

Safety Goal, Objective 2: Crisis Response and Trauma Informed Care Project

Proposal submitted by UA Sonoran Center; \$100,000

The University of Arizona Sonoran Center for Excellence in Disabilities (Sonoran Center) will collaborate with the Arizona DD Network and community partners to develop and disseminate curricula and resources to improve crisis response and trauma informed practices for the IDD community. Targeted efforts have been guided by the policy recommendations from the 2022 report on Arizona's Crisis Response & People who have ID/DD and 2023 findings from ADDPC behavioral health/crisis response survey. The Sonoran Center will leverage resources and existing partnerships with the DD Network and the Link Center (mental health and DD technical assistance center) to inform and engage in the proposed activities.

The activities in Year 1 are broken into two categories:

Development of the Trauma Informed Care curricula will entail

- Conducting a literature review, creating an inventory and needs assessment survey.
- Distribute needs assessment analyze data and create report for the curriculum content.
- Interview 10 individuals/organizations who have developed trainings.
- Develop a foundational module on trauma with specific content for health professionals.
- Conduct a pilot curriculum with community advisory council members, self-advocates, families, and disability professionals. The curriculum will be finalized in Year 2 if renewed.

Outreach and Dissemination includes

- Identify and create a list of Institutes of Higher Education (IHE) courses and educational opportunities for students to include content on trauma/crisis response for PwIDD.
- Develop and share two stories from the I/DD community regarding access behavioral health/crisis related care.
- Develop a workshop for individuals with I/DD and families on how to access behavioral health services and how to create crisis support through legal options.
- Present developed workshop via online platform and at community events and conferences.

The budget supports the activities, and key staff are experienced in this work. If approved, the project will begin October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025.

The Sonoran Center outlines activities that would be addressed in year 2, based on successful performance:

Refine curricula and develop expanded modules for specific audiences such as educators, law enforcement, first responders, and behavioral health crisis lines. Focus on crisis needs of the IDD community, trauma informed care, and de-escalation and referral systems.

Evaluate curricula that is implemented.

Reach out to IHEs and professional organizations to explore broader dissemination and requirements for the integration of trauma informed care content in existing curriculum and training.

Develop Crisis Care guide with BH crisis centers, programs, and providers.

Create an online map of providers using ArcGIS.

Share stories from the IDD community regarding accessing behavioral crisis and trauma informed care via videos, social media campaigns, articles, and websites.

Continue dissemination of curricula and workshops, as well as resource materials at virtual and in-person community events and conferences (e.g., American Indian Disability Summits, African American Conference on Disabilities, Self-Advocacy Conference, and DDD Bridging Conferences).