ABIL
ARIZONA BRIDGE TO INDEPENDENT LIVING

5025 E. Washington St., Ste. 200
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January 10, 2012

Dear Larry Clausen:

Subject: 1st Annual African American Conference on Disabilities

Enclosed is the African American Conference on Disabilities grant proposal, budget, description for matching funds and studies provided by the Arizona Department of Education regarding dropout and graduation rates of Arizona students. Please contact me at 602-443-0723 for questions. Thanks.

Sincerely,

David Carey

David Carey
Advocacy Specialist
Arizona Bridge to Independent Living

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Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council – Funding Proposal
1st Annual African American Conference on Disabilities
Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Introduction
This proposal is being submitted to the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC) as a project that will meet goals and outcomes established by the ADDPC as a part of their 2012-16 Five Year State Plan.

The proposal is designed to fulfill outreach to African Americans persons who are developmentally disabled or disabled, family members supporting them, other persons who offer support, and professionals. African Americans participating in this project will reside in Arizona and will be considered persons whose disability needs are unserved or underserved.

The Conference will also meet the ADDPC current Plan Goal 3, which states that the Council will:

> *"Empower persons with developmental disabilities, their families, and Others who support them by linking them to information that promotes informed decision making about their choices and quality of life."*

Under this Goal, Objective 2 defines action by establishing that the Council will:

> *"Provide information and/or link people to reliable information in a variety of formats on topics that are important to persons with developmental disabilities, their families, and other who support them"*

Background
The Disability Empowerment Center (DEC) is organized in Phoenix as a campus that hosts 11 organizations whose individual missions are to serve persons with developmental disabilities and other disabilities. The involvement of the DEC as an organization linked to multiple resources within one location has established it as a preeminent resource able to coordinate and provide multiple services from one site.

The DEC, located at 5025 East Washington Street, will host the event on its campus, using the outside atrium, several classrooms and the Nina Mason Pulliam Conference Center. These facilities are unique to the DEC, since they are well known throughout the state, are centrally located, are easily accessible by public transportation, and are fully ADA accessible.

The Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL) and Arizona Center for Disability Law (ACDL) have agreed to act as leads in coordinating the involvement of the 9 other campus member organizations to host the 1st Annual African-American Conference on Disabilities scheduled for Tuesday, February 28, 2012 at the DEC. The event will be held at the DEC, This event will utilize the resources of the 11 member DEC campus to recruit and involve African Persons with Developmental and other disabilities by pooling contacts, mailing lists and list serves in a manner that is unique to the large outreach carried-out be DEC members.

Purpose

Conferences dedicated to the specific needs of African American persons with developmental and other disabilities are not common in Arizona. The population of African Americans with disabilities affected by low employment, issues related to special education and multiple other concerns are documented in statistics maintained by the Arizona Department of Education and other Arizona State Agencies.

The purpose of the Conference is to provide education to African Americans with developmental and other disabilities, family members, others who support them and professionals related to:

- Finding and Maintaining employment;
- The Americans with Disabilities Act;
- Advocacy and Self-Advocacy
- Legal Options pertaining to guardianship and conservatorship;
- Special Education;
- Mental Health;
- Money Management;
- Health and Wellness

The presentation of educational material and information will focus on specific cultural and other issues that are unique to African American persons with developmental and other disabilities.

Goals of the Conference

The conference seeks to involve 125 participants who will include consumers with developmental and other disabilities, families members, others who provide support and professionals seeking education on how to better serve the underserved African-American community throughout Arizona. No fees will be charged to persons participating in the event.

The Conference seeks to fulfill the following goals in offering education:

1. Full involvement of all 11 member organizations who are part of the DEC community as evidenced by:

- Bringing individual network resources to the event to recruit and register participants.
- Set-up exhibit tables where information and support can be provided to participants on each organization.
- Fast and efficient referral to multiple organizations housed within the DEC, offering the opportunity for "one stop" shopping for resources.

2. Full interactive involvement of participants by holding educational sessions on multiple topics that incorporate the exchange of information between facilitators and audience.
3. Linking participants to community resources that can be used as assets and tools by the African American community after leaving the conference.
4. Obtaining updated information and data from participants that can be used in identifying needs and planning the delivery of future training and resources.
5. Development of advocacy/self-advocacy skills that empower participants to become more effective in accessing the community, public policy makers and others who are instrumental in shaping services and resources in Arizona.

