MMI’s Mission:

The Munroe-Meyer Institute’s mission is to lead the world in transforming the lives of all individuals with disabilities and complex health care needs, their families and the community through outreach, engagement, premier educational programs, innovative research and extraordinary patient care.
What we do:

- MMI provides extraordinary interdisciplinary, family-centered services for persons with disabilities and complex health care needs across the lifespan.

- MMI trains individuals in the medical and therapeutic management of individuals with disabilities and complex health care needs through interprofessional educational experiences, outreach training and on-site technical assistance.

- MMI conducts basic, translational and clinical research with the goal to transform the diagnosis, care and treatment of individuals with all types of disabilities and complex health care needs.

- MMI works within the community to promote inclusion and to enable individuals with disabilities and complex health care needs to live happy and productive lives.

- MMI serves as the premier source of disability-related information to scientists, care providers, clinicians, families and community leaders across the region, the nation and the world.

- MMI improves the educational, health and community practices that impact children and families who are at risk for adverse developmental outcomes through program evaluation, training and community outreach.

- MMI advocates at the local, state, federal and international level to promote best practices, policies and/or laws on behalf of individuals with disabilities and complex health care needs and their families.
Dear friends of the Munroe-Meyer Institute,

It has been a wonderful year, filled with exciting initiatives and positive steps here at the Munroe-Meyer Institute.

In July, when I officially became the director of the institute, my first priority was to engage the staff, faculty, stakeholders and members of the community. My message was clear and simple: It is good to be here, and we can achieve amazing things together. We can move mountains, because:

...of a dedicated staff, which is committed to extraordinary patient care and in 2016 dedicated to projects such as reducing patient waiting time, instituting new programs, and continuing to reach out to the community.

...of award-winning faculty, who provide the research, education and clinical care that is a critical part of our mission at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

...of the community, in Omaha and in greater Nebraska, a supportive and committed group of people who are working to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities and complex health care needs and their families. We have reached out to these groups, and our efforts have already resulted in inspirational and successful collaborations, one of which you can read about in this annual report.

And most of all, because of our patients and their families, who are the heart of everything we do here at MMI.

As a newcomer, I wish I could show you what I see when I look at the Munroe-Meyer Institute and at the supportive families, community organizations and civic leaders that surround it. The commitment. The integrity. The caring.

We are remarkable, with virtually unlimited potential to grow. And I appreciate the chance to share with you some of the high points of our year.

Karoly Mirnics, M.D., Ph.D.,
Director of UNMC’s Munroe-Meyer Institute
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MMI Annual Report 2016

Editor: John Keenan
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In April, the Munroe-Meyer Institute’s medical genetics services had wait times of 16 months for an appointment. By October, wait times had been cut to six weeks.

In September, the psychology department was scheduling new patient visits from four to six weeks after the patient first called. By December, that wait time had been cut to under two weeks.

The two disciplines took different paths, but both reduced waiting times for their clients and patients, a goal of the Munroe-Meyer Institute’s new director, Karoly Mirnics, M.D., Ph.D.

“Extended waiting times to see genetic medicine specialists is a national challenge,” Dr. Mirnics said. “I was pleased to see MMI directors moving aggressively to address this challenge.”

For medical genetics, the mechanism was the creation of high-impact clinics. The medical genetics team pulled together physicians, genetic counselors, support staff, clinic staff and schedulers to hold several daylong clinics, seeing a high volume of clients each day.
Lois Starr, M.D., medical director of MMI, said high-impact clinics were an effective short-term response to high wait times, although wait times were already beginning to climb in October as word spread that appointments were being scheduled in a timely manner.

“The families who need our help will now be seen in a reasonable time frame,” she said.

“While we would always do whatever we could to get urgent patients in promptly, in the wake of the high-impact clinics, a patient with any indication could be seen within weeks – instead of around a year, which is average for most medical genetics clinics around the country, given the shortage of clinical geneticists and genetic counselors. Unfortunately, we do expect this will be an ongoing challenge.”

A reasonable wait-time should be the standard of care that is expected, Dr. Starr said.

