What is VT LEND?
- Vermont Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) program
- Part of a national network of 52 LEND programs in 44 states called AUCD-Association of University Centers on Disabilities (www.aucd.org)

What does it do?
- Trains professionals, self-advocates and family members to become leaders and change systems
- Teaches about
  - Leadership
  - Disabilities
  - Working on teams
  - How to work better with and for people from different cultures
  - Making systems work better for all

How long is the program?
- 9 month training program – September - May
### Who is in the program?
Family members, self-advocates, professionals & university students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Professionals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family members</td>
<td>Self-Advocates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Childhood Special Educators</td>
<td>Physical Therapists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education/Teacher</td>
<td>Policymakers/ Lawyers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>Psychologists</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutritionist/Dietician</td>
<td>Social Workers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Occupational Therapists</td>
<td>Special Education Teachers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctors/Pediatricians</td>
<td>Speech/Language Pathologists</td>
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<td>Public Health Prof.</td>
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### VT LEND Training Activities (230-240 hours)

**2 UVM Graduate ONLINE classes - Tuition paid by VT LEND**
- One class in the fall and one in the spring

#### Leadership Discussions: All faculty and trainees discuss clinical, leadership, or policy & systems issues

#### Mentorship meetings: Weekly meetings with one faculty to talk about your leadership skills and goals

#### Leadership Goal Plan: Design a plan to meet your leadership goals

### Legislative & Policy Training: Learn about legislative process, policy & advocacy; and spend a day at the state house

### Disability Policy Seminar: 3.5 days in Washington DC
- Trainings on policy and legislative issues. Meetings with legislators.
**Required Internship Experience (50-60 hours)**
Family Connection: Meeting with a family with child with disability to learn about their experience
Technical Assistance: Faculty and trainees provide ideas on a challenging leadership or clinical issue.

Internship Opportunities (30-40 hours)
Places to complete internships could be:
- VT I-Team
- Pediatric Medical Homes
- UVM Medical Center
- Policy internships
- Children’s Integrated Services (CIS) teams
- Community organizations

**Program Details**
- One academic year: September – May
- 300 hour program
  - 10 half-day meetings in person or on Adobe Connect web conferencing
  - 1 full day at VT Statehouse or other legislative activity
  - 3.5 days training in Washington DC
  - Additional time to complete internship activities
- One graduate course (3 credits) per semester
  - Tuition paid by program
  - Student fee must be paid by participant
- Stipend paid to each participant
- Educational Coaching provided for Self-Advocates

**To apply**
Visit our website: [http://www.uvm.edu/medicine/vtlend/](http://www.uvm.edu/medicine/vtlend/)
- Click on “Applying”

Questions???
- Email our Program Coordinator, Naw-Esther Doh at ndoh@uvm.edu

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