



U.S. International Council on Disabilities

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Delivered to Membership of USICD at the Annual Meeting in December 2023

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

◊ <http://uscd.org> ◊ 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.



USICD Board Member, Susan Parker, at the Rehabilitation International Centennial Celebration in Beijing, China. She is standing center state with three RI Board Members.

Board of Directors, Staff, Consultants & Volunteers



Officers			
Candace Cable	Dr. Patricia Morrissey	W. Kirt Toombs	Jerry McCloskey
<i>President</i>	<i>Past President</i>	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
Directors			
James McCormick	Abigail Akande	Susan Parker	
Janet Lord	Bill Abrams	Eric Rosenthal	
Carolyn Osolinik	Michael Brogioli	Stephanie Ortoleva	
USICD Staff	USICD Volunteers		
Isabel Hodge	Dr. Rebecca Posante		
<i>Executive Director</i>	Janice Dodd		
	Richard Hodge		

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



2023 Hill Visit with Representative Dina Titus' staff. Isabel Hodge is holding the Dole-Harkin award Representative Titus received in 2020.

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) • The Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) • CBM Global • CBM International • Center for Independent Living for Western Wisconsin, Inc. • Community Options, Inc. • Disabled Resource Services • Disability Rights International • Eastern Oregon Center for Independent Living • Humanity & Inclusion • Institute for Disability Studies • New Jersey Association of Mental Health • Placer Independent Resource Services • Resource, Information, Support and Empowerment • TASH • The Arc of the United States • The CIL • World Institute on Disability



An image of floating buttons with the words Membership Matters on them.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Members and Friends of USICD,

It has been another busy and exciting year for USICD and my first as USICD's new President! First, let me say that USICD is sad at the passing of our long-time champion and board member, Judy Heumann.

In 2023, we continued our partnership with USICD Member, Disability Rights International, on advocating for the passage of the International Children with Disabilities Protection Act. In 2024, we will continue our Hill, National, and grassroots advocacy efforts on this legislation and will keep our members informed on its progress. We also continued our push for a permanent Office of International Disability Rights led by an Ambassador-at-Large at the U.S. Department of State.

Just this month, we received an invitation from USAID to provide comments on their draft Disability Policy. Our USICD Policy Committee is preparing comments and USICD has invited the Consortium for Constitutents with Disabilities (CCD) International Task Force and the National Council for Independent Living's International Subcommittee to include their feedback.

*Candace Cable at the 2023 UN
COSP*

Also this year, USICD received an Significant Contributions award from Rehabilitation International (RI) for our inclusive education training held in Maputo, Mozambique. USICD Board Member and RI Treasurer, Susan Parker, and our Executive Director, Isabel Hodge, traveled to Beijing, China in May to attend the RI Centennial Celebration and accept the award.

This was the final year of executing of our five-year strategic plan. In 2024, the USICD Board of Directors will revisit the plan and work to ensure feedback is received from our members, allies, and sponsors. This next year is also an important national election year. We must ensure people with disabilities and the barriers that continue to impact their daily lives are discussed, prioritized, and the values and principles we have here in the United States are reflected in our Federally-funded programs and services provided overseas. Also, in 2024, we are holding a webinar, in partnership with the Eastern Oregon Center for Independent Living (EOCIL), on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for U.S. Audiences.

Thank you for taking the time to read our annual report. Reach out to us at any time. We are a membership-based disabled-led organization. We advocate. We provide training and educate others. We convene meetings to advance international disability rights and represent our members and allies in the work that we do at the United Nations and other national and international fora. Please encourage others to become members of the United States International Council on Disabilities.