“Our hope is to eliminate the disappointment in wait time,” she said. “With a limited workforce in medical genetics and an exponentially increasing demand, we must develop a comprehensive, long-term solution that will best serve our patients.”

It is a tradition for MMI departments to step up as needed for patient care, Dr. Starr said. She praised the many extra hours the medical genetics team, including support staff, counselors and physicians, worked “to get us back on track, to foster our mission with an enhanced schedule that we can feel good about.”

Dr. Mirnics said MMI will address medical genetics wait times going forward in several ways.

“We will provide support for physicians and assist them in working more efficiently,” he said. “We will train new fellows and work to retain them once they graduate. The institute is also establishing a genetic counselor program with the College of Allied Health Professions. We also will aggressively recruit additional genetic medicine specialists from across the country.”

Keith Allen, Ph.D., director of psychology at MMI, shifted staffing to add a postdoctoral position and a faculty position at MMI’s main Omaha building. He also changed the scheduling protocols to create more slots for new patients.

“The families who need our help will now be seen in a reasonable time frame.”

“When a provider has finished clinic for the week, if they have any open spots in that next week, we can prioritize those spots with new patients,” Dr. Allen said. “We’ve never done that before. We had dedicated spots for new patients and reserved spots for returning patients. We opened return slots to new patients.”

With the new personnel and new scheduling protocols, wait times were almost immediately shortened to under two weeks, which the department has been able to maintain.

“I’ve asked the patient information office to call me when wait times get out anywhere past three weeks, and I’m not getting any calls,” Dr. Allen said.

Drs. Allen and Starr are pleased that reducing wait times has become a point of emphasis for the institute.

“Access to care is of primary importance,” Dr. Mirnics said. “We need to be accessible to our patients and their families to achieve our institute’s mission.”
It's the day before the big show, and Cadie Albin is drawing applause from fellow cast members as she pirouettes and pops to the music playing on the loudspeaker. WhyArts artist Courtney Stein is bopping her head in appreciation of the tune as she, her fellow WhyArts volunteers and members of the MMI staff coordinate a big dance number.

Cadie and her fellow performers are participants in the Munroe-Meyer Institute's first Winter Theater Camp, held in collaboration with WhyArts, an arts organization based at the University of Nebraska at Omaha’s Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center. This rehearsal was followed by a public performance of “Join Us in the Jungle,” a show adapted by the MMI performers from a children's book, at the J.P. Lord School gymnasium.

“She's loving it,” said Cadie’s mother, Cheri Albin.

The collaboration, featuring 25 performers age 6 to 24 with disabilities and complex health care needs, is part of a re-energized outreach effort by new MMI Director Karoly Mirnics, M.D., Ph.D.

“Art has a very strong influence on the brain,” he said. “This is an activity that we believed would enrich the lives of individuals with various intellectual and developmental disabilities. Some individuals, who were shy and didn’t
want to step on stage, came out of their shells and, with the help of these artists, discovered a new dimension of themselves. These events are routinely part of the lives of typically developing individuals, but the availability of similar performance opportunities is quite limited for individuals with special needs.”

“There’s been a lot of creative energy,” said Michael Crawford, Ph.D., director of recreation therapy. “If I could keep these WhyArtists with me full-time, I would. The energy and the ideas they bring have been great, and they’ve done a wonderful job of tailoring the story to our needs.”

WhyArts Director Carolyn Anderson praised the volunteer artists and called the experience awesome. “We are thrilled about working with Munroe-Meyer on this project,” Anderson said. “We are very passionate about the same audience. We work with underserved populations, and people with disabilities are a major focus.”

On the night of the show, the gym is filled with more than 150 family and friends, MMI staff from other departments and members of the community. High points of the show draw sustained applause – solo speeches by performers such as Daniel Holm, a limbo dance down the center aisle, dance numbers and, of course, the big finale. As the show ends, performers leave the stage to pull family members up to dance with them – a final burst of fun in a wonderful evening.

