

CALLING ALL FAMILIES

Make a Difference in the Experience of LEND Trainees!



Are you the parent or family member of a child with an autism spectrum disorder or other neurodevelopmental disability?



Would you be willing to share your day-to-day experiences with a leader-in-training?

The Center for Disabilities Studies at the University of Delaware is the home of the Delaware Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Other Related Disabilities (LEND) Program. This program brings together trainees from a number of disciplines to learn with and from each other on their way to becoming providers of interdisciplinary, culturally competent, and family centered services. Trainees are with us for a full year of diverse learning experiences, one of which is known as “A Day In Our Life”.

In this experience, our trainees spend about 15-20 hours connecting meaningfully with a family (within a 1/2 hour drive of UD) in which at least one of the members is a child with a neurodevelopmental disability. Host families will welcome a trainee into their home, giving them an “up close and personal” view of family life. These times together are expected to take place at home, at visits to doctors or other healthcare professionals, at schools, and in community settings where host families spend their time. The primary purpose of this activity is to enable trainees to get to know a family at a personal level, which in turn should help them become more sensitized to the circumstances that families encounter in the course of raising their children.

To find out more about Delaware LEND, take a look at this [video](#) or go to: www.udel.edu/cds

As a LEND Family Mentor you will:

1. Attend a short orientation session.
2. Open your lives to a LEND Trainee in the form of letting them visit, tag along, and ask you about your experiences.
3. Allow your trainee to take pictures or short video clips that will be included in a reflection assignment (will not be shared beyond the confines of the LEND learning experience).
4. Receive \$400 as a token of our gratitude for your participation at the end of the experience.

If you are interested, please complete the application below and email to skaznica@udel.edu

For any questions about the LEND program, please contact Stephanie Kaznica at 302-831-3206 or Skaznica@udel.edu



LEND FAMILY MENTOR APPLICATION FORM

Parent Information

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Email address: _____

Family Information

Please describe your household in terms of number of people in the home, their relationships, pets, predictable routines or appointments, typical mealtime, etc.

Information about your child with a disability

Child's first name: _____

Age: _____

School or program your child attends: _____

Nature of your child's disability: _____

What kinds of things does your child enjoy? _____

What kinds of things does your child avoid? _____

This program requires you to participate in a variety of activities. Please indicate your willingness to engage in each of these by checking YES or NO.

Activities	YES	NO
Short orientation meeting in Newark, Delaware		
LEND trainee involvement in family activities and routines		
Gathering of photo and video documentation		

PLEASE EMAIL THIS FORM TO brianf@udel.edu WHEN COMPLETED