Thank you for your support,

Candace Cable

Candace Cable
President
U.S. INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES

A FEW 2023

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

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

- Partnered with Disability Rights International on the continued advocacy for the International Children with Disabilities Protection Act of 2023 and engaged with national and grassroots organizations.
- Continued advocacy on Office of International Disability Rights Act.
- Participated in the US Steering Group for the International Initiative for Disability Leadership (IIDL).
- Met with the Centre for Sports and Human Rights.
- Signed on to:
 - Letter urging the VA to pause foreclosures during the VA Servicing Purchase Implementation
 - Department of Justice Title II regulations
 - Thank You Letter to Senators Casey and Scott for introducing the Veterans Accessibility Act
 - CCD letter to ban electric shocks.
 - Letter to leaders of the House of Representatives to urge Congress to pass funding for the country's disaster response and recovery efforts.
- Co-chaired the Consortium of Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) International Ad Hoc Working Group with USICD member, the World Institute on Disability (WID).
- Provided legislative updates at the monthly National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) International Subcommittee meetings.
- Attended the US Global Leadership Coalition's Impact Forum and met with State of Virginia Representatives and Senators on global foreign policy issues.
- Upon request, participated in UN and USAID Consultations.
- At the U.N., participated in the Civil Society Forum and co-sponsored three side-events at the Conference of State Parties (COSP):
 - Afghan Women with Disabilities
 - From institutions to community: Promotion of Independent Living
 - Movement and Cohesion in the Disability, Peace, and Security Agenda
- Collaborated with advocates from Afghanistan on a letter to the UN Secretary General on Emphasizing the Rights of Afghans with Disabilities.
- Traveled to Beijing, China in May to attend Rehabilitation International's Centennial Celebration and receive their award for significant contributions for USICD's RI-funded inclusive education training held in Mozambique.
- Attended the RI General Assembly meeting in December.
- Attended Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) organizations' CEO Meetings.
- Attended the *Launch of the Special Rapporteur's Thematic Report on Enhancing the Protection of Persons with Disabilities During Military Operations in Armed Conflict*
- Presented US Institute of Peace Disability Inclusion and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda Learning Exchange.
- Participated in the Disability Museum Working Group.
- Worked on the updating of the Global Disability Rights Library.
- Attended the Disabled Peoples International (DPI) World Council Meeting in Busan, South Korea.
 - Isabel Hodge was elected as the Secretary of DPI World Council Board of Directors.
- Attended the DPI North America and the Caribbean (DPI NAC) quarterly meetings. Isabel Hodge serves as the Vice President of DPI NAC.
- Began work on Accessible Conferences and Large Events Training Course

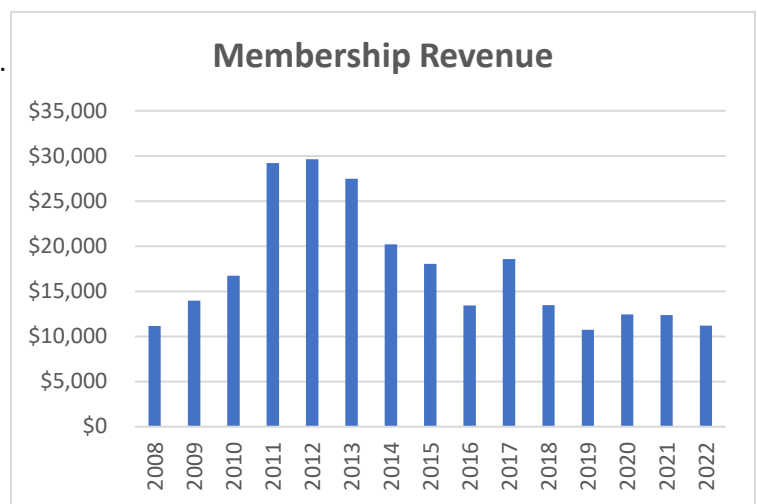
TREASURER'S REPORT

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 2022 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, James McCormick, 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.



Our 2023 Sponsors:

JPMORGAN CHASE & Co.



