## Table of Contents

- **Letter from the Director**
- **About the Mailman Center**
  - Our Mission, Vision, and Values
  - Overview of the Mailman Center
  - Inter Professional Collaboratives (IPC's)
- **Financials**
- **Collaborations Across the University**
- **What We Do**
  - Training
  - Community Engagement
  - Research
  - Clinical Services
- **Our Team / Partners and Funders**
When Eunice Kennedy Shriver and Dr. Robert Cooke conceived the idea for the original University Affiliated Facilities in the 1960s, their mission was to create a professional workforce capable of addressing the needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who would transition from institutions to communities. Today, our challenges and opportunities have broadened and become more complex as we develop best practices, expand knowledge and evidence-based approaches, engage with communities, participate in advocacy and policy development, and develop new systems of care.

For years, we embraced the concept of interdisciplinary training and collaboration, but our structure primarily supported disciplinary training and practice. Measures of our success have included counting activities, programs, publications, and number of individuals and families served, and we excelled using these measures. However, we have not adequately measured the impact of what we do on the lives of the individuals and families we serve. We have embraced the concept of community engagement, but have not always understood what engagement actually entails. To respond to these complex opportunities and challenges, our faculty and staff, along with community partners, embarked on an exciting and sometimes frightening transition of both the structure and function of the Mailman Center.

We adopted a new Values Statement: “Improving lives through Innovation, Impact, and Connections”, and began to evaluate everything we do by the components of this statement. We created five thematic Interprofessional Collaboratives (IPC) that integrated faculty and staff from many disciplines, departments, and schools across the University. Each IPC includes initiatives in service, research, education, and community engagement. We adopted the intersection between disability and diversity as our Center priority, and committed to work with two low-income, culturally diverse communities to help them build capacity in the areas they identify as important.

We are now three years into this grand experiment, and if the level of enthusiasm of our faculty and staff, innovative new programs with funding, palpable impact on lives, and excitement of community partners are measures of our progress, then we have done the right thing and are going in the right direction.

Before her death, I had the chance to spend an afternoon with Mrs. Shriver, and she asked me a critical question: “What’s next?” Our new structure and function is the short-term answer, and the long-term answer will be found in how well we consistently address problems through innovation, assure we are having positive impact, and strengthen our community partnerships to improve lives of individuals and families who depend on us.

-Daniel Armstrong, Ph.D.
Improving the lives of people with disabilities and their families through Innovation, Impact & Connection
OVERVIEW

Within the context of interdisciplinary collaboration, cultural competence, and family-centered perspectives, and using the integrated mechanisms of research, training, service, and advocacy, the mission of the Mailman Center for Child Development is to: Address, Develop, Identify, Integrate, and Educate.

The Mailman Center for Child Development is both a matrix center of the University of Miami and a core division of the Department of Pediatrics at the Miller School of Medicine. It is also a federally designated University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). Through research, we've implemented community-based improvement and intervention initiatives in Overtown and East Little Havana that address interdisciplinary disability/neurodevelopmental disability issues identified by the communities.

44 Faculty
59 Associated Faculty
7 Clinical Staff
80 Research Support Staff
**INTER PROFESSIONAL COLLABORATIVES**

**Promoting Behavioral Health**
- Develop Opportunities for integrated, evidence-based behavioral health care

**Lifespan**
- Develop innovative solutions for challenges of older adolescents & young adults with IDD and Chronic Illnesses

**Community Wellness**
- Build capacity for improving children’s health in our community

**Neurodevelopmental Intervention Science**
- Develop capacity for enhancement of early social-emotional development, communication and literacy

**Neurodevelopmental Discovery Science**
- Develop cross-University discovery science that optimizes synergy and impact
WHAT WE DO: TRAINING

PRE-SERVICE TRAINING

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION IN NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (LEND)

INNOVATION & CONNECTION CONFERENCE

ACCREDITED DISCIPLINARY TRAINING PROGRAMS (APA INTERNSHIP)

COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

DISTANCE LEARNING & TELE-EDUCATION

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & CONTINUING EDUCATION
WHAT WE DO: TRAINING

