



## **ARN Supports Increased FY 2026 Funding for Rehabilitation Research and Education at the National Institutes of Health and Department of Health and Human Services**

The Association of Rehabilitation Nurses (ARN) is a professional nursing organization representing more than 4,500 rehabilitation nurses and more than 14,000 certified rehabilitation registered nurses (CRRN). ARN promotes and advances professional rehabilitation nursing practice through education, advocacy, collaboration, and research to enhance 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 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 that NINR not be eliminated and to be funded at \$210 million in FY 2026 to continue its work to create cost-effective and high-quality health care through basic and clinical research.

### **National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research**

The National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) provides leadership and support for a comprehensive program of research related to the rehabilitation of individuals with disabilities. An institute formerly within the Administration of Community Living (ACL) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), NIDILRR operates alongside the Independent Living Administration.

Funding for the NIDILRR supports research and development, capacity building, and knowledge translation in the key life domains of employment, participation and community integration, and health and function as well as disability demographics and assistive technology. All of NIDILRR'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 NIDILRR at ACL and its contribution to improving rehabilitation medicine. NIDILRR's work helps to integrate disability research into broader federal healthcare, science, and technology policy.

**Recommendation:** ARN respectfully requests all functions of NIDILRR be preserved and for \$150 million in funding for NIDILRR in FY 2026 to support research and development, capacity building, and knowledge translation in the life domains of employment, participation and community integration, and health and function as well as disability demographics and assistive technology and the ADA National Network.

*If you have additional questions about these issues please contact ARN's Health Policy Associate, Jeremy Scott (202/872-6734 or [jscott@dc-crd.com](mailto:jscott@dc-crd.com)).*