

AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report

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

Interest Network:

Social and Sexual Relationships

Lead Contact Person(s):

Rhonda S. Black and Rebecca Kammes

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

1. Continue collaborating with other Interest Networks.

Our goal is to co-present two webinars with other Interest Networks.

We met half of this goal. We had a panel presentation for the Education Interest Network on October 22, 2025.

We will also present who we are at other IN's business meetings

2. Sponsor early career professional for conference attendance.

We did not have enough money in our budget to sponsor a full scholarship. But we did provide a \$200 stipend and luncheon ticket to Shanovia Forbes, a doctoral student at Oklahoma State University.

3. Increase involvement of current members.

We would like our members to be more actively involved with the Interest Network. Those who were present at the Conference Business Meeting will meet via zoom and continue the discussions started at the 2024 Annual Conference.

4. Incubation Hour. Two sessions (2) where members and others and invited to learn and discuss a particular topic. Questions for thought will be sent in advance. This can also be an incubator for collaboration, sharing resources, and future presentations.

We had a series of Research Unplugged: Present and Connect events.

1. The Sexual Lives and Health of Young Women With Cognitive Disabilities December 3, 2024 10:00 HST/12:00 PST/3:00 EST

Presenters: Jessica N. Hoyle, PhD, MMT & J. Dalton Stevens, PhD

2. Beyond Barriers: Exploring Romantic Relationships Within the IDD Community January 7, 2025 10:00 HST/12:00 PST/3:00 EST

Presenters: James K. Ingram and Andrea Suk

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3. *Circles Elementary: Intimacy and Relationships*
February 19, 2025 9:00 HST/11:00 PST/2:00EST
Presenters: Marlyn Champagne and Leslie Walker-Hirsch

5. Have a social event that focuses on Social and Sexual Relationships at the next annual conference.

We did accomplish this goal. We had an Inclusive Self-serve Mixer in the lobby of the Conference Hotel at the 2025 Annual Conference in Crystal City.

6. *Our membership numbers have remained steady.*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Membership Number</i>
<i>August 2025</i>	<i>61</i>
<i>June 2024</i>	<i>62</i>
<i>June 2023</i>	<i>55</i>
<i>June 2022</i>	<i>63</i>
<i>March 2021</i>	<i>58</i>

7. Attend an SECP meeting to let new career professionals know about the IN.

One of our members, Oscar Hughes attended several SECP meetings.

2024-2025 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. **Continue collaborating with other Interest Networks.**

*Our goal is to co-present one webinars with other Interest Networks.
We will also invite members from other Interest networks to attend our business meetings or IN webinars.*

2. **Sponsor early career professional for conference attendance.**

We will use what money we have in our budget to support an early career professional for conference attendance.

3. **Increase involvement of current members.**

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We would like our members to be more actively involved with the Interest Network. We will hold business meetings AND chances to connect online.

4. **Incubation Hour.** Two sessions (2) where members and others are invited to learn and discuss a particular topic. Questions for thought will be sent in advance. This can also be an incubator for collaboration, sharing resources, and future presentations.

Because we did not do the incubation hour last year (we held roundtable format discussions instead. We would accomplish like to accomplish this in the 2025-2026 year.

5. **Have a social event that focuses on Social and Sexual Relationships at the next annual conference.**

We would like to plan and extend the social event that we had at the 2025 conference. We will form a planning committee of those members who were there this year, and we will ask members from other Interest Networks to join us. We will try to get self-advocates to participate in the planning.