

ADA30 
Americans with Disabilities Act
Celebrate the ADA! July 26, 2020

**UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES
ANNUAL REPORT 2020**

Delivered to Membership of USICD at the Annual Meeting on 13 November 2020

11 Hope Road, Suite 111, #254 , Stafford, VA 22554

◇ <http://uscd.org> ◇ (800) 92842612 ◇ info@uscd.org

ABOUT USICD



WHO WE ARE:

Through our vast network of disabled people's organizations and international development colleagues, USICD has the reach to impact critical emerging issues facing the global disability community. USICD serves both as a technical resource and as a relationship builder to people with disabilities for NGO, government, and corporate partners. USICD's 18-member Board of Directors includes the most recognized leaders in the American disability rights movement, providing a wealth of experience and strategic guidance. USICD implements projects that empower people with disabilities around the world through grassroots strategies, as well as national and international policy advocacy. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) has had a global influence, and USICD promotes those values through global engagement and United States foreign affairs. The USICD community is leading the world on global disability rights.

OUR MISSION:

To advance international disability rights and inclusive development and to build bridges among the U.S. and foreign governments, disability and human rights communities, and the private sector through strategic advocacy, convening, and training and education.

OUR VISION:

USICD envisions a world where the rights of persons with disabilities are universally recognized and respected, where persons with disabilities are afforded full and equal participation in their communities, and where persons with disabilities are self-sufficient and live independent and self-determined lives.



Several USICD Board Members & Executive Director, Isabel Hodge, with Senator Tom Harkin & Representative Jim Langevin at the 2019 USICD Gala

Board of Directors, Staff, Consultants & Volunteers

Officers

Dr. Patricia Morrissey <i>President</i>	Candace Cable <i>Vice President</i>	W. Kirt Toombs <i>Secretary</i>	Jerry McCloskey <i>Treasurer</i>
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Directors

Judith Heumann Janet Lord	Candace Cable Kirt Toombs	Shelia Newman Ruthie-Marie Beckwith	Phillip Mason Susan Parker
Jill Houghton Stephanie Ortoleva	Meg O’Connell James McCormick	Michael Brogioli Bill Abrams	John Wodatch Eric Rosenthal

USICD Staff

Isabel Hodge

Executive Director

USICD Consultants

Janet Lord

Alison deFranco

Pro bono Counsel

Tim Keeler, Mayor
Brown LLC
Miran Vila
Katten Muchin
Rosenman LLP

USICD Volunteers

Dr. Rebecca
Posante
Mary Beth Riffle

Detailed bios for each of the above officers, directors, government representatives and USICD staff can be found on the [USICD website](#).

**DISABLED PEOPLES' INTERNATIONAL
NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

**Combating Gender-Based Violence
in the Caribbean and its impact on Women and
Girls with Disabilities: Prevention and Response**

**Panel Discussion via Zoom
August 24 | 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM EST**

Merphilus James
President, DPI NAC

Dr. Annicia Gayle-Geddes
Social Analyst, Caribbean
Development Bank

Gloria Goffe
Executive Director, Combined
Disabilities Association

Irma Raymond-Joseph
President, DAPD

Tina Alexander
Executive Director,
Lifeline Ministries

Tonni Ann Brodber
UN Women Rep for the
Caribbean

Charlotte McClain-Nhlapo
Global Disability Advisor,
World Bank

Computer Aided Real-Time Transcription (CART) will be provided

**DISABLED PEOPLES' INTERNATIONAL
NORTH AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN**

**U.S. International
Council on Disabilities**

*Combating Gender-Based Violence in the Caribbean and its impact on Women and Girls
with Disabilities: Prevention and Response Event Flyer*

