

# Archived Information

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DISABILITY AND REHABILITATION RESEARCH (NIDRR)

**Goal: To support the conduct and dissemination of high-quality research that contributes to improvement in the quality of life of persons with disabilities.**

**Relationship of Program to Volume 1, Department-wide Objectives:** These objectives support Goal 2, Objective 4 (related to special populations), and Goal 4.  
 FY 2000—\$86,500,000  
 FY 2001—\$100,000,000 (Requested budget)

OBJECTIVE 1: CONDUCT HIGH-QUALITY RESEARCH THAT LEADS TO HIGH-QUALITY RESEARCH PRODUCTS.

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
<i>Percentage of grantees sampled who had good or excellent ratings</i>			<b>Status:</b> Positive movement toward target.  <b>Explanation:</b> The score of "good" or "excellent" is based on peer review judging several criteria using a Likert Scale instrument.	<b>Source:</b> The data sources are the Research Triangle Institute, NC, and Info-Use, CA. <b>Frequency:</b> Experts' continuous evaluation of programs. <b>Next Update:</b> May 2000.  <b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data are validated by the program experts' review process and contractors' analysis.  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> A larger sample of respondents is being developed to allow for more diverse responses on the usefulness of materials.
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets		
1997-98:	37 %			
<b>1998-99:</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>No targets previously set</b>		
1999-00:		60%		
2000-01:		65%		
2001-02:		70%		

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
<i>Average number of publications per grantee (55 grantees total)</i>			<b>Status:</b> Target not met.  <b>Explanation:</b> Sample size of grantees is too small to represent a valid statement of grantees' performance.	<b>Source:</b> The data source is the Research Triangle Institute, NC. <b>Frequency:</b> Continuous process. <b>Next Update:</b> April 2000.  <b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data were validated by contractors.  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> We are developing a reporting system where grantees can give us detailed information on their publications and type. This system is being pilot tested and preliminary data will be available January 2000.
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets		
1997-98:	7.1			
<b>1998-99:</b>	<b>No data available</b>	<b>No targets previously set</b>		
1999-00:		Targets to be set		

OBJECTIVE 2: DISSEMINATE AND PROMOTE USE OF INFORMATION ON RESEARCH FINDINGS, IN ACCESSIBLE FORMATS, TO IMPROVE REHABILITATION SERVICES AND OUTCOMES.

Targets and Performance Data				Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality	
<b>Indicator 2.1 Information and TA usefulness: Recipients will find the products, information, and technical assistance that they receive from grantees useful.</b>						
<i>Percentage (and number) of recipients responding "yes," "no," and "N/A" to the question on being served adequately</i>				<p><b>Status:</b> Negative movement away from target.</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> Information on this indicator is based on Disability and Business Technical Assistance Centers (DBTACs) reporting system ADA Impact Management System (AIMS) only. AIMS is the DBTACs system which procures data about the impact of the technical assistance that centers provide.</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> The data source is the AIMS. <i>Frequency:</i> Continuous process. <i>Next Update:</i> April 2000.</p> <p><b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data are reported by grantees and validated by contractors.</p> <p><b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> We plan to address issues of design for collecting information and utilize different formats. Sample is too small.</p>	
Year	Actual Performance		Performance Targets			
	Yes	No	N/A			
1998:	80% (225)	15% (41)	5% (13)			
<b>1999:</b>	<b>No data available</b>		<b>No targets previously set</b>			
2000:			83.5% will respond "yes"			
2001:			86.0% will respond "yes"			
2002:			88.5% will respond "yes"			

OBJECTIVE 3: EXPAND SYSTEM CAPACITY FOR CONDUCT OF HIGH-QUALITY REHABILITATION RESEARCH AND SERVICES BY ENSURING AVAILABILITY OF QUALIFIED RESEARCHERS AND PRACTITIONERS, INCLUDING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND OTHER UNDERSERVED GROUPS.

