



## Administration on Developmental Disabilities



# Education

## FY 2008 Performance Highlights

Inclusive education means that all students are based in age appropriate regular classrooms, and can access the services or special programs necessary to meet their individual needs. Placing all students together teaches understanding and acceptance to younger generations, which in turn builds a foundation for community inclusion in the future.

- In FY 2008, 64 UCEDDs supported projects that allowed 371,720 people to gain information and increase availability of inclusive and appropriate education for individuals with developmental disabilities.
- Councils in 38 States increased the knowledge, capabilities, and self-advocacy skills of 24,263 students with developmental disabilities and their families to ensure the schools they attend are providing inclusive and appropriate local educational opportunities.
- By working with parents, educators, school administrators, and policy makers, 57 P&As helped to ensure that 11,843 students with developmental disabilities gained or maintained access to appropriate educational opportunities in their local area.

**I**n Oregon, the P&A responded to a call from Arnold's mother. Arnold's mom wanted to ensure that Arnold was able to attend school in the least restrictive environment that still met his academic needs. In Arnold's school district, children with disabilities were being sent to a program housed at a middle school, while same-aged students without disabilities attended the local elementary school. Arnold's mother's complaint for discriminatory practices had been rejected. After rewriting the complaint and participating in other negotiations, the P&A convinced the district to reverse its placement. The superintendent of the district indicated that moving forward, the district intended to base placement decisions on individualized plans rather than a blanket policy.