



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON HEALTH AND DISABILITY

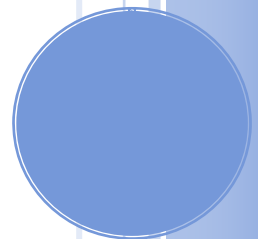
2008 Annual Report

Dedicated to better health for people with disabilities
through health promotion and wellness.

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON HEALTH AND DISABILITY

Message from the President and Executive Director

February, 2009

Dear Friends,

The American Association on Health and Disability (AAHD) was founded in 1994 to advance theory, knowledge and practice in the prevention of secondary disabling conditions and to advance health promotion and wellness initiatives for people with disabilities. AAHD accomplishes our mission through public awareness, advocacy, research and education at the federal, state and community level. As the only national organization specifically dedicated to advocate and support initiatives that improve the health status and quality of life for people with disabilities, AAHD is proud to report that this year we have made significant advances in our missions.

Our most significant accomplishment to date was the launching of the peer reviewed Disability and Health Journal (DHJ) in 2008. The creation and launch of the DHJ is a landmark event for disability and health researchers, policy advocates, health care providers and people with disabilities. Through our work as an active partner with health care and disability organizations, academic and research institutions and federal agencies, AAHD has always prioritized the need to establish a peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary, scientific and scholarly journal that would work toward advancing the field of disability and health.

Our year began with the launching of the DHJ and our year ended with the creation of the AAHD Scholarship Program to support students with disabilities who are pursuing higher education. This year has been a year of growth for AAHD and a year of continued recognition of the importance of advancing health promotion and wellness initiatives for people with disabilities in both private and public entities. As a result of our continued visibility and recognition for our professional work, AAHD has seen a growth in our membership, expansion of our future funding, recognition of the value of the AAHD Health Promotion Resource Center and request for the involvement of AAHD staff in numerous initiatives.

We look forward to the future and to see the impact of our work at the federal, state and community level. We are excited to continue collaboration with our partners as we continue to work towards promoting health and wellness for people with disabilities and to reduce health disparities between people with disabilities and the general population. We thank all of you for your ongoing and sincere support of our mission and our work.

Sincerely,

Ronald Blankenbaker, MP
AAHD President

Roberta S. Carlin, MS, JD
AAHD Executive Director

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON HEALTH AND DISABILITY

AAHD MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the American Association on Health and Disability (AAHD) is to advance health promotion and wellness initiatives for children and adults with disabilities. AAHD is committed to reducing health disparities between children and adults with disabilities and the general population and reducing the incidence of secondary conditions in people with disabilities by promoting health and wellness initiatives. AAHD accomplishes its mission through advocacy, research, education and public awareness efforts at the federal, state and community level.

AAHD VISION STATEMENT

AAHD is dedicated to the advancement of theory, knowledge and practice in the prevention of secondary disabling conditions and promotion of health and wellness for people with disabilities. AAHD's method includes professional and public education, advocacy efforts, and expansion of public awareness on issues related to the prevention of impairments and disabilities and the promotion of health and wellness initiatives for children.

AAHD HISTORY

AAHD was founded in 1995 in response to a new national health and disability policy that was emerging in the 1980's. The first development was the creation of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which closed the gap in the guarantees of civil rights for persons with disabilities. Another development was the creation of the National Program for the Prevention of Disabilities at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Department of Health and Human Services, implemented a national plan for primary prevention set forth in *Healthy People 2000*, and the Institute of Medicine (IOM) released a report entitled *Disability in America* (1991).

The rapidly growing interest in prevention of additional health complications and in health promotion and wellness for people with disabilities by many groups representing Americans with and without disabilities, as well as the expansion of the National Program for the Prevention of Disabilities reinforced the viability of and need for the American Association on Health and Disability.

