DECEMBER 2022 VOL. II

# CENTRAL INTERMEDIATE UNIT 10 CONNECTIONS

MISSION: CIU 10 provides innovative and engaging educational services, for learners from birth to adult, which support equal access to educational opportunities.



VISION: Strategic partnerships promoting equity, access, and innovative educational opportunities for all.

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DR. FRANCINE ENDLER

It is difficult to believe that December is upon us! It feels as if the school year has just begun and now we are getting ready to welcome in 2023. Over the past several months, our outstanding staff have been busy supporting students, families and our communities in Centre, Clearfield and Clinton counties. Those supports and services range from our youngest learners in our PreSchool Early Intervention Programs, to our School Aged learners in both public and non-public schools to our adult learners in our Development Center for Adults program. Our Curriculum and Innovation Department has developed and delivered professional learning in all content areas and provided networking opportunities to administrators and our Special Projects department has continued to focus on safe schools issues in partnering with other intermediate units to provide training for our schools. We appreciate the support and collaboration that we share with you and your organizations. Building and sustaining partnerships will continue to be a critical piece of our work moving forward. As 2022 draws to a close, all of us here at Central Intermediate Unit 10 wish you a very happy holiday season and a happy and healthy new year.



ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT TASKFORCE

**NEW CIU WEBSITE** 

**MENU OF SERVICES** 

# CONNECT WITH CIU

WWW.CIU10.ORG 814.342.0884

MAIN OFFICE 200 SHADY LANE, SUITE 100 PHILIPSBURG, PA 16866

### LOCAL TASKFORCE ON THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION

CIU10 currently facilitates a Local Task Force on the Right to Education for parents and interested school and community members. This task force operates under Pennsylvania's State Task Force, which was established as part of the 1972 Right to Education Consent Decree established between the state and a group of parents who challenged the systematic lack of access their children had to their non-disabled peers in the regular education setting. Parents can participate in both the State and Local Task Forces, or primarily focus on participation at the local level. In this group, parents can strengthen their advocacy skills through connection with other parents, training opportunities on topics important to participants, and continuing access to local resources. Participation in this group is not limited to parents of students with disabilities.

Our next State Task Force Meeting will take place on Zoom on Wednesday, January 11th, 2023 from 10am-12pm, with current plans for the Local Task Force Meeting planned for the following week (also by Zoom) on Thursday, January 19th, from 3:00-4:00pm. For more information or to be added to the Local Task Force email list, please contact Kaleena Selfridge, kselfridge@ciu10.org

### **CIU MENU OF SERVICES**

As an educational service agency, Central Intermediate Unit 10 provides a wide array of support and services across eight different departments. Some services are provided complimentary as part of our work for the PA Department of Education, the Office of Child Development and Early Learning as well as other partners in the community or the commonwealth. Other services are provided on a fee based structure. Central Intermediate Unit 10 has twelve public school districts within our footprint which are not charged any membership fee. In November 2022, CIU 10 launched an updated Menu of Services. This link will take you to the menu: https://www.ciu10.org/Page/1163. For further details, please contact the IU representative for that initiative or service.

# **CIU 10 LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE**

As part of an ongoing effort to increase visibility of our services, and to provide better access to information about Central Intermediate Unit 10, our new website was launched in mid-November. A team consisting of representative stakeholders from across our organization worked over an eight month period to review various vendors and develop the content for the website. Thanks to this great team of people for the work that has been accomplished to move into the new platform.

Please check out our site at www.ciu10.org.

### **TELEPRESENCE PROGRAM AT CIU 10**

Learning in different ways, including virtually, has become part of the educational landscape. This became particularly important during the pandemic when students and teachers used a variety of technologies to continue the learning.

CIU 10 is excited to share the news about our available Telepresence Program. The CIU 10 Telepresence Program is developed to benefit students that are receiving homebound education for an extended period of time as the result of a serious medical condition (22 Pa. Code § 11.25). The program provides the student with access to a telepresence robot, allowing them to participate in real-time classroom instruction while at home or in another remote location. Using the robots, students can move around their classrooms, interact with teachers, and socialize with peers, all as if they are physically present in the building. This technology is particularly innovative as it supports "real time" participation in the learning, connection with peers and maintains an open door to the educational setting.

The CIU 10 Telepresence Program currently has 5 OHMNI Labs telepresence robots that are available for schools or districts to loan. In addition to these robots, the program provides access to technical support, related resources, and training to successfully run the devices in the student's educational setting.

Requesting to participate and getting started with the program is easy. To initiate the request, the school or district's administrator will contact one of CIU 10's Assistive Technology Consultants. Our telepresence team, consisting of CIU 10's AT consultants and IT department, will collaboratively work with the school or district to set up the technology on-site. CIU 10 will provide initial training to the student, family, and educators. Once the device is set up and the training is completed, the student can start moving in their classrooms and participating in their enriching academic activities.

We look forward to providing this opportunity for students to access their education in this innovative way. For further information, please contact

Stephanie King, AT Educational Consult at sking@ciu10.org.



### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT CIU 10**

CIU 10, a premiere educational service agency in Central Pennsylvania, is seeking applicants for various positions. If you are, or know of, a dynamic, energetic candidate who thrives working in a supportive, education environment, please visit our current list of openings on the Central Intermediate Unit 10 website www.ciu10.org Human Resources department page Job Openings

Questions can be addressed by calling HR at 814.422.4143 or emailing HR@ciu10.org.

All candidates will be required to submit Act 34, 151, and 114 clearances as part of an application process.

EOE.

