The research project will focus on individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and will serve to identify, recruit, and prepare them for college. The grant, awarded through the Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA) to develop, implement, and evaluate a year-long professional development (PD) program in Florida, directly benefits instructional leaders and improves preschool educators' readiness outcomes (indirect effect) that are desired for kindergarten. The PD program, led by Kristin Guerra, Ph.D., and Maysaa Barakat, Ph.D., enhances educators' ability to support and manage risk in high-need classrooms. Kristin previously led the development efforts for the Division of Undergraduate Education at Indiana University in Indianapolis. Prior to that, she served as a director of development for the College of Education at Florida Atlantic University and SDOC professionals with expertise in Research Methodology.

The proposal for the FAU College of Education to develop and provide the Florida Developmental Disabilities for Autism and Related Disabilities (FAU CARD) workshop to FAU students and in the community was recommended for support by peer reviewers. The new National Professional Development (NPD) grant from OELA, titled "PRAISE: Promoting Resilience and Academic Success in Early Education through Instructional Leadership," will be led by Florida Atlantic University and SDOC professionals with expertise in Research Methodology, Keynote speaker Bryan, V.C. and Salinas, C. The proposal was one of 44 out of 144 applications recommended for support by peer reviewers.

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