“It was amazing,” said Beth Wakehouse, mother of performer KellyLynn Wakehouse. She is one of several family members gathered around a beaming KellyLynn. “And it gave so many of the different kids a different way to speak and to be able to participate in things that you generally don’t see them do in the community.”

“She was really apprehensive about doing this, but she’s loved it,” Wakehouse said. “She can’t wait to sign up for the next one. She’s in the process of getting a communication device, so she said next time she’d like to do a speaking role and try that out. I’m glad to see her willing to pursue even more things.”

Dr. Mirnics has his eye on “more things,” as well, calling the camp a successful trial run. “We want to continue this amazing partnership with WhyArts, and we would love to grow and have a multiyear plan in place with an idea that we would engage visual arts, performing arts and many other modalities,” he said.

Future collaborations could include other arts and theater organizations, as well, and MMI’s arts collaborations could expand beyond the boundaries of Omaha.

“The experiences we develop at MMI have to be disseminated,” he said. “The common thread among our partners must be that we care, and that we want to create something new and lasting, and that we want to enhance the lives of individuals with disabilities and complex health care needs.”
A trip into Central Nebraska sets the template for MMI’s emphasis on outreach across the state.

UNMC often speaks of its 500-mile campus.

In November, a Munroe-Meyer Institute leadership team, including new director Karoly Mirnics, M.D., Ph.D., set out to explore part of that campus with a two-day trip into the tri-city area of Hastings, Grand Island and Kearney.

The tour of these central Nebraska communities included meetings with MMI-affiliated providers, community leaders and potential partners. The purpose of the trip: to listen and to learn how MMI can partner with organizations and providers to extend its reach.

“We did not go to central Nebraska looking for opportunities to compete,” Dr. Mirnics said. “We did not go out there with the attitude that ‘We are the big-city experts.’ We need to learn about these communities. We spoke with people who could give us a sense of the services that were already available, the services that were needed and the opportunities for collaboration that might be available.”
Dr. Mirnics was joined on the trip by Wayne Stuberg, Ph.D., associate director; Keith Allen, Ph.D., director of psychology; Cindy Ellis, M.D., director of academic affairs and developmental medicine; and Melonie Welsh, director of community engagement. The trip, Dr. Mirnics said, will become a twice-yearly tradition, with trips to other communities throughout Nebraska.

The inaugural effort was a successful one on several levels, Welsh said.

“The listening tour provided us with access to community stakeholders and providers,” she said. “These are people who share in MMI’s commitment to offer hope and direction to families in their community. We will do that through premier education, cutting edge research, and much-needed specialized patient-centered care to allow individuals with intellectual and developmental disorders to soar past perceived boundaries. Together, we can offer a much more significant impact.”

Besides meeting with MMI health care providers in Hastings, Grand Island and Kearney, the leadership team met with media in each of the communities to express MMI’s willingness to partner with area providers and organizations.

In Kearney, the team met with Sherry Stansberry, executive director of the ARC of Buffalo County, a private non-profit organization which provides services and advocacy to people with developmental disabilities and their families.

“I was tickled to know that the new leader of MMI was willing to reach out across the state and meet face-to-face,” she said. “I felt honored.

“Here in Buffalo County, we contract with the state, so we would be in a position to reach out to MMI for more information, for example, on autism issues, which can be overwhelming to us. The more we can learn, the better we can serve our clients.”

In Hastings, the group also met with representatives from the Scottish Rite, which funds the speech and language therapy programs in MMI’s RiteCare Clinic, as well as MMI speech and language therapists.

Dr. Allen said touching base with locally embedded MMI employees, such as those faculty and his department’s own interns, was an important part of the trip as well.

“One of the values of a trip like this is that it helps our faculty and interns in rural areas stay connected with their professional community, and it’s hard to maintain those connections the further west you get,” Dr. Allen said. “We have three people in central Nebraska, and it’s nice to maintain a personal connection. These professionals feel affirmed by having the leadership of MMI stop in and show an interest, as well as their own department director.”

The visit, he added, also led to discussions about another potential clinical collaboration in central Nebraska.