LEADERSHIP PIPELINE PROGRAMS

STATEWIDE LEADERSHIP TRAINING (NEXT GEN)
EMERGING TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM (ETLP)
COMMUNITY LEADERS
LEADERSHIP EDUCATION IN NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (LEND)
ACADEMIC TRAINING PROGRAMS
SELF ADVOCATE LEADERSHIP TRAINING (SALT)
STUDENT EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM (SELP)
Our Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) program is the primary training component of the Mailman Center, providing graduate students and post-doctoral interns, residents, and fellows from more than 15 different disciplines with training in both specialized leadership skills and the experiences needed to meet discipline-specific skills criteria. With more than 90 trainees each year, our graduates of LEND are now professionals in more than ¾ of Florida's counties, as well as other states and even international programs.

The Mailman Center offers innovative leadership experiences for high school students, self-advocates with disabilities, and community professionals as part of a leadership pipeline:

- Student Emerging Leaders Program (SELP) is a 3-month leadership training program for high school students who have potential to learn to create system level changes for people with disabilities.
- Self-Advocate Emerging Leaders program (SALT) - Project SALT's mission is to implement a leadership skills curriculum for adults with disabilities so that they can learn strategies to advocate for themselves and others and affect larger systems change. This program was initially funded by the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council.
- Emerging Transformational Leadership Program (ETLP) is a 9-month advanced intensive leadership training program for early-to-mid level community career professionals who have the passion to create systems level change for people with disabilities. To date, we have had 7 cohorts and 42 graduates. The program culminates with a group project.
- NEXT-GEN: In collaboration with other Developmental Disabilities Act sister agencies, Next-Gen implements high-level policy leadership training at the state level.
WHAT WE DO: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS INTERSECTION OF DISABILITY AND DIVERSITY

EASTLITTLE HAVANA (CONNECT FAMILIAS)

OVERTOWN (OVERTOWN CHILDREN & YOUTH COALITION)

MAILMAN CENTER CORE PROGRAMS

DEBBIE INSTITUTE

EARLY STEPS

MAJOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS

CHILD PROTECTION TEAM

COMMUNITY AGENCY AFFILIATIONS (>100)

PEDIATRIC MOBILE CLINIC

THE CHILDREN'S TRUST
FAMILIES FIRST, JUMP START, PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION THERAPY, EARLY DISCOVERY, HEALTHY STEPS

COUNTY, STATE & FEDERAL
JASMINE PROJECT STEP UP AT

FOUNDATIONS
FAMILY NAVIGATOR PROGRAM (TAFT FOUNDATION), SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAM (DR. JOHN T. MCDONALD FOUNDATION)

THE CHILDREN'S TRUST, MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, UNITED WAY, EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF MIAMI-DADE/MONROE

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES JACKSON HEALTH SYSTEM, HOLTZ CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, FLORIDA ALLIANCE FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

CENTER FOR AUTISM AND RELATED DISABILITIES, SPECIAL OLYMPICS FLORIDA, PARENT-TO-PARENT, MIAMI

ARTABILITIES

AIDD SISTER AGENCIES
FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC., DISABILITY RIGHTS FLORIDA, CENTER FOR INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES
MAILMAN CENTER CORE PROGRAMS

**Debbie Institute**

The Debbie Institute is a center for early intervention research, training and service. For more than 30 years, the Debbie Institute has conducted research on problems impacting children with special needs, provided early intervention services for children and their families and provided training for University students interested in careers in special education, speech-language pathology, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and social work. **Over the past three years, The Debbie Institute served 1,225 children.**

**Early Steps**

Florida's early intervention system offers services to infants and toddlers (birth to sixty-six months) who are felt to be at risk for developmental delay such as: delay in achieving developmental milestones, delayed growth, extreme pre-maturity, established neurologic conditions and severe behavior disorders. **From 2015-2018, Early Steps served 8,231 children with disabilities.**

**Child Protection Team**

This interdisciplinary team involves pediatricians, nurses, caseworkers, and psychologists who collaborate in the assessment of children and families referred by DCF due to allegations of child abuse and neglect. Within 72 hours after removal from their homes due to suspected abuse or neglect, children ages birth to 18 years are provided medical and psychological screenings to determine appropriate and specific placement recommendations. **Child Protection team served 5,634 children between 2015-2018.**