To date, no other national organization is specifically dedicated to meeting the goals and objectives of AAHD. Our organization continues to fill a critical need to support national, state and community initiatives to prevent additional health complications in people with disabilities and to promote health and wellness in people with disabilities.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON HEALTH AND DISABILITY

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Approximately 54 million people in the United States are living in the community with a disability. It is predicted that this number will increase over the next 30 years as the baby boomers age, putting them at a higher risk of having a disability. Most persons with disabilities are as healthy as people who do not have a disability; however, people with disabilities are at a greater risk for additional health complications and secondary disabling conditions. AAHD works aggressively to promote health and wellness interventions for people with disabilities in order to reduce the incidence of secondary conditions and reduce health disparities between people with disabilities and the general population. AAHD partners with national coalitions, federal agencies, voluntary health organizations and consumers to ensure that developing health promotion and wellness programs for people with disabilities is a priority for our nation. AAHD staff holds leadership positions in the Disability Section of the American Public Health Association; the External Partners Group of CDC's NCBDDD, and serve on federal advisory task forces and national coalitions to ensure that issues related to health promotion and wellness for people with disabilities is integrated into the public health agenda. In 2009, AAHD will be launching Health Promotion and Wellness Month for People with Disabilities to increase awareness of the need for funding for disability research and surveillance, understand the barriers to accessing quality health care and increase training of healthcare providers.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

In 2009, AAHD will launch the American Association on Health and Disability Scholarship Program. This program was created to support students with disabilities who are pursuing higher education in the areas of public health, health promotion or disability studies, to include disability policy and disability research. Royalties from the Disability and Health Journal will fund the first year of the 2009 AAHD Scholarship Fund. AAHD is committed to encouraging young people with disabilities to pursue education that will have a positive impact on children and adults with disabilities

EDUCATION

AAHD is committed to the dissemination of current scientific and programmatic information. AAHD hosts a comprehensive website, www.aahd.us, which is home to the AAHD Health Promotion Resource Center (HPRC). The HPRC is the only Resource Center specifically dedicated to providing information on improving the health status of people with disabilities and reducing the incidence of secondary conditions in people with disabilities. AAHD also maintains a quarterly electronic newsletter, *Health and Disability*, and hosts various active list serves which serve as ongoing channels for information dissemination. AAHD works with various federal agencies who share our mission and dedication to improving the health status of children and adults with disabilities. We strive to educate stakeholders at the federal, state and community level to achieve our mission.

RESEARCH

AAHD continues to develop our research agenda to focus efforts to advocate for federal funding of disability research on clinical, social, behavioral, assistive technology and other disability research that will improve the health status of children and adults with disabilities. AAHD works to increase the awareness, visibility and promotion of the need for coordination for federally supported disability research programs. AAHD works with various university partners to disseminate their research to stakeholders, and AAHD strives to advocate for funding for translational research and policy implementation. AAHD is committed to supporting the adoption of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) of the World Health Organization (WHO) as the conceptual framework for disability research and monitoring. AAHD is dedicated to supporting evidenced based-health promotion interventions and promising practices in order to develop new protocols and programs that promote health and wellness in children and adults with disabilities.

DISABILITY AND HEALTH JOURNAL

In 2008, AAHD launched the Disability and Health Journal (DHJ) www.disabilityandhealthjnl.com in conjunction with Elsevier Publishing. The DHJ is the first peer-reviewed, multi-disciplinary, scientific and scholarly journal in the field of disability and health for reporting original research contributions. The DHJ focuses on health promotion and wellness initiatives for people with disabilities; evaluative research on new interventions, technologies and programs; and reports of empirical research on the characteristics of people with disabilities, environments, health outcomes and determinants of health. The DHJ is published four times a year and is available in hard copy and electronically. The DHJ has a very impressive Editorial Board, composed of the leaders in the field of disability and health, a list of whom can be viewed on the Journal website.

ADVOCACY

AAHD maintains the highest commitment to promoting the interests of children and adults with disabilities. AAHD continues to provide information to members of Congress, federal agencies, state health departments, health care providers, universities and consumers on the importance of reducing health disparities between people with disabilities and the general population. AAHD serves on various national coalitions and is an active participant in seeing that the needs of children and adults with disabilities are on the forefront of federal, state and community agendas. In 2006, the AAHD Executive Director received a Certificate of Appreciation from the U. S Department of Health and Human Services for recognition of valuable contributions as Chairperson of Workgroup #1 for the successful completion of the Surgeon General's Strategic Plan for the "Call to Action to Improve the Health and Wellness of Persons with Disabilities." AAHD has developed policy statements that focus on the importance of health promotion and wellness for people with disabilities.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON HEALTH AND DISABILITY

2008 PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Launched *Disability and Health Journal*, the first scientific, scholarly, peer-reviewed and multi-disciplinary journal that focuses on health and disability.