“MMI is a statewide institution,” Dr. Mirnics said. “This trip, and others in the future, will help us discover the needs of the state as we work in our mission to transform the lives of all individuals with disabilities and complex health care needs, their families, and their communities throughout the state of Nebraska.”
It’s a common phrase at the Munroe-Meyer Institute: “We’re the best-kept secret in Omaha.”

For Melonie Welsh, the mandate is to get the word out and advance MMI’s relationships with all the communities that we serve.

Welsh is the new director of community engagement. The MMI mission statement calls for outreach and engagement. Welsh hopes to make the community more familiar with MMI’s resources by providing information and exploring effective collaborations with other organizations that serve individuals with disabilities and complex health care needs, their families and the community.

Telling the MMI story is a mandate Welsh has been preparing throughout her entire career.

Right out of college, she worked at UNMC, starting at the Eppley Institute for Research in Cancer and Allied Diseases. She soon transferred to MMI, where she worked in the laboratory of Warren Sanger, Ph.D., as a cytogeneticist.

Recognizing her extraordinary people skills, Dr. Sanger would often tap Welsh to meet with families.

“At that time, we didn’t have a genetic counselor, and he knew that I was good with people,” Welsh recalled. “So when there needed to be a specimen drawn in the hospital, or if somebody needed information, I’d go up, tell them about the process, what was going to happen and what we were looking for, and sometimes explain the results and implications to the patient and the family.”

Welsh was so successful in the role that Dr. Sanger worked with UNMC and the University of Nebraska at Omaha to facilitate more formal training for Welsh, who eventually got a master’s degree in genetics with emphasis on genetic counseling. She was one of the institute’s first two official genetic counselors.

In 2008, she moved to the University of Nebraska Foundation, where she helped raise more than $10 million for MMI as part of the Foundation’s Campaign for Nebraska. She served as MMI’s point-person at the foundation until 2016. When the community engagement position opened up, she felt a new excitement at the institute and saw a new way to make a difference at MMI and in the wider community.

“Melonie has a long history with MMI, and she brought the passion for our mission, as well as a strong knowledge of the state’s intellectual and developmental disability (IDD) community, to this important role,” said Karoly Mirnics, M.D., Ph.D., director of MMI. “There are many potential partners for MMI in the community, and those partners have huge strengths. Melonie is the perfect person to help MMI build relationships with these groups so that together, we can ‘connect the dots’ and have a much greater positive impact on the state.”
Welsh’s first step, she said, is to reach out and learn each organization’s strengths. MMI already has created an exciting new collaboration with WhyArts, and Welsh is tasked with discovering other opportunities.

“We don’t want to recreate the wheel with everyone,” she said. “That doesn’t make sense because there is so much to do. But part of what we’re doing now is building a foundation and enhancing those relationships.”

Welsh already has developed a strategic plan, and her initiatives include a seminar on diversity, and a project to develop an official history of MMI. She was integral to the updating of MMI’s mission statement.

She also plans to hold an institute-wide open house to introduce new families, the community and potential partners to MMI.

“That would be a community-based opportunity for people to meet us and for us to highlight some of the amazing services and research that is happening at MMI.

“We’re looking at a process for how we can formally partner with people. How do people approach us for various types of partnerships? Our media presence – how do we want to present ourselves? It’s hard to make those connections if they don’t know exactly who we are."

Welsh herself is getting a better sense of the institute’s strengths.

“There’s an energy,” she said. “The institute seems to have woken up, and it’s exciting to be a part of that. Dr. Mirnics’ vision gives us the opportunity to make an impact that we haven’t before, to become a leader in many new ways.

