

AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report

Planning and reporting on Interest Network activities designed to fulfil their purpose.
(See the AAIDD *Interest Networks Leadership Manual* for the purpose of the Interest Networks.)

Interest Network:

Health & Wellness Action Group (HWAG)

Lead Contact Person(s):

David A. Ervin

Next Scheduled Election & Leadership Position(s) that will be Open for Nomination:

Unknown at this time—plan is for formal elections during fiscal year 2026 (7/01/2025-6/30/2026)

2024-2025 Report

For the year that **just ended** (July 1-June 30), indicate objectives met, activities completed, and funds used. In addition, please note if/how any activities enhanced diversity, equity, inclusion, or justice.

- Sarah Ballard & Melissa Levin assumed HWIN leadership on 1 July 2024.
- The fiscal year 2025 Annual Plan was created and outlined the following (provided in summary form):

Goal 1: Deliver 2-3 webinars during the next year on health and wellness issues (diversity, equity, inclusion, or justice) for persons with IDD.

Goal 2: Promote student involvement in AAIDD, prioritizing involvement in activities and events that address diversity, equity, inclusion, or justice in health and wellness.

Goal 3: Promote experienced professional involvement HWIN webinars, AAIDD webinars, annual conference that address diversity, equity, inclusion, or justice in health and wellness issues.

Goal 4: Connect HWIN members, students and experienced professionals to identify potential collaborations in [health] policy issues, advocacy opportunities, research, and projects.

Activity 1: Hold 2-3 HWIN webinars on innovations in healthcare provision to better support individuals with IDD.

Goal 1 was met with two (2) presentations:

- Panel presentation: Person-Centered Care for Cancer Patients with IDD
- Presentation: Shortage of Doctors who Specialize in IDD: Addressing the Crisis

Activity 2: Sponsor 1 student scholarship to 2025 AAIDD Conference who has an accepted presentation on a health/wellness topic that addresses diversity, equity, inclusion, or justice. HWIN members will review abstracts and select awardee.

Activity 3: Sponsor \$10 student scholarships to attend HWIN webinars.

Goal 2 was met with a doctoral student funded to attend.

Activity 4: Share information on HWIN webinars with outlets that communicate to experienced professionals.

Goal 3 was indirectly achieved via AAIDD advertising the webinars.

AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report

Activity 5: The HWIN will utilize a social media platform(s) that is/are accessible to members to promote connection and information sharing across the year.

Goal 4 was not met.

2025-2026 Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies

For the **coming year** (July 1-June 30), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure of funds. In addition, please note if/how any activities will address diversity, equity, inclusion, or justice.

1. Engage HWIN members in developing Network priorities to inform work for 2025-2026 and broad priorities covering three years (through 2027-2028).
 - a. Surveys to identify priority issues linked to the [AAIDD 2024 National Goals in Health](#) and other, current initiatives in the health and IDD space (e.g., HEADs-UP, Project NICHE-Med, and more).
 - b. Compression planning to prioritize follow-up or supplemental work product in support of 2024 Health Goals, et seq. as identified in survey.
2. Create Network leadership pathways and succession planning protocols.
3. Refresh/update Network marketing materials to reflect alignment with 2024 Health Goals, et seq. as identified by HWIN membership.
 - a. Create call(s) to action to leverage AAIDD membership, other interest networks, as well as other, similar groups around aligned research and practice priorities.
 - b. Create health advocacy tools/resources consistent with HWIN priorities, formal Health Positions taken by AAIDD, and Health Goals.

Potential expenditures, unknown at this time. Makom, an AAIDD corporate member, will support this work and the development of print and other materials.