

Montana Center for Inclusive Education at Montana State University Billings

Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report
July 1, 2019—June 30, 2020



The vision of the Montana Center for Inclusive Education (MCIE) is the creation of a fully inclusive society that values diversity. The mission supporting this vision states that MCIE serves the diverse population of Montana and provides continuing professional development opportunities for educators and direct service providers. MCIE also provides grant management and fiscal management for the Montana State University Billings (MSUB) College of Education's externally funded projects. The programs of the MCIE include:

- Extended Campus
- Hearing Conservation Program
- Montana Regional Education Service Area III
 - Indian Education for All
 - Region III Comprehensive System of Personnel Development
 - State Personnel Development Grant
- Movin' On in Montana
- National Endowment for the Humanities Grant
- National Science Foundation Noyce Scholarship Phase One Grant
- OPI Special Education Endorsement Project
- Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Program

Faculty Award for Exceptional Support of Students with Disabilities



Ms. Andrea Payne Garza

Instructor, General Education/Math - City College

“I struggled with learning issues in math so not only did I hate it, I truly did not believe I was capable of learning math,” one of her students said. But after joining Garza’s class and experiencing her teaching style, the student was able to earn an A in the class. “She took the time to get to know and embrace my learning style and was able to teach me in a way I understood.”



Dr. Brian Ernest

Assistant Professor, Special Education/Educational Theory and Practice - College of Education

“I felt like I was falling behind and my wheels kept spinning,” said one student. “Not only did Dr. Ernest come with me to DSS, but he was there to support and collaborate with them to see what he can do for his students.” This passion for supporting others has led Ernest to create lasting bonds with his students and lend a helping hand whenever they need it.

MSUB Collaboration

- College of Allied Health Professions
- College of Arts & Sciences
- College of Education
- Disability Support Services
- Extended Campus at City College
- Grants & Sponsored Programs

Faculty Collaboration

- Ms. Lynette Schwalbe and Dr. Cheryl Young-Pelton with Region III Comprehensive System of Personnel Development
- Dr. Susan Gregory with the Special Education Endorsement Project

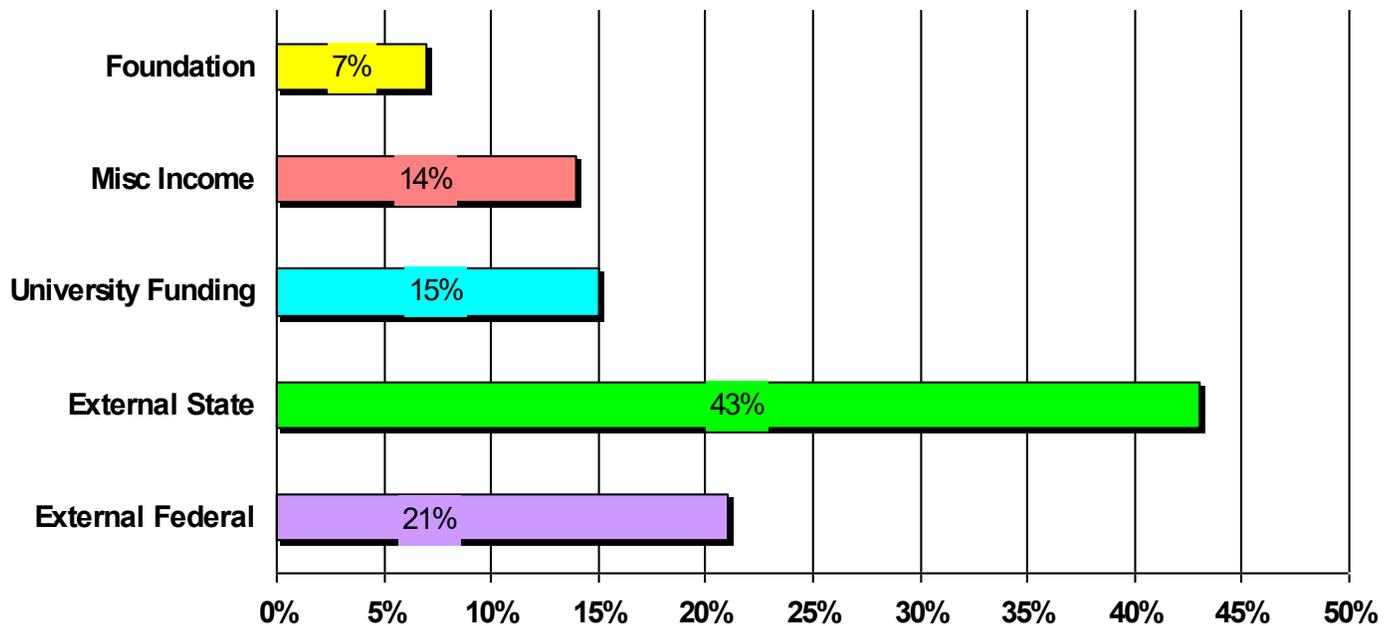
The Hearing Conservation Program conducted 4,490 hearing screenings.

23 children received full hearing evaluations as the result of a referral from their parents, their school, or their physician.



63 children received medical referrals as the result of their school hearing screening or hearing evaluation.

Montana Center for Inclusive Education Financial Report



- **Foundation: \$68,712**
The MCIE utilized the Endowment interest to partially fund year three of its pilot project, Movin' On in Montana. The endowment interest was also utilized to fund ten student scholarships and two faculty awards.
- **Miscellaneous Income: \$126,441**
Miscellaneous income includes audiology, Montana Vocational Rehabilitation and Blind Services, and Extended Campus fees.
- **University Funding: \$143,112**
University funding appropriated to MCIE by the state legislature and allocated by the Board of Regents. MCIE receives a percentage of the facilities and administrative costs charged to each grant and contract written or administered by the Center.
- **External State Funding: \$405,083**
State funding received from the Department of Public Health and Human Services and the Montana Office of Public Instruction.
- **External Federal Funding: \$200,000**
Federal funding received from the Social Security Administration.

Highlights of Fiscal Year 2020

- Eleven proposals were submitted to state and federal agencies. All but one were funded.
- Movin' On in Montana is partially funded as a pilot project by the Montana Center and partially funded by the Department of Public Health and Human Services.
- The Montana Office of Public Instruction's Special Education Endorsement Project worked with 36 teachers in Montana. In Fiscal Year 2019, six teachers in the project received their special education endorsement.
- Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Program (WIPA) received 326 new referrals for July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020. Of these new referrals, 35 individuals were transition age youth, 18 were veterans, 203 were working part-time and 29 were working full-time. WIPA initiated intensive individualized services to 269 clients in Montana and Idaho.
- Region III Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD) offered 28 professional development activities that were attended by 611 service providers, school personnel, and teachers-in-preparation. In addition, Region III CSPD provided 40 scholarships for service providers, school personnel and high school students to attend four in-state professional development activities offered by other professional development providers.
- The Montana Regional Education Service Area III offered 24 professional development activities that were attended by 372 service providers, school personnel, and teachers-in-preparation.
- Ten scholarships totaling \$10,000 were awarded to students with disabilities at Montana State University Billings.

Future Priorities

- Apply for funding opportunities that support the vision and mission.
- Provide professional development to schools and community organizations.
- Continue to strengthen our partnerships within the Montana University System.
- Reapply for Noyce 2 Grant to continue training qualified S.T.E.M teachers in rural Montana school districts.
- Reapply for the National Endowment for Humanities Grant, *The Battle of Little Bighorn and the Great Sioux War (1876)*.