The Community Advisory Council is an important governing and decision-making body of SCDD. Council members are self-advocates, family advocates and community providers dedicated to protecting the rights of individuals with IDD, improving and providing services and educating the wider community about their needs. This group helps to establish work priorities and needs of SCDD.

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Strong Center for Developmental Disabilities  
A University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities

Community Advisory Council

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Our Programs
At SCDD, we believe people with intellectual and developmental disabilities should live fulfilling and independent lives as active and fully participating members of their communities. Our programs are designed to support these individuals across the following core areas:

Education
We offer consultation, assessment, pre-service and continuing education programs that foster innovative practice and supports for individuals with IDD and their families across the lifespan.
- Community Consultation Program
- LEND Training Program
- Rochester Regional Center for ASD
- Child Well-Being Program

Employment
At SCDD, we collaborate with state agencies to advocate changes that promote integrated and community-based employment opportunities for young adults and adults with IDD.
- State coordination for Project SEARCH™
- Administration and coordination of NYS Partnerships in Employment Systems
- Change

Health
SCDD works with partners to improve medical services and help decrease healthcare disparities.
- Health Disparities Initiative
- Oral Health Collaboration
- Special Olympics™ and Healthy Communities

Recreation and Leisure
To increase supports and inclusive recreational opportunities, SCDD is developing partnerships and training local agencies that offer recreation services to individuals with IDD.

Our Work
Community Education
SCDD provides support and technical assistance to community agencies, schools, families, consumers and advocates around a wide variety of disability issues such as challenging behaviors, challenging instructional needs, complex health issues, employment, leisure and recreation.

Training
SCDD offers didactic and practicum internship and fellowship training in 13 clinical disciplines and is home to a Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) training program. Other fellowship opportunities include: Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, a postdoctoral fellowship in Psychology and a program in Applied Behavior Analysis (Pro-ABA).

Research
SCDD and the Division of Neurodevelopmental and Behavioral Pediatrics conduct research in a number of areas, including autism interventions, parent training, environmental effects, as well as other clinical, health, behavioral and lifespan issues.

Clinical Service
SCDD partners with other programs that work directly with children and adolescents with IDD, their families, primary care providers and schools. Services include diagnostic evaluations, medical follow-up, feeding issues, behavioral issues, nutrition and other assessments, as needed.