



ARN Supports Increased Funding for Rehabilitation Research and Education at the National Institutes of Health and Department of Education

The Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN) is a professional nursing organization of nearly 6,000 nurses. ARN promotes and advances professional rehabilitation nursing practice through education, advocacy, collaboration, and research to enhance the quality of life for those affected by disability and chronic illness.

National Institute of Nursing Research

The National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) works to create cost-effective and high-quality health care through both basic and clinical research. The broad mandate of NINR includes seeking to prevent and delay disease and disability, to improve the settings in which care is administered, and to ease the issues associated with rehabilitation and disability. NINR's recent areas of research focus include the following:

- End of life and palliative care in rural areas;
- Research in multi-cultural societies;
- Bio-behavioral methods to improve outcomes research; and
- Increasing health promotion through comprehensive studies.

Recommendation: ARN respectfully requests \$150 million in funding for NINR in FY 2009 to continue their efforts to address issues related to rehabilitation and disability.

National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research

The National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) provides leadership and support for a comprehensive program of research related to the rehabilitation of individuals with disabilities. As one of the components of the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) at the U.S. Department of Education, NIDRR operates along with the Rehabilitation Services Administration and the Office of Special Education Programs. All of NIDRR's efforts are aimed at improving the lives of individuals with disabilities from birth through adulthood.

ARN strongly supports the work being done by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research at OSERS. This program contributes to the overall knowledge in rehabilitation medicine. NIDRR's work helps to integrate disability research into our Nation's policies regarding health care, science and technology.

Recommendation: ARN urges Congress to provide the maximum possible funding level for NIDRR in FY 2009. ARN also respectfully requests the maximum in FY 2009 funding for OSERS to continue their work to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities.

If you have additional questions about these issues please contact ARN's Washington Representative Jeremy Scott (202/230-5197, jeremy.scott@dbr.com).