THE NISONGER CENTER
BROWN BAG SERIES PRESENTS:
*Act Early Project: A Public Health Approach to Early Identification of Autism and Developmental Disabilities*

**Please Join Us:**
**Tuesday, April 12, 2011**
12:00 – 1:00 (via Skype)
243 McCampbell Hall

**Presenter:**

*Adriane K. Griffen, MPH, MCHES,* serves as the Director of AUCD’s Cooperative Agreement with the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) of CDC. Adriane directs the overall efforts of the Cooperative Agreement including the Research Topics of Interest (RTOI) competitions, Technical Assistance to the State Disability and Health Programs, CDC Fellowship and Collaborative Research Awards and works with project staff to conduct the Act Early Regional Autism Summits. Previously Adriane served as the Director of Health Promotion and Partnerships for the Spina Bifida Association (SBA) where she was responsible for program and campaign management including audience research, program design, evaluation, and partnership development. She is also the Immediate Past Chair of the National Council on Folic Acid, a partnership of over 60 national organizations and associations dedicated to folic acid promotion and currently serves as the Membership Chair on the Executive Committee of the External Partner Group of the NCBDDD. In addition, Ms. Griffen was a Summer Intramural Training Awards Fellow at the Prevention Research Branch of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), National Institutes of Health (NIH). She holds a Master of Public Health from The George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services, with a specialty in social marketing, and is a Master Certified Health Education Specialist.

**Topic: Act Early Project: A Public Health Approach to Early Identification of Autism and Developmental Disabilities**

The Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) convened the Act Early Regional Summits (2007-2010) in collaboration with CDC, NCBDDD and HRSA, MCHB to enhance the capacity of states to respond to these emerging needs of growing demands on healthcare and educational systems for evidence-based practices for children with ASD and related disabilities. The Summits brought together key state leaders and stakeholders from the early detection and intervention community, including parents, state agencies, provider groups, autism and other related disability organizations, and relevant university centers on developmental disabilities to serve as catalysts for the development of state teams and formulate state action plans in addressing challenges. After attending this session, the participant will be able to:

- Describe national initiatives on early identification and coordination of early intervention services for children with ASD and developmental disabilities
- Identify the components of effective collaboration among multi-sector stakeholders
- Learn about challenges, successes, and priority activities for young children with ASD and other related developmental disabilities in various states
- Assess the effects of utilizing the AUCD Summit collaboration model to enhance early identification and assessment for children with ASD
- Understand how to apply a similar multi-sector collaboration in your own communities or states.