Awarded grant from the Centers for Disease Control, National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, Disability and Health Team, to conduct research to build upon existing health promotion and new interventions.

Partnered with Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure to improve accessibility of mammogram services and increase awareness of the challenges confronting women with disabilities seeking mammograms in Metro DC.

Received of contract from the Department of Health and Human Services, Office on Disability, to provide technical assistance to the national mentoring program for youth with disabilities, *I Can Do It You Can Do It*.

Entered into agreement with Association of University Centers on Disability (AUCD) to provide technical assistance via the AAHD Health Promotion Resource Center to state grantees.

Served on National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO) National Workgroup of Disability and Health; APHA Disability Section Executive Committee; CDC, NCBDDD, External Partner Group Executive Committee; Board Member, HHS National Biodefense Science Board (Federal advisory task force).

Received contract from Oregon Health & Science University to disseminate current scientific and programmatic information to interested stakeholders across the country.

Continued partnership with Drexel University to provide e-learning for AAHD members and partners.

Increased circulation of *Health and Disability News*, AAHD quarterly electronic newsletter.

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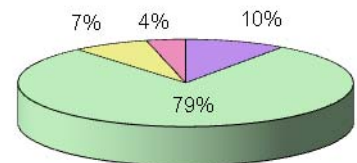
2008 Financial Summary

Sources and Uses of Funds

Sources of Funds

Foundation Grants	\$ 22,175	10%
Federal Grants	\$ 179,725	79%
Membership	\$ 16,810	7%
Miscellaneous	\$ 8,528	4%

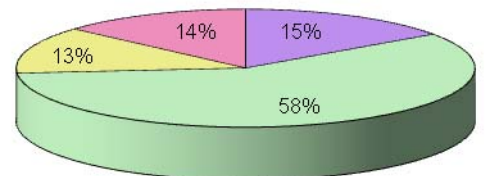
Sources of Funds



Major Uses of Funds

Health Promotion & Wellness	\$ 40,157	15%
Dissemination	\$ 153,478	59%
Physical Activity/Nutrition	\$ 34,080	13%
Intervention	\$ 35,390	13%
Publications	\$ 35,390	13%

Major Uses of Funds



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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON HEALTH AND DISABILITY

PLANNED GIVING

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

The American Association on Health and Disability welcomes sponsors and members committed to promoting the health and wellness of the 54 millions children and adults with disabilities in the United States

Sponsorships and memberships are an ideal way to demonstrate your dedication to advancing health promotion and wellness programs for children and adults with disabilities through public awareness, education, research, and policy. Depending on the level of Sponsorships, donors will receive certain benefits.

AAHD offers six basic options for sponsorship:

- Corporate Sponsorships: Gold, Silver, Bronze
- Corporate Memberships
- Affiliate Memberships
- Individual Memberships
- Donor Memberships
- Gifts of Cash, Stocks, etc.

AAHD is proud to recognize our sponsors and members as partners. We believe that by working together, AAHD can achieve its missions more efficiently and fully, and sponsors and members can take pride in their role in achieving a worthy and important goal—improving the lives of people with disabilities.

Please contact giving@aahd.us to learn more about opportunities to support the American Association on Health and Disability (AAHD) and the important work we do to advance health promotion and wellness initiatives for children and adults with disabilities.

American Association on Health and Disability
Join AAHD

to receive a discounted rate on
a subscription of the

Disability and Health Journal

The first scholarly, scientific, multi-disciplinary peer reviewed
Journal in the field of disability and health

The mission of AAHD is to advance health promotion and
wellness interventions for people with disabilities at the federal,
state, and local levels. AAHD's mission is achieved through
research, education, advocacy and public awareness.

Additional information available
www.aahd.us



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