“IDD issues aren’t unique to Nebraska, but they are very real to us. Outreach to our community is the best way to address these issues, and we have an obligation to be energetic in reaching out.”
Department Highlights

Administration

- Karoly Mirnics, M.D., Ph.D., was named director of the Munroe-Meyer Institute.
- Maurice Godfrey, Ph.D., received UNMC’s inaugural Visionary Leadership in Education Award for 2016. The award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated the ability to skillfully establish or administer an educational initiative or role at UNMC or a national organization.
- Dr. Mirnics and several MMI leaders visited the communities of Hastings, Grand Island and Kearney on a listening tour. (See story, Page 10)
- Alexander Rödlach, Ph.D., spoke before more than 100 people at an MMI Grand Rounds on “Culture, Clinical Care, and Intercultural Competence.”
- Melonie Welsh was named director of community affairs at MMI.
- In September, Dr. Mirnics joined UNMC Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D., to welcome more than 35 community leaders to an event designed to open the door for greater collaboration between MMI and other organizations with a stake in serving Nebraska’s IDD community.
- The Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) program, “Accelerating Access: Health Science Education in Native American Communities,” funded by the National Institutes of Health, worked with more than 3,000 youth in 28 different activities.

Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders

- Autism activist Temple Grandin, Ph.D., visited UNMC’s Munroe-Meyer Institute in March.
- The center has collaborated to develop an R01 grant application on addressing the common problem of treatment relapse.

Developmental Medicine

- Developmental Medicine received renewal of its Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) Program grant through 2021. The grant totaled more than $3.5 million for the five-year project. MMI has been awarded the competitive grant since 1995.
- Cindy Ellis, M.D., was named director of academic affairs at MMI.

Developmental Neuroscience

- Sung-Ho Huh, Ph.D., was recognized as a 2016 UNMC New Investigator at UNMC’s annual research awards.
- Anna Dunaevsky, Ph.D., was chosen to serve a five-year term as a member of the Developmental Brain Disorders Study Section, Center for Scientific Review.

Education & Child Development

- The Education & Child Development Department is in the second year of a three-year grant focused on building capacity of early childhood educators in providing student supports around executive functioning and social emotional learning.
- The department provided services to educators in 56 Nebraska communities in 2016.

Genetics

- Genetic counselor Beth Conover did several interviews with Omaha media to provide information to the public about the risk of Zika during pregnancy and ways to avoid the virus.
- By instituting a series of high-impact clinics in the fall, medical genetics services cut wait times for an appointment. (See story, Page 6)
- Lois Starr, M.D., and cardiologist Anji Yetman, M.D., initiated a new Cardiovascular Genetics Clinic for the evaluation of patients with genetic disorders affecting the aorta.
Human Genetics Lab

- Jennifer Sanmann, Ph.D., was named interim director of the lab.
- The lab developed six new tests and updated six tests to include recent diagnostic advances.
- The lab hosted 13 visiting scientists, including one from Singapore.
- The lab participated in the 2016 Nebraska Science Festival and other venues to reach out to the community.
- Bhavana Dave, Ph.D., associate director of the lab, received the Shri Ramniklal J. Kinarivala Cancer Research Award – a lifetime achievement award for her contributions in the field of cancer diagnosis, research and treatment.

Occupational Therapy

- The Department of Occupational Therapy offered a 10-day Hand-Arm Bimanual Intensive Therapy (HABIT) Day Camp from July 25-Aug. 5. The two-week camp, supported by funding from the Munroe-Meyer Guild, served six children age 4 to 8 with hemiplegic cerebral palsy.

Pediatric Feeding Disorders

- With funding from the Munroe-Meyer Guild, the Pediatric Feeding Disorders Program launched a program, SEEDS (Starting Early: Eating and Developmental Skills) aimed at children with autism spectrum disorder and developmental disabilities who display food selectivity and would benefit from early intervention services.
- Kathryn Peterson traveled to London for one month to provide intensive feeding services for a child who is diagnosed with autism and a feeding disorder. These services were critical for the family, as treatment like this is scarce in the U.K.