Targets and Performance Data				Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality	
<b>Indicator 3.1 Contributions of trainees and fellows: Contributions by NIDRR trainees and fellows that apply to study rehabilitation will increase.</b>						
<i>Out of 18 individuals surveyed:</i>				<p><b>Status:</b> Unable to judge at this time.</p> <p><b>Explanation:</b> Data gathering activities have not started.</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> The data source is the Research Triangle Institute, NC. <i>Frequency:</i> Continuous analysis of data reported in the Performance Management System. <i>Next Update:</i> 2000.</p> <p><b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data will be validated by contractors.</p> <p><b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> Planning for utilizing the Performance Management System is under way.</p>	
Year	Actual Performance		Performance Targets			
	Published	Presentations	Published			Presentations
1998:	(15) 6.7 average	(10) 18.2 average				
<b>1999:</b>	<b>No data available</b>		<b>No targets previously set</b>			
2000:			Targets to be set			
2001:			Targets to be set			

Indicator 3.2 Researchers with disabilities and from underserved groups: Participation of researchers working in the field who have disabilities or are from underserved groups will increase.			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Targets and Performance Data			<b>Status:</b> Unable to judge at this time.  <b>Explanation:</b> Pilot test of modified reporting instructions to grantees begins in January 2000.	<b>Source:</b> The data source is the Research Triangle Institute, NC. <b>Frequency:</b> Continuous analysis of data reported in the Performance Management System  <b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data will be validated by contractors.  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> In 2000 we will begin to pilot test a new set of grantees and will ask for this indicator information.
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets		
1998:	No data available	Baseline		
1999:	No data available	No targets previously set		
2000:		Targets to be set		
2001:		Targets to be set		

OBJECTIVE 4: ENSURE PRODUCTIVITY AND MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS.

Indicator 4.1 Usefulness of NIDRR products: The percentage of customers reporting that NIDRR products and information are useful will increase.			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Targets and Performance Data			<b>Status:</b> Unable to judge at this time.  <b>Explanation:</b> Customer Survey will begin in fall 2000.	<b>Source:</b> The data source will be a biennial customer survey. <b>Frequency:</b> Biennial customer survey. <b>Next Update:</b> Fall 2000.  <b>Validation Procedure:</b> Data will be validated by contractors.  <b>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements:</b> Customer survey begins in 2000.
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets		
1998:	No data available	Baseline		
1999:	No data available	No targets previously set		
2000:		Targets to be set		
2001:		Targets to be set		

**KEY STRATEGIES**

Strategies Continued from 1999

N/A.

New or Strengthened Strategies

- ❖ For Indicator 1.1, we will add more questions to the program review on scientific knowledge and excellence and on the quality of grantees' research design. The data will be organized by formative and summative reviews. The formative review will evaluate research design. The summative review will describe the usefulness of the research.
- ❖ Indicator 2.1 will be applied to all dissemination and technical assistance projects.
- ❖ Indicator 3.1 data will be collected on the number of people trained by research discipline, by disability, and by underserved group. This will be done by adding questions to the Performance Management System.
- ❖ Indicator 4.1 data will be collected through a customer satisfaction measurement instrument that will provide us with an information on improving our products and dissemination techniques.

**HOW THIS PROGRAM COORDINATES WITH OTHER FEDERAL ACTIVITIES**

- ❖ We work primarily with the Rehabilitation Services Administration and the Office of Special Education Programs. We also coordinate our activities with disability agencies in the Departments of Health and Human Services and Labor.

### **CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVING PROGRAM GOAL**

- ❖ OMB clearance for customer survey can take 6 months before final approval.

### **INDICATOR CHANGES**

#### **From FY 1999 Annual Plan (two years old)**

Adjusted—None.

Dropped

- ❖ Indicator 1.2 (research usefulness) was dropped because it is incorporated in scientific excellence.
- ❖ Indicator 1.4 was dropped because it was too broadly framed.
- ❖ Indicators 2.1 (dissemination plan) and 2.2 (product availability) were dropped because data were obtained through grantee self-reporting and because of the limited value of the data as a measurable outcome.
- ❖ Indicator 3.3 (impact on field) was dropped because data were obtained through grantee self-reporting.
- ❖ Indicator 4.1 (relevant priorities) was dropped because the data to be reported had limited value as a measurable outcome.

#### **From FY 2000 Annual Plan (last year's)**

Adjusted

- ❖ Targets have been adjusted in an effort to be more realistic for Indicators 1.1, 2.2, and 3.1.

Dropped—None.

New—None.