Evaluation

The Arizona Center for Disability Law will take the lead in the development of the survey tool and data collection for the African American Outreach Conference

Conference attendees will be provided with two opportunities to provide feedback and evaluation data on the information presented at the conference. Upon completion of each workshop, all participants will receive a survey requesting them to rate the quality and effectiveness of the information presented along with some demographic information. This survey will incorporate standards as outlined by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities survey tool. A link to an on-line post-survey will be emailed at least 30 days after the conference to all participants who provided their e-mail addresses upon registration. The post-survey will request additional evaluation data regarding the effectiveness and application of the information presented at the conference. The responses from the two surveys will be shared with ABIL and the Developmental Disabilities Network to assist these agencies in their statewide effects to serve the African American Community

Budget Statement
The attached $5,000 budget details all costs that the ADDPC will fund in their $5,000 Sponsorship.

Sponsorship
The ADDPC will sponsor the First Annual African American Conference on Disabilities as a means to participate in outreach to persons with developmental and other disabilities within the African American Community. In funding the project the ADDPC will receive the following acknowledgements:

- Prominent recognition as the sponsoring agency in written and printed products used to support and promote the Conference.

- Mention in events during the day of the Conference, acknowledging ADDPC support as a collaborative outreach event to African American persons with developmental and other disabilities, their families and persons who support them in the community.
- Prominent exhibit/display space where information on the ADDPC can be shared with Conference participants.
- Ongoing involvement in the planning related to the conference and post-conference review.

1st Annual African-Americans Outreach Conference on Disabilities
Matching Funds Description
Disability Empowerment Center (DEC) of Arizona
5025 E. Washington St., Phoenix, AZ 85034
Tuesday, February 28, 2012
7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Volunteers (5) - Provided by Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL) and will be providing assistance with registration, as well as preparation for the conference, which include, but not limited organizing handouts. Allocation for each volunteer is $20 per hour per 8 hours times 5.

Disability Empowerment Center of Arizona Partners - Partners will be staffing their agencies table to provide information regarding their programs and services. In addition, agency Director will be providing a brief mission statement to participants during lunch regarding their agency. Allocation for each staff member is $20 per hour per 8 hours times the 12 agencies located within the DEC.

Committee Members (5) - 50 hours accounted for scheduling, preparation, organizing, soliciting donations, etc. at $20 per hour, Members included ABIL and Arizona Center for Disability Law staff, as two other professionals from the community.

Committee Members:
David Carey - ABIL
Leonard Smith - ABIL
Renaldo Fowler - Arizona Center for Disability Law
Rudy Buchanan – Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)
Joseph Parham, Ph.D.

1st Annual African American Conference on Disabilities
Developmental Disabilities Policy Council (DDPC) Itemized Budget
Tuesday, February 28, 2012
7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Expenses				Revenue		
Accommodations	**Anticipated**	**Actual**		**Sponsors**	**Anticipated**	**Actual**
CART Services	$ 1,200.00	$ 1,200.00		DDPC	$ 5,000.00	$ 5,000.00
Sign Language Interpreters	$ 1,200.00	$ 1,200.00				
				Total	**$ 5,000.00**	**$ 5,000.00**
Total	**$ 2,400.00**	**$ 2,400.00**				
Advertisement/Marketing	**Anticipated**	**Actual**		**Match**	**Anticipated**	**Actual**
Brochures	$ 100.00	$ 100.00		Volunteers - 5@$20 Per Hour x 10 hours	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000.00
Arizona Informant Advertisement	$ -	$ -		DEC Partners - 12@$20 per hour x 8 hours	$ 960.00	$ 960.00
Postage	$ 50.00	$ 50.00		Committee - 5@$20 per hour x 50 hours	$ 5,000.00	$ 5,000.00
Total	**$ 150.00**	**$ 150.00**				
				Total Matching Funds	**$ 6,960.00**	**$ 6,960.00**
Facility	**Anticipated**	**Actual**				
DEC Conference Facilities	$ 1,050.00	$ 1,050.00		**Total Non-Match Income**	**$ 5,000.00**	**$ 5,000.00**
Total	**$ 1,050.00**	**$ 1,050.00**		**Total Expenses**	**Anticipated**	**Actual**
					$ 5,000.00	**$ 5,000.00**
Supplies	**Anticipated**	**Actual**				
Supplies	$ 1,400.00	$ 1,400.00		**Total 2012 Balance**	**Anticipated**	**Actual**
					$ -	**$ -**
Total	**$ 1,400.00**	**$ 1,400.00**				