Physical Therapy

- The Physical Therapy Department collaborated with the UNMC College of Allied Health Professions and others for the Go Baby Go! Nebraska partnership. This initiative, supported by the Munroe-Meyer Guild and Olsson Associates, modifies seating and ease of access in off-the-shelf toy power cars for young children with developmental disabilities.
- Jamie Gehringer, a third-year Ph.D. student in the lab of Max Kurz, Ph.D., was the recipient of a Nebraska NASA fellowship. Gehringer also was named a Purdue Pharma Scholar.
- Amy Beyersdorf was selected by the Academy of Pediatric Physical Therapy of the American Physical Therapy Association as the Outstanding Pediatric Clinical Practice Award recipient for 2016.
- Swati Surkar, Ph.D., who worked with Max Kurz, Ph.D., received the Graduate Student of Distinction Award from the UNMC graduate college.
- Max Kurz, Ph.D., and Nicholas Stergiou, Ph.D., of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, received a patent award from UNeMed, UNMC’s technology transfer company, for their patent for “Method and System for Assessing Locomotive Biorhythms.”

Psychology

- Keith Allen, Ph.D., was named director of the psychology department.
- The department opened its newest outreach behavioral health clinic in Norfolk, Neb., in 2016. It joins more than 30 other integrated behavioral health clinics across the state.
- MMI Psychology faculty collaborated with UNO Department of Special Education on a master’s degree program in special education that leads to board certification in behavior analysis.
- Staff from the Autism Care for Toddlers (ACT) program participated in Pivotal Response Training, sponsored by a grant from the Weitz family.
- Faculty members delivered more than 14,000 patient visits last year.
- The department brought in more than $1.3 million in training and research grants and contracts to train masters and doctoral level providers to serve children and adolescents with emotional, behavioral, intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- The department cut wait times for patients to receive an appointment. (See story, Page 6)
Recreational Therapy

• The MMI Recreational Therapy department provided 22 different programs and clubs to more than 500 families in 2016.
• The department teamed with WhyArts to hold its first theater camp. (See story, Page 8)
• More than 550 volunteers provided 13,000 service hours in 2016.

Speech-Language Pathology

The Speech-Language Pathology Department developed four new offerings:

• the ImPACT Parent Training Program,
• Hanen It Takes Two To Talk Parent Training Program,
• Speech-Language Consults within Autism programs, and
• an augmentative and alternative communication preschool in Lincoln.

University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)

• The 2016 employment rate for the Project Search class was 100 percent.
• The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Division of Developmental Disability Services contracted with the UCEDD to conduct the Nebraska National Core Indicator adult consumer surveys.
• UCEDD staff helped to develop and implement the Nebraska Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) accounts, with Nebraska just the second state in the U.S. to initiate the program allowing savings accounts for individuals with disabilities.

MMI’s supporting boards provided critical financial, organizational and public awareness support in 2016, with financial support of more than $1.5 million. We are very grateful to them for their ongoing partnership and investment in those we serve.

Hattie B. Munroe Foundation

The Hattie B. Munroe Foundation donated 56 gift cards during the holidays that were delivered to MMI client families in need. The Foundation also provides the funding for a psychology internship, Camp Munroe and related children’s programs, and professorships for the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders and the director of MMI.

Meyer Foundation for Disabilities

The Meyer Foundation for Disabilities’ Walk & Roll for Disabilities event was held on March 6, with attendance of approximately 400. The Foundation’s OwL Ride was held on July 16, with approximately 1,000 people in attendance. The Foundation supports the Recreational Therapy Department’s adult programming, which in 2016 included such programs as MMI’s Thursday evening respite program, its cooking club and its visiting artist program.

The Munroe-Meyer Institute Board of Directors

The Board works closely with MMI leadership to inform the public of the breadth and quality of MMI’s programs. The board annually awards the Rhoda Davis Blatt and Hattie B. Munroe Foundation scholarships. The board oversees the selection and distribution of holiday gift cards to MMI families in need, as well as reviews and approves the MMI Recreation Therapy Department budget before it receives final approval by the Hattie B. Munroe Foundation board.

Munroe-Meyer Guild

The Munroe-Meyer Guild Garden Walk was held on June 12. The event drew approximately 1,000 people. In 2016, the Guild supported a variety of cutting-edge MMI initiatives and programs, including the Hand-Arm Bimanual Intensive Therapy Summer Day Camp and the “Go Baby Go!” mobility project for young children with movement disorders or developmental delays and other efforts.

