Mission Statement
AAIDD promotes progressive policies, sound research, effective practices, and universal human rights for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Major Priorities and Key Strategies for 2023-2024

1. Advance progressive policies, sound research, and effective practices that result in social justice and universal human rights with and through collaborations with other organizations.
   a. Engage in strategic alliances with other organizations to influence policy, promote public awareness, shape public attitudes, and expand the participation and access of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in all aspects of life.
   b. Increase awareness among policy makers and the general public on issues and policies that are important to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families and within the context of their various intersectional identities, pandemics, and other national crises.
   c. Provide information and expertise on intellectual and developmental disabilities to jurists and others in the criminal justice system.
   d. Generate, review, revise, and disseminate essential position statements.
   e. Lead efforts to expand and improve research, policy, and practice to improve the quality of life of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

2. Disseminate information on progressive policies, sound research, effective practices, and universal human rights.
   a. Advance the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities and promote AAIDD’s core values by publishing cutting-edge journals, books, and other products, and hosting conferences, meetings, and webinars.
   b. Increase access of providers, policy makers, and others—nationally and internationally—to evidence-based information and resources that promote effective practices.

3. Develop and support a diverse membership.
   a. Engage students and early career professionals in the Association’s activities.
   b. Provide educational opportunities that support members’ professional development.
   c. Engage Fellows and other members in leadership activities.
   d. Provide structure for, and promote leadership opportunities in, the Association.
   e. Engage and increase members from diverse communities.
   f. Create a respectful, welcoming, and inclusive professional home for members.

4. Maintain the organization’s robust operations.
   a. Develop and utilize effective communication, dissemination, and marketing strategies and platforms, including electronic platforms such as social media, for Association activities.
   b. Provide and effectively communicate a highly-valued package of member benefits.
   c. Ensure appropriate resources to achieve organizational goals.
   d. Review and improve organizational structures to support the Association’s membership and mission.
   e. Develop and implement processes to support active communities within the Association that engage members in the goals of AAIDD.

Diversity
AAIDD is committed to fostering diversity among its leaders and members. The AAIDD Board of Directors greatly values diverse perspectives and experiences. Examples of diversity include, but are not limited to, disability, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, age, religion, geographical location, social or economic disadvantage, or other attributes/characteristics that may contribute to diverse perspectives.