

What's New at the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center?

2015 Newsletter



2015 has been productive for the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center (IRRC). Here is a synopsis of the activities this past year that have helped us put our mission into play, "Helping ALL people play wherever they choose."

New Video about the IRRC

Under the leadership of the NYS Developmental Disabilities Planning Council, a new video that promotes the Inclusive Recreation Resource Center and all its resources was produced by the NYS Media Services. Take a minute to watch this fun and informative video! Here is the link: <https://youtu.be/tt9lu3gxbRU>



Partnership Project with the DDPC, DEC, and OPRHP

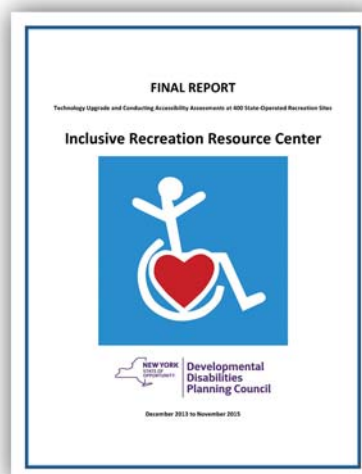
We successfully completed this two-year partnership project with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, and the NYS Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. There are now over 400 state parks, outdoor recreation, and historic sites assessed and in the IRRC online recreation database. Check out any of the inclusivity assessments at this link:

<https://search.inclusiverec.org/>

You can search by map, name, agency, location, type of activity and any key word. Plan your fun today!

For every assessed state operated recreation amenity, the IRRC provided a report to the park or outdoor recreation site on how it could improve usability for all visitors. These reports were used by managers to make changes at their sites that increased accessibility and inclusion. The recommendations in the reports were used by DEC and OPRHP to make capital improvement budget requests. Numerous changes have been made around the state of New York that make our beautiful parks and outdoor areas usable by even more people, regardless of ability level.

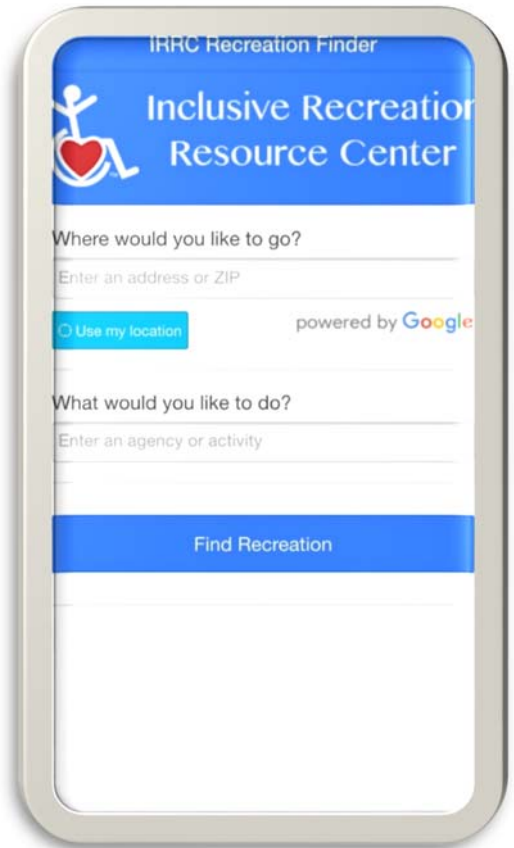
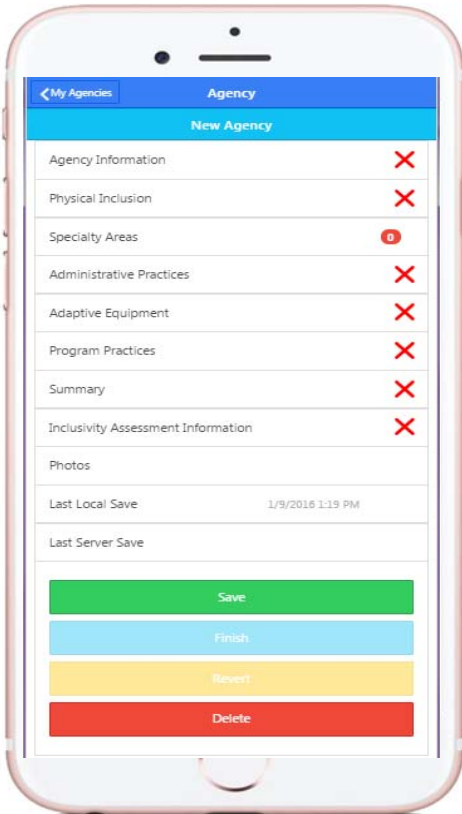
You can read the full report for the 2-year partnership project at this link:
<https://www.inclusiverec.org/sites/default/files/temp/IRRC%20FINAL%20REPORT%202013-2015.pdf>