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Able South Carolina • Access Living • American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) • American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD) • American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR) • American Samoa University Center for Excellence on Developmental Disabilities (AS-UCEDD) • The Association of Oregon Centers for Independent Living (AOCIL) • The Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) • Bridge Multimedia • CBM Global • Center for Independent Living for Western Wisconsin, Inc. • The Center for People with Disabilities • Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation • Michigan Developmental Disabilities Institute (MI-DDI) • Disabled Resource Services • DisabilityIN • Disability Rights International (DRI) • Disability Rights Ohio, Ohio Disability Rights Law & Policy Center • Eastern Oregon Center for Independent Living (EOCIL) • The K. Lisa Yang and Hock E. Tan Institute on Employment and Disability (YTI) • Gallaudet University • Global Disability Inclusion • Global Mobility USA Humanity & Inclusion • Independence First • Institute for Disability Studies – UCEDD • International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) • Kids Included Together • Michigan Disability Rights Coalition • National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) • National Organization on Disability • New Editions Consulting, Inc. • Not Dead Yet • Placer Independent Resource Services • Resource, Information, Support and Empowerment (RISE) • Living Independently for Everyone at RCIL, Inc. • TASH • Trickle Up • The Arc of the United States • The CIL • The Independence Center • The Rehabilitation Engineering & Assistive Tech. Society of N. America (RESNA) • The Virgin Islands University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (VIUCEDD) • Vermont Center for Independent Living



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Members and Friends of USICD,

I am still in Hawaii and wish you a big Aloha! However, my status has changed. I resigned my position as director of the Center Disability Studies at the University of Hawaii. I am staying in Paradise. The resignation will give me more time to work on matters that are important to USICD and hopefully you as well.

This report highlights things the organization has invested in this year. I would like to touch on a few and elicit your help.

We are experiencing unprecedented and challenging times. It is affected how we work, how we maintain our relationships, and how we spend leisure time. We not only are faced with figuring out how to live with the pandemic but are being asked to develop a deeper understanding of an action agenda for social justice in this country and beyond our borders.

With this backdrop USICD has concentrated this year on promoting the passage of HR 3373 and S3380 – the Office of International Disability Rights Act. These companion bills, which would create an office in the State Department on international disability rights, deserve strong, wide, bipartisan support. That won't happen unless those with interest in working with others around the globe to promote disability rights, educate members of Congress about the importance of the legislation and its potential for bringing about reaffirmation of the value of our leadership and a sustained commitment across the world to disability rights. USICD, with constituents of Senators, had numerous, virtual meetings with staff of Senators on the Foreign Relations Committee to solicit their support, to answer their questions, and get their advice on how to secure action on this key legislation. But it will take more than us to secure the desired outcome. I ask that you go to the USICD website and learn more about who the current cosponsors are, and if your members of Congress are not among them, reach out to them and ask them to become co-sponsors.

USICD participated in the national celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. We sponsored a webinar that brought together people who were directly involved in the drafting and advocating for the law 30 years ago. In fact, several of those who presented are members of the USICD board. It was a relaxed but highly informative event. You can access the video from the USICD website. Given our success and a robust audience we are exploring topics for future events.

USICD is a member of the Consortium for Building Inclusive Societies (CBIS), made up of 15 international organizations and leaders promoting disability rights worldwide. With them, we submitted a grant proposal to the MacArthur Foundation for \$100 million to assist Disabled Peoples' Organizations in Ethiopia, Vietnam, and Mexico strengthen their presence at community, regional, and national decision-making tables, to build more inclusive communities. We were not successful in the grant competition, but CBIS and USICD are pursuing additional funding opportunities to promote understanding of independent living and disability rights with other funders.

COVID-19 has had a pervasive impact on everything everywhere. In recognition of this fact, USICD has made a major commitment to sharing information on its website to help people address pandemic challenges no matter where they live.

We are going to have a virtual gala this year. Although we will not offer an opportunity to physically be together, we will offer a vibrant program and much food for thought and ACTION. Please consider buying a ticket, joining USICD if you are not a member, donating, and/or sharing our website with your friends.

We are at a pivotal point in this country. We are seeing first-hand what happens when we help each other and when we do not. The national election is fast approaching. We must make people with disabilities and conditions and circumstances that impact them a front and center matter to the next President, whoever he is. We must urge that this priority not stop at the border, but, through federal agencies, be reflected in our overseas operations.

