinical requirement?
Yes, however, non-clinical professionals may engage in individualized plans of study that emphasize research, teaching and policy.

Must I come to Colorado?
Yes, interaction with other leadership trainees and fellows and multi-disciplinary faculty and mentors is key to the development of advanced interdisciplinary skills.