**Pediatric Mobile Clinic**

Established in 1992 as a response to Hurricane Andrew, the UMPMC has provided health care to uninsured children in need. Services provided include well-visits, sports physicals, and immunizations, management of chronic conditions, urgent care, mental health, and social work. **Over the past three years, 5,533 children were seen on the Pediatric Mobile Unit.**
MAILMAN CENTER HIGHLIGHT PROGRAMS

**ArtAbilities**
Through a partnership with Miami-Dade County Public Schools’ Art Department, new artworks are created by children between the ages of 5 and 21 enrolled in special education programs. Through their participation in ArtAbilities, children with learning and/or physical challenges have an opportunity to discover their talents, experience successful competition and contribute to the enrichment of our visual environments. **Over the past 3 years, 69 children have participated in the program, and 69 paintings have been hung at the Mailman Center.**

**East Little Havana / Overtown Initiatives**
The Mailman Center supports the communities of Overtown and East Little Havana by strengthening collaboration with community providers. We have committed resources to support expansion of capacity in these two neighborhoods adjacent to the Mailman Center that are culturally diverse, economically challenged, and undeserved by health and education professionals despite having extremely high levels of morbidity and mortality. We are helping Overtown Children and Youth Council (OCYC) and Connect Familias build their capacity to obtain grant funding in the areas of professional development, youth leadership, and early childhood development.

**Jump Start**
The Jump Start program is funded by the Children’s Trust. Child care centers are assigned a care coordinator, who conduct initial needs assessments with center staff, as well as provide training focusing on the four child-health areas. **There were 305 children seen/served from 2015 - 2018.** The services provided are based on best practice and recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics and Healthy Childcare America.

**Early Discovery**
Provides services for children who do not qualify for Part C or Part B but who have mild but significant delays (10% to 29%). Intervention services for children 0-5 include care coordination, and short-term speech/language, occupational therapy, behavioral, and developmental intervention. **From 2015 - 2018, 1,416 children with disabilities were seen.**

**Parent-Child Interaction Therapy**
PCIT is a 12-18 session parenting program created for children and their families. PCIT teaches parents to manage their child’s difficult behaviors, while having fun and improving their child’s positive behaviors. **PCIT served 471 families from 2015-2018.** At least 50% of families perceived their child as experiencing a disability.
COLLABORATIONS
ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY

- Pediatrics
- Human Genetics
- School of Education
- Otolaryngology
- College of Arts and Sciences
- School of Law
- Pathology
- Medicine
- Biomedical Engineering
- School of Music
- Psychiatry & Behavioral Science
- School of Engineering
- Rosensteil Marine Sciences
- Neurology
- Ophthalmology
- Public Health Sciences
Step-Up AT (US Department of Education) Use of innovative technology to support literacy development in young children with disabilities from diverse backgrounds.

Molecular Genetics of Early and Late Onset Hearing Loss (NIH) Use of a molecular genetics test to identify early and late onset hearing loss in newborns.

Annual Federal, State, and Local Funding for the Mailman Center (2015 - 2018)

ZIKA and Neurodevelopmental (Florida Department of Health, HRSA/MCHB) Effect of pre-natal exposure to the Zika virus on hearing and neurodevelopment.

WHAT WE DO: RESEARCH

Citations from Publications

Research Impact
Citations from Publications
3-Year Total: 963 Citations and 474 Citations from Collaborations

* One of the most important outcomes of research is if others cite it or implement its findings *
**WHAT WE DO: CLINICAL SERVICES**

**Number of Children with I/DD¹, SHCN² Served**

3-Year Total - 40,214

2018: 86% Minority Backgrounds

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**More than 12k individuals receive interdisciplinary clinical and educational services each year from faculty and staff of the Mailman Center through clinics, hospital services, community collaborations and mobile outreach, many supported by funding from a contract with Florida Children's Medical Services.**

**Clinical Services are offered in our various units in Nutrition, Psychology, Social Work, Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Audiology, Speech and Language Pathology, Early Special Education, Medical Genetics, Neurology, Psychiatry.**

