Offered a 60-hour Continuing Education Institute on topics related to developmental disabilities and special education to 650 teachers and staff from the PR Head Start Program. As a result of this training initiative, four projects emerged within the Head Start Program. These will cover DD issues in the following areas: Transition, Intervention with Children with Autism, Empowerment and Orientation of Family Members About their Legal Rights and Training of Family members in Child Development.

Offered a 65-hour Continuing Education Institute to 25 teachers, staff and child care providers of the Puerto Rico Child Care and Development Administration. The curriculum emphasized on the needs and care of special needs children and their families at the day care centers.

Conducted two needs assessments of the PR population with developmental disabilities. The results of these studies served as the basis for the development of the five-year strategic plan of the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration and the Puerto Rico Council on Developmental Disabilities.

In a joint effort with the Graduate School of Public Health of the University of Puerto Rico, the IDD-PRUCE is conducting the first research project on the prevalence of Autism in Puerto Rico. It is expected that the study will be completed during this fiscal year.

The IDD-PRUCE is offering technical assistance to the Puerto Rico First Lady’s Office to establish the First Diagnosis and Intervention Center for Persons with Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities.

### Consumers Advisory Committee

The Consumers Advisory Committee (CAC) is comprised of 19 members from different municipalities, out of whom 52% are persons with developmental disabilities or their representatives. Members of government agencies, community based organizations and educational institutions are included in this working group. The CAC enhances and reinforces the work of the IDD-PRUCE staff by reviewing projects and activities, by advising on actions to be taken on issues related to individuals with developmental disabilities, and on other issues related to the Program. The Committee is directly involved in evaluating the progress of activities in meeting projected goals also.

### Consumers and Family Representatives

- Ms. Carmen M. Fraticelli  
  San Juan, P.R.
- Ms. Ramona Felo-Bourman  
  Bayamón, P.R.
- Mr. Aleo Mercado  
  Bayamón, P.R.
- Ms. Celia M. Pagán  
  San Juan, P.R.
- Mr. Edwin Béz  
  San Juan, P.R.
- Mrs. Asiana Vargas  
  San Juan, P.R.
- Ms. Maritel Nazario  
  Puerto, P.R.
- Mr. Ricardo Rodríguez  
  Barceloneta, P.R.
- Sr. Carlos Molina  
  San Juan, P.R.
- Ms. Myrainne Roa  
  Executive Director  
  Puerto Rico Council on Developmental Disabilities  
  San Juan, P.R.
- José R. Ocasio, Esq.  
  Ombudsman for Persons with Disabilities Protection and Advocacy System  
  P.R. Department of Labor  
  San Juan, P.R.
- Mrs. María Mercedes Berríos  
  Vocational Rehabilitation Administration  
  Puerto Rico Department of Labor  
  San Juan, P.R.
- Prof. María Miranda  
  Director  
  Puerto Rico Assistive Technology Program  
  University of Puerto Rico  
  San Juan, P.R.
- Mrs. Brenda Musolin  
  Trainer  
  Puerto Information Center  
  Barceloneta, P.R.
- Mrs. Elizabeth Rodríguez  
  Executive Director  
  Independent Living Center  
  San Juan, P.R.
- Mrs. Wanda Feliz  
  Persons with Disabilities Association  
  San Juan, P.R.

### Agencies and Community Organizations

- Ms. Myraaine Rosa  
  Executive Director  
  Puerto Rico Council on Developmental Disabilities  
  San Juan, P.R.
- José R. Ocasio, Esq.  
  Ombudsman for Persons with Disabilities Protection and Advocacy System  
  P.R. Department of Labor  
  San Juan, P.R.
- Dr. Estela Estapé  
  College of Health Related Professions, Medical Sciences Campus, UPR  
  San Juan, P.R.
- Mrs. Maria Mercedes Berrios  
  Vocational Rehabilitation Administrator  
  Puerto Rico Department of Labor  
  San Juan, P.R.
- Mrs. Celia M. Pagán  
  San Juan, P.R.
- Mr. Edwin Béz  
  San Juan, P.R.
- Mrs. Asiana Vargas  
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### Highlights

The Consumers Advisory Committee (CAC) is comprised of 19 members from different municipalities, out of whom 52% are persons with developmental disabilities or their representatives. Members of government agencies, community based organizations and educational institutions are included in this working group. The CAC enhances and reinforces the work of the IDD-PRUCE staff by reviewing projects and activities, by advising on actions to be taken on issues related to individuals with developmental disabilities, and on other issues related to the Program. The Committee is directly involved in evaluating the progress of activities in meeting projected goals also.

### Annual Report 2010 - 2011
Message from the Director

This Annual Report allows me the opportunity to share with the network the IDD-PRUCE’s work in Fiscal Year 2010-2011 and details some of the activities implemented. It is gratifying to write down my observations on the performance of the program during this very busy and productive period and to share them with you through this publication.

The work described here was accomplished by our hard-working, devoted staff and faculty, and guided by an excellent Advisory Committee that is focused on making the IDD - PRUCE stronger in order to meet the challenges we face in pursuing our mission, today and in the future.

These initiatives would not have been possible without the committed efforts and collaboration of the Puerto Rico IDD Council, the Office of the Ombudsman for Persons with Disabilities (P&As), and many other government agencies and community based organizations who work side by side with our staff, and their cooperation have been vital to our achievements. I would also like to thank the many participants in our services, training, and research programs for the essential role they have played in our program development.

I take this opportunity to thank you all for the continued support as essential role they have played in our program development.

To enhance the knowledge related to developmental disabilities of the work force in this field in order to provide higher quality services to individuals with developmental disabilities throughout their life span and to their families. The IDD-PRUCE fulfills its mission through interdisciplinary training, community training and services, technical assistance, health promotion and health education, program evaluation, research and dissemination of information activities, in a manner that is responsive to the beliefs, behaviors and communication capabilities of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. Our mission is accomplished through the promotion of increased consumer control, self-determination and meaningful choices, enhanced productivity, and their full inclusion into community life, and by improving the quality of professional services and supports available to this special population.

Mission

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Sincerely, 

Annie Alonso Amador, Psy.D, MSW
Director

Major Accomplishments

Provided interdisciplinary training on developmental disabilities and early intervention to ninety five students from various graduate programs of the UPR system and other universities. Their disciplines included; Social Work, Maternal and Child Health and Adapted Physical Education; interdisciplinary long term training was also offered to eleven multidisciplinary students of the Developmental Disabilities - Early Intervention Certificate Program, Department of Human Development, and Graduate School of Public Health.

Program Director Rafael Rodríguez Mercado, MD, FACS - Early Intervention Program, Department of Human Development and Graduate School of Public Health.

Our IDD-PRUCE program supports available to this special population.

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