1st Annual African American Conference on Disabilities
Network Partners Itemized Budget
Tuesday, February 28, 2012
7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Expenses				Revenue		
Accommodations	**Anticipated**	**Actual**		**Sponsors**	**Anticipated**	**Actual**
CART Services	$ 1,200.00	$ 1,200.00		Arizona Bridge to Independent Living	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000.00
Sign Language Interpreters	$ 1,500.00	$ 1,500.00		Arizona Center for Disability Law	$ 3,000.00	$ 3,000.00
				Arizona Spinal, Cord Injury Association	$ 250.00	$ 250.00
Total	**$ 2,700.00**	**$ 2,700.00**		NAU for Human Development	$ 500.00	$ 500.00
				Sonoran UCEDD	$ 500.00	$ 500.00
Advertisement/Marketing	**Anticipated**	**Actual**		**Total**	**$ 5,250.00**	**$ 5,250.00**
Brochures	$ -	$ -				
Arizona Informant Advertisement	$ 1,300.00	$ 1,300.00		**Match**	**Anticipated**	**Actual**
Postage	$ -	$ -		Volunteers - 5@$20 Per Hour x 10 hours	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000.00
				DEC Partners - 12@$20 per hour x 8 hours	$ 1,920.00	$ 1,920.00
Total	**$ 1,300.00**	**$ 1,300.00**		Committee - 5@$20 per hour x 50 hours	$ 5,000.00	$ 5,000.00
Facility	**Anticipated**	**Actual**				
DEC Conference Facilities	$ 1,050.00	$ 1,050.00				
				Total Matching Funds	**$ 7,920.00**	**$ 7,920.00**
Total	**$ 1,050.00**	**$ 1,050.00**				
				Total Non-Match Income	**$ 5,250.00**	**$ 5,250.00**
Supplies	**Anticipated**	**Actual**				
Supplies	$ 200.00	$ 200.00		**Total Expenses**	**Anticipated**	**Actual**
					$ 5,250.00	**$ 5,250.00**
Total	**$ 200.00**	**$ 200.00**				
				Total 2012 Balance	**Anticipated**	**Actual**
					$ -	**$ -**

2009 Four Year Graduation Rate for Arizona by Ethnicity

	Ethnicity	Number Graduated	Number in Cohort	Percent Graduated
Arizona	Asian	1909	2167	88.1%
	Black	3184	4386	72.6%
	Hispanic	18798	27421	68.6%
	Native American	3094	4919	62.9%
	White	30535	36682	83.2%
Total		57520	75575	76.1%

2009-2010 Dropout Rates State by Subgroup

Subgroup	Number of Students Enrolled	Number of Dropouts	Dropout Rate
All Students	506535	13891	2.7
Asian	15441	136	0.9
Black	31816	962	3
Economically Disadvantaged	228668	7138	3.1
English Language Learners	22096	745	3.4
Female	246011	5720	2.3
Hispanic	203780	6902	3.4
Male	260524	8171	3.1
Migrant	1821	23	1.3
Native American	29974	2041	6.8
Special Education	56889	1813	3.2
White	225524	3850	1.7

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January 24, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts: David Carey
Arizona Bridge to Independent Living
(602) 443-0723
davidc@abil.org

Renaldo Fowler
AZ Center for Disability Law
(602) 274-6287
rfowler@azdisabilitylaw.org

Agencies Who Help People with Disabilities
Announce First Annual African-American Conference on Disabilities

Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL) and Arizona Center for Disability Law are presenting a **free** day-long conference that will focus on the special needs of people with disabilities in the African-American community. The conference will be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm at the Disability Empowerment Center, 5025 East Washington Street in Phoenix.

Conference workshops will cover such issues as employment, culture, finances, advocacy, special education, ADA Amendments Act changes, mental health, wellness, work incentives, legal guardianship options, and restoring rights. Participants will also have the opportunity to meet with representatives from the various agencies in the Disability Empowerment Center (DEC). In addition to ABIL and ACDL, the DEC has ten other agencies that assist people with disabilities including Arizona Autism United, Arizona Brain Injury Association, Arizona Spinal Cord Injury Association, Joni and Friends, Multiple Sclerosis Society of Arizona, National Alliance on Mental Illness, Raising Special Kids, Statewide Independent Living Council, Symbius Medical, and Valley Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Space is limited, so register early. Registration deadline is Tuesday, February 21, 2012. You may register online at http://africanamericanoutreachconference.eventbrite.com. For registration assistance or more information on the conference, contact David Carey at ABIL, (602) 443-0723. The Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ACDL, Northern Arizona University Institute for Human Development and University of Arizona Sonoran UCEDD); ABIL; Arizona Spinal Cord Injury Association; and Statewide Independent Living Council are sponsoring the conference.

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Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL) is Arizona's largest center for independent living. ABIL offers and promotes programs designed to empower people with disabilities to take personal responsibility so they may achieve or continue independent lifestyles within the community.

The Arizona Center for Disability Law (ACDL) advocates for the legal rights of persons with disabilities to be free from abuse, neglect and discrimination and to gain access to services, maximizing independence and achieving equality. Their vision is a society that focuses on people's abilities rather than disabilities.