Pandemic or not, election or not, USICD and YOU have a lot we should do. We must make sure that data bases include data on people with disabilities; that food distribution programs are accessible to people with disabilities; that healthcare is available and equitable in treatment to people with disabilities; that congregate care is not an option used in housing people with disabilities; that education and technology are made available and accessible to all students with disabilities of all ages; that existing jobs and emerging job opportunities are always available to people with disabilities; that public transportation is accessible and affordable for people with disabilities, and that choices and decisions about all things reflect what a person with a disability needs.

USICD brings people together. It advocates. It trains. It raises the voices of people with disabilities. Join us and support our efforts, please.

Thank you (Mahalo),

Pat Morrissey

Patricia Morrissey
President

U.S. INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES

A FEW 2020

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Our key achievements this year are a direct result of the hard work of our USICD Board, staff, members, interns, and volunteers:

- Participated in the Big Ideas for Women and Girls Coalition 2020 Planning Meeting.
- Attended the Consortium of Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) annual meeting of members.
- Met with the International Visitors Leadership Program fellows from Ukraine.
- Participated in the quarterly meetings of Disabled Peoples International North America and the Caribbean (DPI NAC).
- Participated in the Consortium for Building Inclusive Societies (CBIS) meetings.
- Attended the International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC) meetings and attended virtual High-Level Political Forum IDA-IDDC side events.
- Presented on the Office of International Disability Rights legislation at the National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) International Subcommittee meetings.
- Launched the *Improving DPO Stakeholders' Understanding and Monitoring of Disability Inclusive Development and Advancing the Implementation of CRPD Article 32* Rehabilitation International Global Disability Development Fund project.
- Presented twice at the Pacific Rim conference hosted by the Center on Disability Studies, University of Hawaii on *Building a Consortium* and *Advocating for International Disability Rights*.
- Joined the U.S. International Initiative for Disability Leadership (IIDL) and presented twice on Supported Decision Making for IIDL.
- Launched a COVID-19 Resource webpage with over 200 US government, US civil society, country-specific and international resources.
- Participated in the Department of State's Democracy, Rights and Labor consultation on COVID-19: Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (DRG) partners Threats and Opportunities meeting.
- Participated in Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Task Force meeting and discussed the Office of International Disability Rights legislation.
- Kicked off planning for the USICD Gala to celebrate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.
- Participated in International Disability Alliance (IDA) and IDDC advocacy group meetings.
- Participated in USAID's Disability Data in Early Grade Education Programming workshop.
- Participated in #CitiesforALL COVID19 Series Webinar: Build Back Better: Defining the new normal for people with disabilities and older persons in local pandemic response event hosted by World Enabled.
- Coordinated and facilitated a COVID-19 Zoom event for Disabled Peoples International North America and the Caribbean (DPI NAC) and coordinated the DPI NAC event titled "Combating Gender-Based Violence in the Caribbean and its impact on Women and Girls with Disabilities: Prevention and Response."
- Participated in National Disability calls with Senator Bob Casey's office (D-PA).
- Attended the virtual Microsoft Ability Summit event and the Disability:IN conference.
- Participated in the ECOSOC HAS Side Event: Inclusive Humanitarian Action = Effective Humanitarian Action.
- Participated in the International Labour Organization's (ILO) "Ensuring a disability inclusive response to the COVID 19 crisis" side event.



