

Summary of Empowerment Through Information Committee Projects

April 11, 2012 Meeting

Grant Writing Workshops- \$29,739

These workshops were completed by the Pima Prevention Partnership (PPP) in the month of May 2012. PPP conducted four, two-day, 13-hour workshops at locations in Flagstaff, Tucson, and two in Phoenix. The workshops were held in computer labs which allowed for a more practical application of the skills taught. Approximately 10-15 participants attended each training workshop. The budget for this project was \$27,799, but was increased to allow for an additional Phoenix workshop.

June 6, 2012 Meeting

“Picture of a Life” for Transitioning Youth- \$40,828

There currently has been no emphasis on transition planning for youth with DD in foster care who are aging out of the system. The purpose of this proposal is to make this population knowledgeable about the choices available to them using person-centered planning facilitators to develop life plans.

The three major components of the program include: the training of facilitators, the development of person-centered plans for 20 foster youth with DD, and the development and implementation of an evaluation tool for the outcomes/satisfaction of participants in the program. This will be a partnership between the Sonoran UCEDD and DES DD.

Native American Disability Law Center Contract Renewal- \$48,200

The project renewal will transition its focus from housing to providing individuals in the DD community in Northern Arizona with information that promotes informed decision making about their choices and quality of life. The program will also educate tribal government officials on the needs of people with developmental disabilities and how they can better address those needs. The Law Center will conduct outreach to Native Americans with DD to inform them of their rights, the services and supports available to them and how to access those services and supports. They will also work with partners to organize and conduct Navajo and Hopi disability awareness events.

August 10, 2012 Meeting

A Day for Special Smiles Project - A.T. Still University- \$21,172

“A Day for Special Smiles” will be held in November 2012 and will increase the state’s access and capacity to provide dental services to persons with developmental disabilities by developing a network of dentists trained in special needs care. This project includes: a 16-hour clinical program to train 10 dentists on how to support persons with special needs, developing and distributing 250 printed guidebooks listing dental professionals available to provide specialized dentistry to persons with developmental disabilities, and exposing new dentists to special needs dentistry and oral health care to encourage future involvement.

Project Vote Renewal- ACDL- \$45,801

Project Vote is a renewal project that will develop voter empowerment and leadership skills for self-advocates through the direct engagement of candidates for state legislative office. The project will focus on 3 Arizona legislative districts: Lake Havasu, Safford, and Kykotsmovi. Project activities involve training self-advocates, students, group home providers, and disability organizations on how to develop statements and questions to present to legislative candidates. Following these trainings, three Arizona state legislative candidate forums will be scheduled in each community/legislative district to facilitate presentation of skills and abilities learned by self-advocates and others. Following the events, participants will be surveyed to measure the effectiveness of the trainings at meeting the outcomes of active engagement of Arizona legislative candidates.

Reducing Seclusion and Restraints through PBIS Project- \$123,686

This project will be conducted by NAU’s Institute for Human Development and proposes expanding PBIS implementation in the state using a structured approach. The first year of this project will develop an advisory council that will design the training and instruction to be provided in the second year of the project, which will include: assessment of needs, development of curriculum, completion of an action plan, outreach to specified LEA’s, and identifying 4 school districts/charter schools that will participate in training. The outcomes for the project are to establish a sustainable program that will exist after ADDPC funding is completed, while successfully assisting LEA’s to adopt PBIS as a recognized school cultural change process to managing student behavior. The final outcome for this project will be the elimination of restraint and seclusion used in the LEA’s that participate in training while spreading the use of PBIS as an effective approach to all LEA’s and charter schools in Arizona.

**Conference Sponsorship RFGA -\$100,000 + \$10,000
(6 awards made totaling \$60,000)**

Sponsorship grants are intended to fund workshops, conferences, seminars and other types of events that focus on one or more of the three goals established in the current ADDPC State Plan. The Request for Grant Application (RFGA) process was used to elicit grant applications, with review of submitted applications completed by an independent Evaluation Committee, conforming to State Procurement rules.

Through the solicitation process only six applications were received and awarded at \$10,000 each for a total of \$60,000 in awards. This leaves the Council with \$40,000 remaining for conference sponsorships. However, for the RFGA process to be completed again the amount for solicitation needs to be at least \$50,000. A request to have another \$10,000 added to the conference sponsorships RFGA for a second solicitation to spend the funds was approved.

The following are the 6 approved conferences:

- **Second Annual African-American Conference on Disabilities -\$10,000**
Arizona Center for Disability Law
This conference will provide outreach across the state to African-American individuals with developmental disabilities. The conference will feature 2 workshops for both college and high school students with DD. It is proposed for one day in March 2013.
- **Emergency Preparedness-\$10,000**
Dads 4 Special Kids
These workshops will provide education for persons with developmental disabilities and their families. 15 mini workshops will be held in Maricopa County that will guide, instruct, and encourage individuals with DD to develop their own emergency and disaster preparedness plan.
- **Steps to Success Special Education Conference- \$10,000**
Native American Disability Law Center
This conference is to be held in the spring of 2013 in Tuba City, AZ. The conference will educate Native American students with DD, their parents and educators on their rights and responsibilities in the area of special education. Parents will learn how to advocate on behalf of their child, so that vital special education supports can be obtained.