United Way
Valley of the Sun United Way

Workshop Coordinators

Arizona Bridge to Independent Living

Empowering People with Disabilities for over 30 Years: 1981 - 2011

Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL) is Arizona's largest center for Independent Living. ABIL offers and promotes programs designed to empower people with disabilities to take personal responsibility so they may achieve or continue independent lifestyles within the community.

Arizona Center for Disability Law

The Arizona Center for Disability Law advocates for the legal rights of persons with disabilities to be free from abuse, neglect and discrimination and to gain access to services, maximizing independence and achieving equality.

Our vision is a society that focuses on people's abilities rather than disabilities.

Collaborative Partners

- Arizona Bridge to Independent Living
- Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC)

DD Network Partners

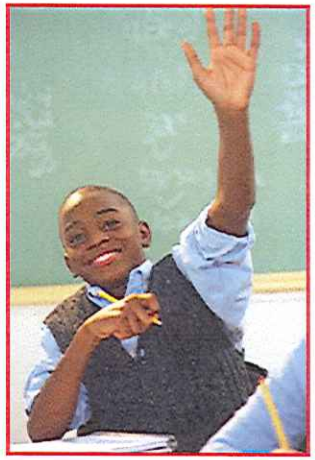
- Arizona Center for Disability Law
- Developmental Disabilities Planning Council
- Northern Arizona University Institute for Human Development
- University of Arizona Sonoran UCEDD

For more information, contact:
Arizona Bridge to
Independent Living (ABIL)
5025 E. Washington St. Suite 200
Phoenix, AZ 85034
Phone: (602) 256-2245
Fax: (602) 254-6407
Visit our website at:
http://www.abil.org

FREE 1st Annual African-American Conference on Disabilities

February 28, 2012

Disability Empowerment Center
5025 E. Washington, Phoenix, AZ



Arizona Bridge to Independent Living (ABIL) and Arizona Center for Disability Law (ACDL) are presenting this FREE Day-Long Conference on Feb. 28, 2012 from 7:30 am to 4 pm.

Sponsored by

Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council™

ONE Community Working Together

Conference Schedule and Workshop Sessions

Schedule

Registration..... 7:30-8:30 AM

Opening Panel Discussion..... 8:30-8:50 AM

Session 1 ..... 9-10:15 AM
(Select One Workshop from List at Right)

Break.....10:15-10:30 AM

Session 2 .....10:30-11:45 AM
(Select One Workshop from List at Right)

DEC Agencies' Presentation .....12-12:25 PM

Lunch ..... 12:30-1 PM
Guest Speaker – Hon. Leah Landrum Taylor
Arizona State Senator

Session 3 ..... 1:15-2:30 PM
(Select One Workshop from List at Right)

Break..... 2:30-2:45 PM

Session 4 ..... 2:45-4:00 PM
(Select One Workshop from List at Right)

Conference Ends..... 4:00 PM

Registration Deadline is Tuesday, February 21, 2012

Register early – space is limited!

Register online at:

http://africanamericanoutreachconference.eventbrite.com

For assistance, contact David Carey at ABIL at (602) 443-0723.

Workshops

Session 1 Workshops – 9:00 to 10:30 AM (Select One Workshop Only)

Employment – This workshop provides info relating to employment integration, reintegration and vocational rehab services.

Cultural – This workshop examines the unique aspect of culture and disabilities within the African-American community.

Evaluation – Discussion of impact of culture on the evaluation process and services for African-American students with special needs.

Session 2 Workshops – 10:30-11:45 AM (Select One Workshop Only)

Financial 101 – What you need to know about managing your money!

Legislative Advocacy – Participants will learn about the legislative process and the importance of citizen participation.

IEP/504 Evaluation – This workshop will provide info on the educational laws relating to students with special needs and the unique challenges faced by African-American students with special needs.

Session 3 Workshops – 1:15-2:30 PM (Select One Workshop Only)

ADA Employment – Presentation of recent changes to the ADA including Amendments Act of 2008, reasonable accommodations, confidentiality, and rights of a job applicant or employee with a disability.

Corrections – This workshop will give interesting statistics about the incarceration of individuals with disabilities. Participants will learn how to have their rights restored upon release from incarceration including employment and voting rights.

Mental Health – This workshop examines some of the unique cultural aspects and challenges providing mental health services in the African-American community.

Session 4 Workshops – 2:45-4:00 PM (Select One Workshop Only)

Wellness Issues – Addresses diseases such as high blood pressure, diabetes, breast cancer, and others impacting the African-American community.

Work Incentives – How employment affects Social Security beneficiaries' cash and medical benefits.

Legal Options – An overview of various legal options available when individuals with disabilities need the assistance of someone else in legal matters. Training includes such examples as powers of attorney, guardianships, and conservatorships.