Rehabilitation International Logo

- Participated in the ILO Global Disability Business Network’s Business leadership in disability-inclusive responses to COVID-19 event.
- Participated in the ECOSOC #HAS2020 side event on Humanitarian consequence of Explosive Weapons in Populated Areas.
- Met with University of North Carolina’s WiderNet Project Director to discuss USICD’s Global Disability Rights Library.
- Partnered with the World Institute on Disability on the Global Alliance for Disaster Resource Accelerator.
- Met with staff from the following Senators’ offices to discuss the Office of International Disability Rights Act: Portman, Menendez, Cardin, Young, Toomey, Cortez Masto, Gardener, Scott, Lankford, Kaine, Perdue.
- Held the *ADA’s Influence on International Disability Rights* Zoom event with USICD board members, John Wodatch, Judith Heumann, Candace Cable, Meg O’Connell (Facilitator) and Patricia Morrissey (President). Our special VIP guest was Congresswoman Dina Titus.



United States International Council on Disabilities

Panel Discussion

The ADA’s Influence on International Disability Rights

22 July | 4:30 PM – 5:45PM

Special Guest!



Representative
Dina Titus

Panelists

 <div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; text-align: center;">Meg O’Connell Global Disability Inclusion</div>	 <div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; text-align: center;">John Wodatch ADA Expert</div>	 <div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; text-align: center;">Judith Heumann International Disability Advocate</div>
 <div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; text-align: center;">Jill Houghton Disability:IN</div>	 <div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; text-align: center;">Candace Cable USICD Vice President</div>	 <div style="background-color: #003366; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; text-align: center;">Dr. Patricia Morrissey USICD President</div>

REGISTER TODAY! <https://tinyurl.com/yyedffk2>

The ADA’s Influence on International Disability Rights Event Flyer

TREASURER'S REPORT

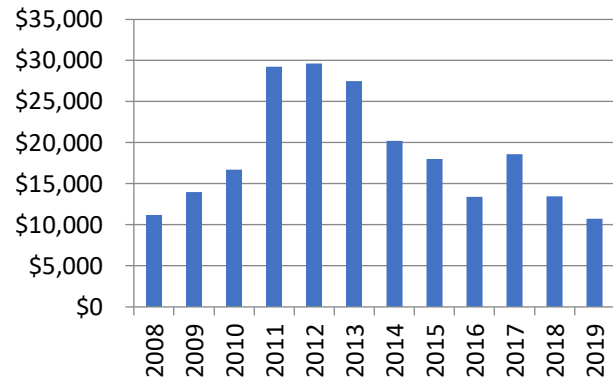
A community of funding and project partners has made USICD's work possible. General operating support and program grants for USICD's education activities have formed a core of USICD's grant funding.

An independent audit of USICD's 2019 financial statements conducted by AAL Certified Public Accountants found that all financial records were accurate and maintained in conformity with standard accounting principles accepted in the United States. A copy of this audit is available upon request.

Finance Committee: Jerry McCloskey, Chair and Treasurer; Susan Parker, David Hutt, Michael Brogioli

USICD has consistently seen a drop in membership since 2014 in both organizational and individual members. Membership particularly surged during the campaign for U.S. ratification of the CRPD with an increase in individual members. Membership today spans 26 states and the District of Columbia, and includes centers for independent living, academic departments, protection and advocacy organizations, international development actors, and a breadth of others who are all committed to the fundamental rights of persons with disabilities.