Going Digital

The IRRC worked with Gorges, Inc. in Ithaca, New York to develop two apps.

One app, **Recreation Finder**, is available in the App Store, and allows anyone to search the online recreation database on any mobile device complete an inclusivity assessment.

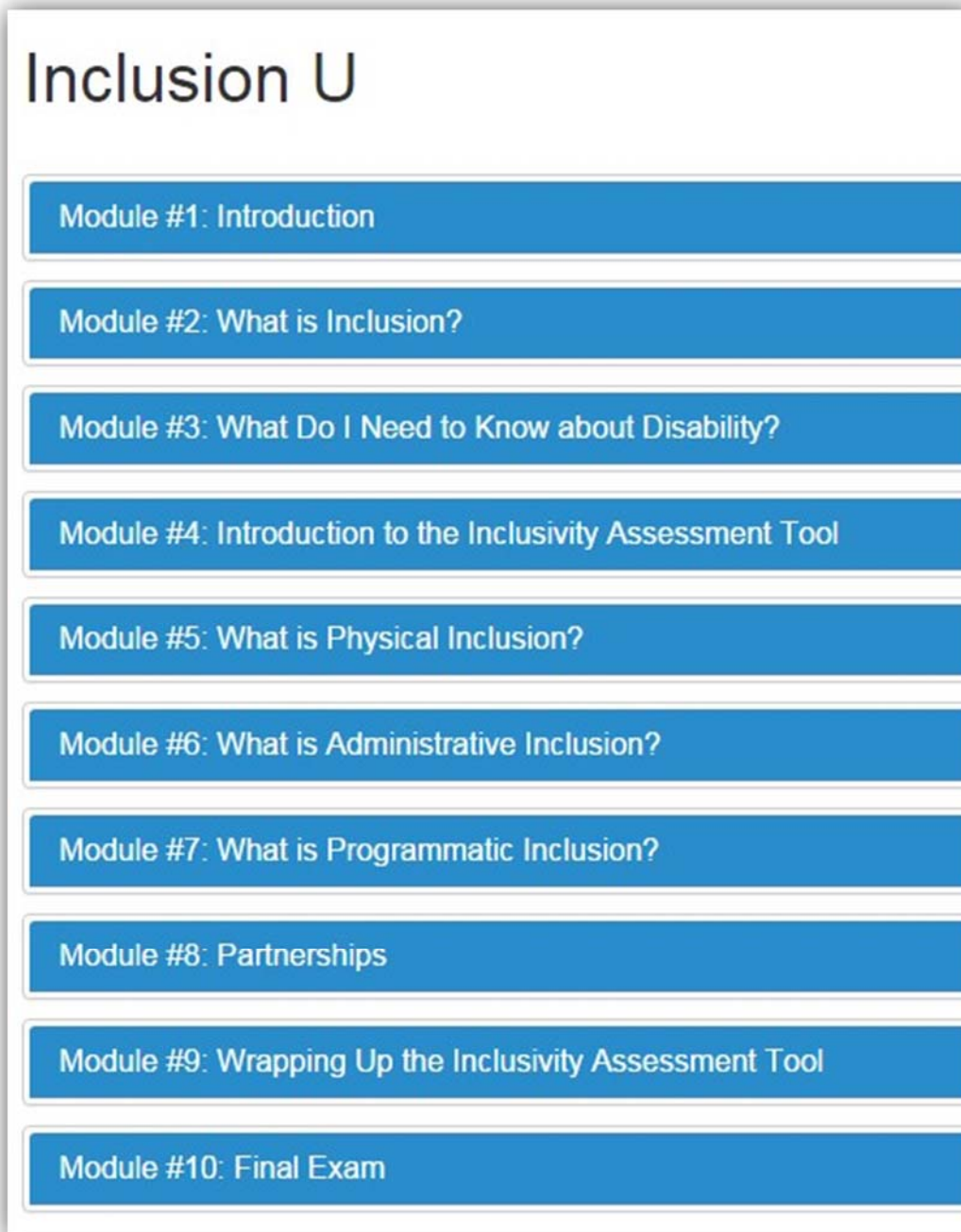


The other app, the **CIA app**, is available for any Certified Inclusivity Assessor to use on their mobile device to enter inclusivity assessment data in the field as they complete an Inclusivity Assessment.



Inclusion U Online

This year, Inclusion U Online was delivered in its new learning management system format. Over the course of nine months, 188 people went through Inclusion U Online and became Certified Inclusivity Assessors (CIAs). This year, we added the University of Wisconsin La Crosse as another college joining the long list of those who take advantage of Inclusion U.



The image shows a screenshot of the Inclusion U Online course menu. The title "Inclusion U" is at the top. Below it are ten blue buttons, each representing a module. The modules are listed in order from top to bottom.

Inclusion U
Module #1: Introduction
Module #2: What is Inclusion?
Module #3: What Do I Need to Know about Disability?
Module #4: Introduction to the Inclusivity Assessment Tool
Module #5: What is Physical Inclusion?
Module #6: What is Administrative Inclusion?
Module #7: What is Programmatic Inclusion?
Module #8: Partnerships
Module #9: Wrapping Up the Inclusivity Assessment Tool
Module #10: Final Exam

Inclusion U Online is now approved for 1.0 CEUs (10 contact hours) through NYSRPS. It is also pre-approved by NCTRC for continuing education for Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialists.

How do I earn CEUs for Inclusion U Online?

Upon successful completion of the Inclusion U Online training, you will be able to print out your [CIA Card](#) and a [Certificate of Completion](#).

In order to receive 1.0 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for Inclusion U Online, you will need to mail a copy of your Certificate of Completion, along with a check for \$8.00 made out to NYSRPS, to the following address:

NYSRPS

19 Roosevelt Drive, Suite 200

Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Note: NYSRPS (New York State Recreation & Park Society) provides CEUs according to the guidelines of the IACET (International Association for Continuing Education)

This session content is CE Pre-Approved by NCTRC

What's Next?

The Inclusive Recreation Resource Center is partnering once again with the NYS Developmental Disabilities Planning Council to increase the capacity of community and recreation providers that serve youth in their inclusion practices. Over the next two years, we will be focusing on the following activities:

- Developing and piloting a youth version of Inclusion U Online
- Developing and piloting a Mentored Inclusion Coaching Protocol to be used with 30 selected agencies to improve programmatic and administrative inclusion at those agencies
- Working closely with the selected youth-serving agencies for the Mentored Inclusion Coaching over the two-year period
- Working collaboratively with NYSRPS and other professional associations to recognize and celebrate inclusion champions at youth-serving agencies
- Studying effective programmatic and administrative inclusion practices through an in-depth evaluation

We hope to make the *Inclusion U Online-Youth Version* an exciting way for youth to earn certificates and badges as they learn how to promote inclusion, whether as a part of a Scout activity, a summer recreation staff activity, a junior camp counselor activity, a 4-H project or other avenues. We will have

youth on our newly formed advisory committee as we develop the short, fun and interactive online training geared toward 12-18 year olds. Our dream is that youth-serving agencies will incorporate the online training into aspects of their operations, like summer staff training, camp counselor training, Scout badges, and more.

It has been a great year, and exciting adventures lie ahead. None of this work is possible without our staff effort over the last two years:

- Dr. Lynn Anderson, CTRS, CPRP, Director
- Dr. Vicki Wilkins, Faculty
- Ian Haines, CTRS*
- Deanna Moore, CTRS*
- Sarah Olear, CTRS*
- Geoff Peppel, CTRS*

**SUNY Cortland alumni*

Visit us online at www.InclusiveRec.org