- **Third Annual Border Conference on Disabilities- \$10,000**
Southwest Arizona Area Health Education Center
 This conference is to be held in March 2013. It will provide individuals with DD, their families and service providers living along the Arizona-Sonoran Border with the information and training they need to increase their community participation and enhance their quality of life. The focus will be on behavioral support, assistive technology, access to community resources and services and a panel of local individuals with disabilities and their families discussing the challenges and strengths of their communities along the border.
- **Conference on Bullying and Victimization- \$10,000**
Southwest Autism Research and Resource Center
 A two-day conference, in Maricopa County to be held in March 2013, that will address bullying, harassment, intimidation and victimization across the lifespan and in various contexts (at school, community, workplace, online, etc.). Day one will be geared towards school age children and the second day will focus on teens and adults.
- **Self-Advocacy Conference- \$10,000**
Southwest Institute for Families and Children
 This conference is for persons with DD between the ages of 18-30 and their families and caregivers. The conference will be interactive and will focus on the rights and responsibilities as well as advocacy skills in the areas of healthcare and employment and is anticipated to be for one day in May 2013 in the Phoenix area.

August 27, 2012 Meeting

Government Liaison- Traaen & Associates, LLC.- \$49,000

At the Council retreat some members voiced concerns that there was not enough presence at the legislature during the last session. In response to this, the staff identified a state contracted vendor experienced with public policy that would be able to increase the legislative presence of the Council during the next session. The duties that will be expected under the contract include expanding the Council's presence at the legislature and representing it on issues having an impact on the developmental or intellectual disability community. Other activities include: reviewing and reporting on policies, procedures, rules, regulations, legislation and, reports presented during the session and tracking all pending or proposed legislation and communicating this back to the Council.

Public Policy Support and Consultation- Morrison Institute- \$108,000

There are three proposed projects under the new contract with Morrison Institute. The first project includes: research, writing and presenting abstracts, reports, and position papers. This project would also include translating public policy goals into policy statements and performance measures for the Five Year State Plan, at a cost of \$45,000. The second project includes conducting 4 public forums to be held in various locations across Arizona, targeting un-served or underserved person with DD, at a cost of \$54,000. The third project includes convening three focus groups in Arizona to address the issues identified in the public forums and developing written reports and data that analyze the findings, at a cost of \$9,000.

Public Policy Support and Consultation- NASDDDS- \$45,001

Upon the request of a committee member a proposal was submitted by the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS). This contractor will be able to give a more national perspective on DD issues. This project is to include five 2 to 4 page brief fact sheets, four research papers of 15 to 25 pages in length, and working with the Morrison Institute regarding public policy.

Wellness Education & Prevention Project- Special Olympics- \$82,142

Special Olympics submitted a renewal application for the Wellness Education & Prevention Project. The second year of the project will provide 1,500 Healthy Athletes screenings during a 9 month period to 1,000 athletes. It will have 150 athletes receive free or reduced-cost follow up care based on the Healthy Athlete screenings and referrals. It will also train 20 educators to then teach the Health Promotions curriculum during the grant period with emphasis on rural areas. The project will continue to target elementary and high schools with Special Ed programs, community services for people with disabilities and recreation providers who serve the target population. In the first year of the project 2,034 screenings have been provided to 988 youth and adults with intellectual disabilities in Maricopa and Pima Counties. Also, 153 free sports physicals have been provided, with 4 more free physical events scheduled in September in order to reach the 400 athlete goal. With the pre-and post-test data collected to date, participants in the ARCH class lost an average of 3.5 lbs. and lowered their BMI by an average of 2.42% showing that the 8 weeks of lessons have already been applied and were effective.

Emergency Preparedness Proposal- ACDL- \$56,095

The idea for this project came from a FEMA conference that highlighted a program being practiced in Hawaii. The purpose of the project is to introduce and provide emergency preparedness planning at the local level, particularly in the home setting, for the developmentally disabled community throughout Arizona.

The project is to include curriculum development in the creation of a manual and reliable resource list, the compilation of a 72-hour safety kit model to present during training sessions of self-advocates for a train the trainer model, individual training of the developmentally disabled in group homes, private residences and other locales. The focus location for the first year of the project will be Northern Arizona, with the expectation that 100 people will be trained.

The Arizona Center for Disability Law proposes to partner with several organizations that provide support and services to persons with developmental disabilities including: the ADDPC, the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), the State Independent Living Council (SILC), the Native American Disability Law Center (NADLC) among others for this project.