**Interdisciplinary Clinical Services are offered in the following clinics: IDES clinic, Fragile X Clinic, Behavioral Pediatrics Clinic, Parent-Child Interaction Therapy, augmentative and alternative communication, Chronic Illness-Cancer, HIV, Sickle Cell Disease, Cleft Lip and Palate Clinic, diabetes, obesity, transplant, cardiology, asthma & cystic fibrosis.**

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¹ I/DD: Intellectual/ Developmental Disabilities
² SHCN: special Health Care needs
INNOVATIVE CLINICAL PROGRAMS

**Family Navigator:** Funded through a gift from the TAFT Foundation, the goals of this program are to empower, support and educate families by implementing a system of care where Family Navigators work with families to help them get services for their children.

Family Navigators are parents of children with disabilities or special health care needs who have navigated through systems of care on behalf of their children.

*Over the past three years, 960 individuals with disabilities and their families have received support.*

**FAAST:** The Mailman Center offers Assistive Technology services through the Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST).

FAAST is a non-profit organization funded by the U.S. Department of Education Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) through the Assistive Technology Act of 2004 and the State of Florida Department of Education Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

The FAAST mission is to improve the quality of life for all Floridians with disabilities through advocacy and awareness activities that increase access to and acquisition of assistive services and technology needs.

*Between 2015-2018, 550 individuals with disabilities were served.*

**IDES:** The IDES clinical service continues to be the Mailman Center’s premier inter-professional service. We offer children with complex conditions a coordinated team evaluation and comprehensive recommendations. Graduate students from a dozen disciplines participate to better understand how teams function to improve the quality of care.

*IDES served 150 children from 2015 to 2018*
EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

Daniel Armstrong, PhD, Director, Mailman Center and UCEDD Director
Jeffrey P. Brosco, MD, PhD, Assoc. Director, Mailman Center and LEND Director
Michelle Schladant, PhD, Asst. Director MCCD, UCEDD/LEND Assoc. Director, Assistive Technology Programs Director
Adua Casado, MBA, Administrative Director MCCD

INTER PROFESSIONAL COLLABORATIVES (IPC) Leaders

Promoting Behavioral Health
Jason Jent, PhD, & Julieta Hernandez, PhD

Community Wellness
Ruby Natale, PhD, PSyD & Maite Schenker, PhD

Lifespan
Larry Friedman, MD & Shelly Baer, LCSW

Neurodevelopmental Discovery Science
Robert Fifer, PhD & Daniel Messinger, PhD

Neurodevelopmental Intervention Science
Michelle Berkovits, PhD & Lynn Miskiel, MS

CROSS IPC Directors

Clinical Services - Eugene Hershorn, MD
Training - Michelle Schladant, PhD
Research - Alan Delamater, PhD
Community Engagement and Innovation - Lisa Gwynn, DO

Mailman Center Core Programs Leadership

Debbie Institute - Kathleen Vergara, MA, Director
Early Steps - Charles Bauer, MD, Director
Child Protection Team - Walter Lambert, MD, Director
Pediatric Mobile Clinic - Lisa Gwynn, DO, Director

Partners and Funders:

Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)
Children’s Medical Services (CMS)
United Way
Holtz Children’s Hospital/ Jackson Memorial Hospital
American Academy of Pediatrics
Disability Rights of Florida
Department of Pediatrics Divisions
Other University of Miami Miller School of Medicine Departments
Other University of Miami Schools and Colleges
Other University of Miami Centers and Institutes

Major Funders:

Federal:
Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD)
Maternal Child and Health Bureau (MCHB)
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
National Institute of Health (NIH)
Center for Disease Control (CDC)
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

State:
Florida Department of Health
Department of Education
Department of Children and Families (DCF)
Florida Developmental Disabilities Council

Local/Foundations:
- Batchelor Foundation, Inc.
- The Children’s Trust
- The Appelbaum Foundation, Inc.
- Taft Foundation
- Weil Family Foundation
- Miami-Dade County Public Schools System
- Children's Health Fund
- Himan Brown Charitable Trust
- Sol Taplin Charitable Foundation
- United Way of Miami-Dade
- Center for Haitian Studies
- Miami-Dade Health Department
- Health Foundation of South Florida