Medallia

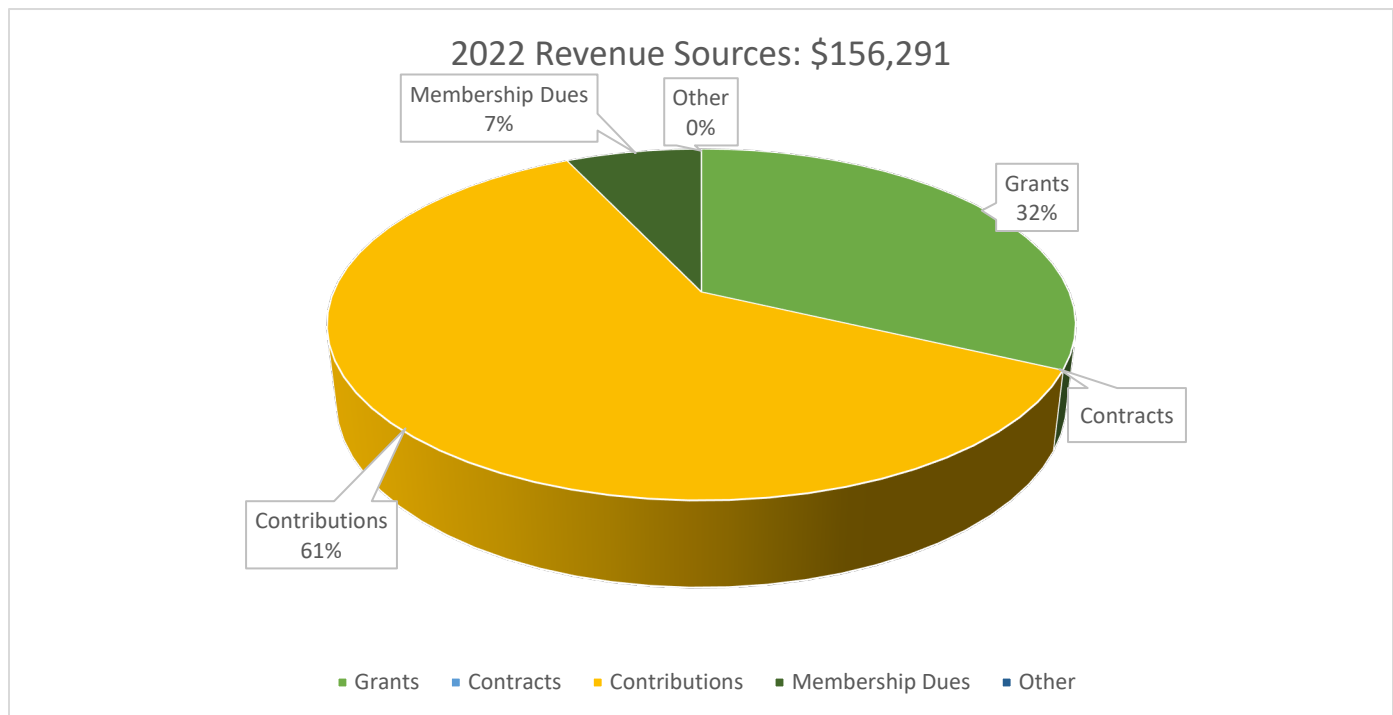


Carolyn Osolinik

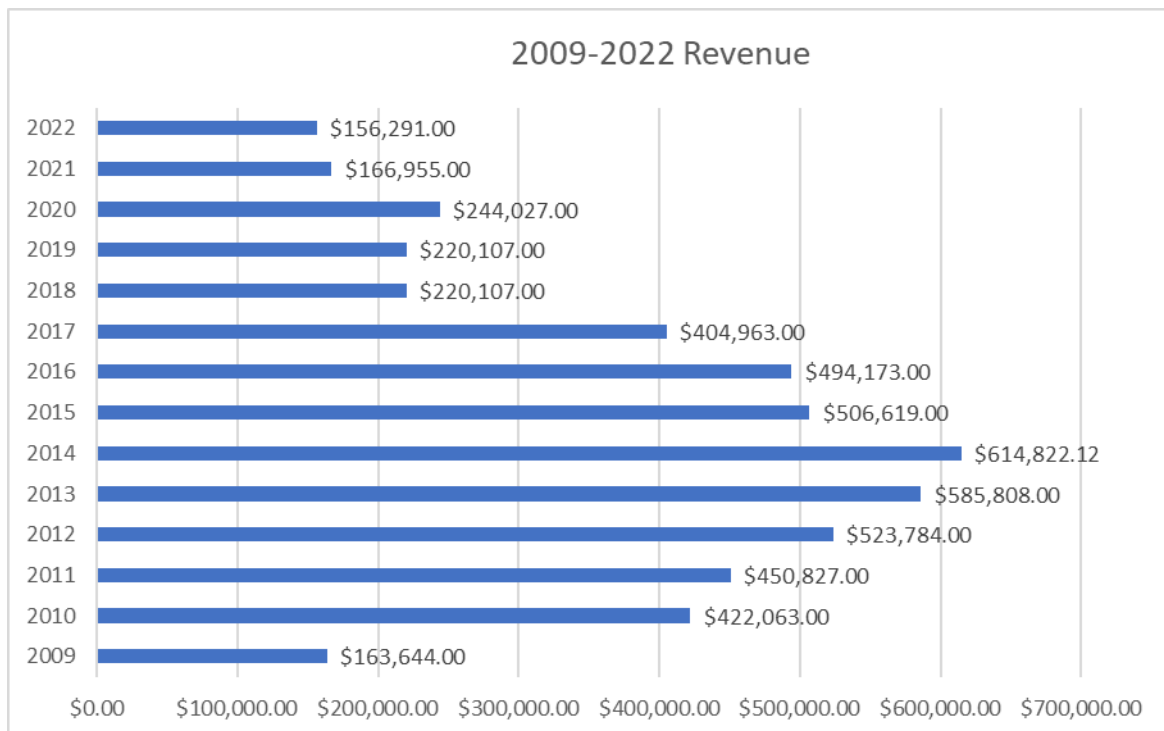
John Wodatch

Anonymous Donor

2022 Revenue Sources: \$156,291



2009 – 2022 Revenue



IN REMEMBRANCE OF USICD BOARD MEMBER

Judith Heumann

1947 - 2023



In 2018, USICD Board Member, Judy Heumann, wrote the following message to encourage membership:

"I am writing to you today to encourage you to join (or rejoin) USICD as a member. This is an exciting time for the advancement of disability rights around the world, and USICD is working to make sure our U.S. disability community is a part of this global movement...

I believe it is our responsibility as advocates and members of USICD to push for full inclusion in international development and humanitarian aid, including those programs funded by the U.S. around the world.

Through partnerships and the community's support, USICD is also helping disability rights advocates in other countries being their collective voice for access and inclusion. You as an individual member can help USICD's efforts reach more people."

USICD Board Member, Judith Heumann (left) with the newly elected USICD President, Candace Cable, at the 2022 USICD Gala

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 (USICD)

2023 HONOREES

4 December, 2023

6:00pm until 8:30pm

AT&T FORUM
601 NEW JERSEY AVE, NW, 5th FLOOR
WASHINGTON, DC 20001



Professor Michael Stein

Cocktail Reception

Heavy Hors d'Oeuvres

Special Presentation of the Dole-Harkin Award to
Professor Michael Stein

&

Special Honor for International Advocacy
posthumously presented to

Mr. Steve Estey



Mr. Steve Estey

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors Thus Far:

JPMorgan Chase & Co.
Google
Medallia
TASH
Eastern Oregon Center for
Independent Living
Mr. John Wodatch

For Sponsorship information,
please contact USICD Executive
Director, Isabel Hodge:

ihodge@usicd.org

*There will be a raffle! Bring
cash to participate!*



PURCHASE HERE

Tickets available for \$125/person

VIP Guests must RSVP for admittance.

Please call (540) 429-0864 if assistance is required with purchasing
tickets. Venue is wheelchair accessible and event will offer ASL
and CART transcription.

Cocktail Attire