



# 2018 Annual Report



The mission of NCLD is to improve the lives of the 1 in 5 children and adults nationwide with learning and attention issues — by empowering parents and young adults, transforming schools, and advocating for equal rights and opportunities. We're working to create a society in which every individual possesses the academic, social, and emotional skills needed to succeed in school, at work, and in life. In 2018, NCLD focused on influencing policy, empowering parents, and lifting up youth voices.

### **Influencing Policy**

#### **Working to Ensure That Every Student Succeeds**



NCLD released <u>Assessing ESSA:</u>
<u>Missed Opportunities for Students</u>
<u>With Disabilities</u>, the only national analysis of how all 50 state education plans include and serve students with disabilities under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the nation's

newest K-12 education law. NCLD worked with state and local decision makers to ensure that students with disabilities were part of the planning process.

#### **Resources to Support Self-Advocacy**

NCLD released Agents of Their Own
Success: Self-Advocacy Skills and
Self-Determination for Students With
Disabilities in the Era of Personalized
Learning. This report and the suite of
related resources offer research-based
practices to ensure that all students



have the self-advocacy skills they need to be successful and make decisions about their learning. The resources tailored to students, families, educators, policy makers, and others are designed to ensure that every stakeholder can take an active role in making a difference.

# A Look at Data From All 50 States



There are **more than 6 million students** with disabilities in public schools in the United States.

More than 85% of students with disabilities can achieve grade-level standards with the right supports and services.





Yet, **33 states** did not include academic data of students with disabilities in their school rating systems.

NCLD provided expert assistance to **14 states** on how to improve their plans.



## 2018 Annual Report

### **Empowering Parents**

#### **Building the Framework for Parent Engagement**



NCLD developed an infrastructure to support parent communities in key states. Working with Parent Fellows, NCLD set the stage for a parent engagement program and began hosting Advocate Academies. Parents who attended these events learned about learning and attention issues and gained a variety of advocacy skills, including how to tell parent stories in advocacy, how to use advocacy strategies at the school board, and how to participate in legislative advocacy.

#### **Resources to Support Parent Advocacy**

NCLD supported parents in their use of three parent advocacy toolkits to enable effective advocacy on behalf of their children. These toolkits focused on topics such as telling personal stories related to <a href="Learning disabilities">Learning disabilities</a>, understanding and advocating on <a href="ESSA">ESSA</a>, and advocating to increase the quality of <a href="professional development">professional development</a> for educators. Combined, these resources were downloaded 27,000 times.



### **Lifting Up Youth Voices**



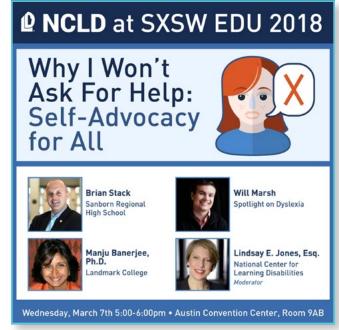
#### **Empowering Young Adult Leaders**

NCLD welcomed its inaugural class of the <u>Young Adult Leadership Council</u>, a program to directly engage and empower young adults. Through this program, NCLD worked with a dozen young people with learning and attention issues from across the country to begin their journey into local and systemic advocacy. NCLD worked with each young adult to identify issues of importance to them and build skills to effect change on a local level.

#### **Spotlight on Self-Advocacy**

To bring self-advocacy to the national stage, NCLD advocate Will Marsh traveled to Austin, Texas for SxSWEdu 2018. There, Will shared his personal story as a student advocate and self-advocate. He reflected on knowing his strengths and weaknesses and on building the confidence to express his learning disability freely and advocate for others along the way.





# 2018 Annual Report

# **The Year in Numbers** 2018 Financial Report

**Total Revenue** 

\$16,510,478

**Total Expenses** 

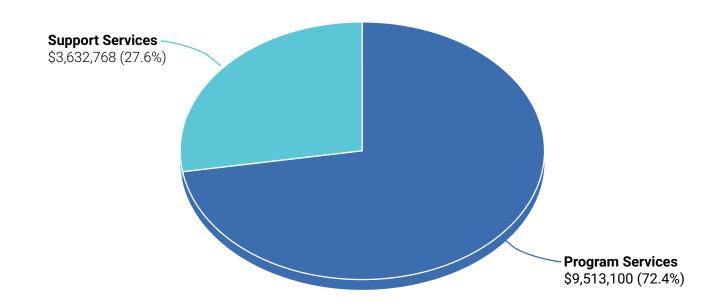
\$13,145,868

Net Assets Beginning of the Period

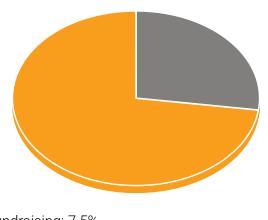
\$3,405,606

Net Assets End of the Period

\$6,770,216



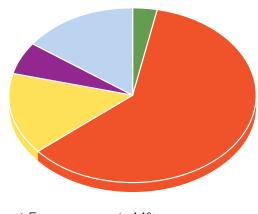




Fundraising: 7.5%

Management and General: 20.1%

### **Breakdown of** Program Services Expenses



Parent Empowerment: 44%

Policy and Advocacy: 10.9%

Educator Project 10.9%

Young Adult Program: 4.3%

School Transformation: 2.3%



### **Board of Directors**

Margi Booth, Co-Chair Joe Zimmel, Co-Chair John Langeler, Treasurer **Ken Plevan, Secretary** Kristy Baxter **Jody Bellows** David Chard, Ph.D. Jenna Ellis Anne Ford Shanti Fry John G. Gantz, Jr. Mark J. Griffin, Ph.D. Mary Kalikow The Hon. Thomas H. Kean Nancy Kingsbury Mark A. Michael Sally Quinn Cassia Schifter Janet Steinmayer