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# 2008 – 2009 Blumberg Center Year in Review

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## Mission Statement:

The Blumberg Center will continue its tradition to benefit persons with exceptionalities, persons with potential exceptionalities whose performance is adversely affecting educational outcomes, and those who work with them; through service, education, and research; and, through facilitating and supporting the intertwined missions of the Department of Communication Disorders and Counseling, School, and Educational Psychology, and the Department of Elementary, Early, and Special Education, the College of Education, and Indiana State University.

## Year in Review:

**Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS) Project.** The Blumberg Center provided professional development and technical assistance to educators, local education teams, and other stakeholders to support implementation of the six core components of Response to Intervention (evidence-based instruction and intervention, assessment and progress monitoring, data-based decision making, leadership, school/family/community partnerships, and cultural responsiveness) through resources, trainings, on-going coaching and consultation. The project collaborated with other state projects including the IN-SIG, ICAN, Equity Project, and IIDC at IU as well as the IDOE Division of Student Services. The CPS project conducted 51 presentations/trainings for 4,409 individual educators across Indiana. The project also provided 143 coaching visits to schools within the Response to Intervention (RTI) Academy with 1,200 participants.

**Indiana Deafblind Services Project.** The Technical Assistance Facilitator (TAF) Training Program is one aspect of the Indiana Deafblind Services Project. The two-year TAF program is designed to build state capacity by providing professional development opportunities in the area of deafblindness and significant disabilities. Ten students attended the summer institute and two weekend seminars.

**Project Vision.** Project Vision's Exceptional Needs: Visual Impairment Program is a collaboration sponsored by the Indiana Department of Education, Center for Exceptional Learners, Indiana State University, and Ball State University. The purpose of the licensure program is to train 18 teachers to work with students who are blind or have low vision.

**Deaf and Hard of Hearing Project.** A Pilot Study, *Building Skills for Success*, is designed to improve the skills of educational interpreters working in Indiana public schools. The Indiana Deafblind Services Project, Project Vision, and Deaf and Hard of Hearing Project organized and presented 19 trainings to 1,036 individuals.

**Topical Series and Trainings.** The Blumberg Center provided 14 experiential learning opportunities for 553 individuals (i.e., ISU students, ISU faculty and staff, school district personnel, k-12 students, community, and collaborating agencies) through educational activities such as course presentations, interactive trainings, and audioconferences. These topical sessions focus and expand upon contemporary educational issues.

**Grant Funds and Services.** The Blumberg Center continued its success in securing state and federal grants and contracts to provide professional development, conduct research, and offer licensing programs to Indiana educators, family members, and community representatives. Grants and contracts for the 2008-2009 year totaled \$ 1,336,233 with indirect funds of \$ 71,797.