Scottish Rite Foundations of Nebraska

Scottish Rite held its RiteCare Classic Golf Tournament on June 24, with 16 teams in attendance. The organization’s Walk Rite for RiteCare-Omaha was held on June 26, 2016, and drew approximately 150 walkers. The Friends of the Scottish Rite Dinner was held Oct. 7, with 190 in attendance. Scottish Rite funds MMI’s RiteCare Speech and Language Clinics across the state of Nebraska.
History:
- 1922: Founded as the Hattie Baker Munroe Home for Convalescing Crippled Children.
- 1997: The Meyer Rehabilitation Institute (MRI) and the Hattie B. Munroe Pavilion become the Munroe-Meyer Institute (MMI) for Genetics & Rehabilitation.
- 2009: MMI becomes an academic unit of UNMC.

Organization:
- 14 departments, approximately 500 employees.
- One of 67 federally designated University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (UCEDD), one of 52 Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) programs and one of 76 Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) sites.
- Annually, more than $33 million budget, with more than $9 million in federal/state/local grants and contracts, and more than $2 million in philanthropy.

Clinical services:
- More than 70,000 yearly encounters serving clients across the lifespan (75 percent take place in the community).
- More than 40 provider locations across the state (more than 30 outside Omaha).
- More than 50 types of services provided.
- 22 recreational therapy programs and clubs serving more than 500 families annually.
- More than 550 volunteers providing more than 13,000 service hours annually.

Laboratory tests:
- Approximately 50,000 clinical genetics tests performed in 2016.
- More than 130 types of genetics tests have been provided to 49 states nationwide and to four international locations.

Education and research activities:
- Involved in education of medical students, residents, fellows, interns, allied health professionals, Ph.D. and M.S. students, college and high school students.
- More than 8,500 participants in workshops, conferences, teleconferences and other community education activities in domestic and international forums in 2016.
- 87 long-term trainees (doctoral, masters, interns) in 2016.
- Interdisciplinary training in 2016: 172 students, interns, residents and post-doctoral fellows for a total of 118,136 hours.
- More than 3,600 long-term students received training at MMI in the past 17 years.
- Students from more than 40 universities and colleges nationwide annually.
- More than 100 classes and seminars taught by our staff and faculty annually.
- Approximately 40 faculty involved in basic, clinical and translational research activities.
- More than 150 clinical and research fellows trained in the past 15 years.
- More than $4 million in research funding annually.

Community and outreach activities:
- Annually, more than 100 technical assistance services (1,765 hours) to community partners in LEND & UCCED alone.
- Approximately 50 community training activities (1,492 participants/192 hours) in LEND & UCCED annually.
Interdisciplinary Trainees

MMI’s education program provided an interdisciplinary training experience for 172 students, interns, residents and post-doctoral fellows in 2016 for a total of 118,136 hours. Approximately 87 of these students were long-term trainees, receiving 300 hours or more of interdisciplinary instruction per person at MMI.
Fueling Our Mission

MMI’s complex mission requires that we seek support from a wide variety of sources. Patient revenues continue to be the largest part of our budget with state funds and contracts from public schools and state agencies providing a great deal of support. Private donations continue to be a very important part of our program as we develop cutting-edge services to benefit Nebraskans with disabilities.

OVERALL BUDGET: $33,544,797

- Philanthropic / other funds 7.8%
- Federal grants & contracts 16.3%
- State appropriation 16.5%
- State/local/school grants & contracts 19.5%
- Clinical service reimbursement 39.9%
- State appropriation 16.5%
- Philanthropic / other funds 7.8%
- Federal grants & contracts 16.3%
- State appropriation 16.5%
- State/local/school grants & contracts 19.5%
- Clinical service reimbursement 39.9%

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY IN 2016: 390 PRODUCTS

- Conference presentations and posters: 221
- Publications in scholarly journals: 103
- Other publications: 37
- Doctoral dissertation or Master’s thesis: 17
- Book chapters: 12