Membership Revenue



**Disabled Peoples' International
North America and the Caribbean**

Panel Discussion

COVID-19 Impact on People with Disabilities in the Caribbean

June 1 | 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM EST

U.S. International Council on Disabilities

Merphilus James
President, DPI NAC

Henrietta Davis-Wray
DPI Chairperson

Senator Dr. Floyd Morris
CARICOM Special Rapporteur

Charlotte McClain-Nhlapo
World Bank Global Disability Advisor

Dr. Emanuel Hosein
Trinidad & Tobago

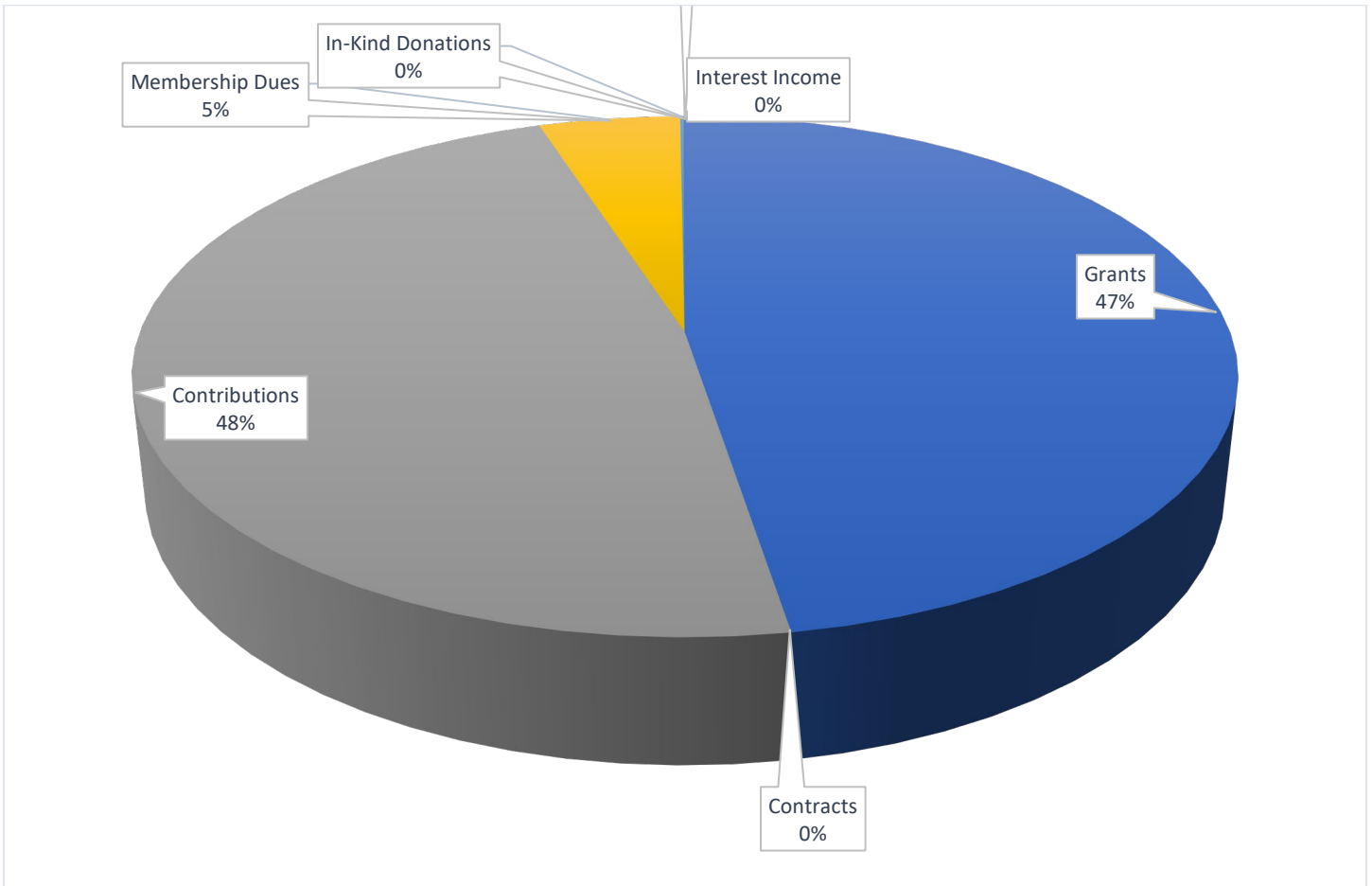
Harjinder Jutte
Montserrat

Dr. Ganesh Singh
Guyana

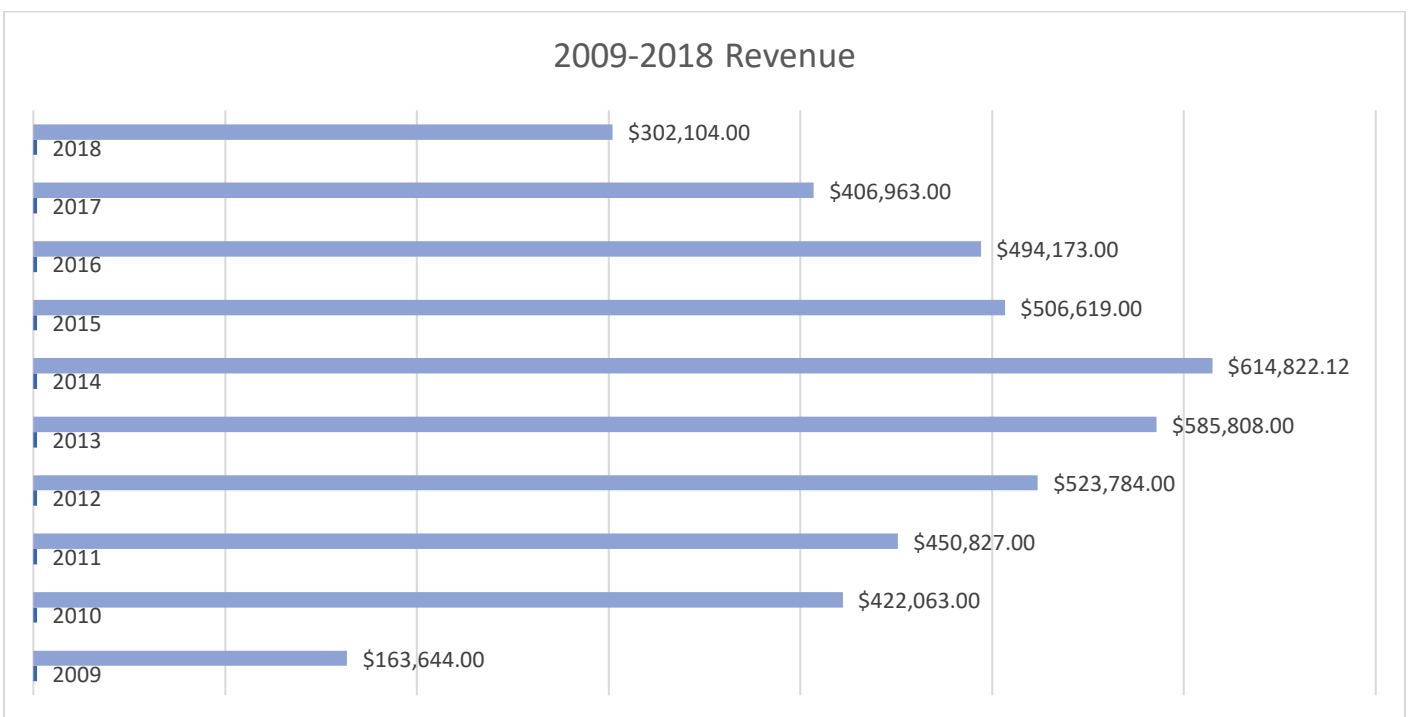
REGISTER TODAY!! <https://tinyurl.com/ycvqadco>

COVID-19 Impact on People with Disabilities in the Caribbean Event Flyer

2019 Revenue Sources: \$220,107



2009-2018 Revenue





*Celebrate the International
Day of Persons
with Disabilities!*

**With Board, Donors, Friends, and Congressional,
Corporate, and other Partners of the
United States International Council on Disabilities**

**3 December 2020
7:00 until 8:00 pm
Virtual Event**



Senator Bob Casey

**Special Presentation of the Dole-Harkin Award to
Senator Bob Casey of Pennsylvania and to
Representative Dina Titus of Nevada.
Special honor for International Advocacy
presented to
Ms. Ikponwosa Ero of Nigeria**



Ms. Ikponwosa

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors!!

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The Bowen Group
Paralyzed Veterans of
America
Mr. Bill Abrams**

**Dr. Ruthie- Marie Beckwith
Eastern Oregon Center for
Independent Living**



Representative
Dina Titus