

## **Conference Sponsorship Summaries; For Council approval May 2023**

Awards to begin July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024; Total award to be approved is \$36,640 for 5 grant applications.

### **Background:**

The full grant solicitation had \$70,000 available. One application per organization was allowed to apply up to \$10,000 to support the costs for hosting a Conference, Training or Symposium. The scope of work specifics was outlined in the application, including letter of support, staffing overview, timeline to complete key activities and a budget to allocate costs with a required 25% match that is either cash and/or in kind. The 5 approved conferences must take place within the contract period year.

### **Bloom 365: Requesting \$8,850**

The applicant is seeking approval for the 2024 Safety for All conference. Safety for All is Bloom 365's sexual assault services program that aims to increase access to and utilization of trauma-informed outreach, case management, advocacy, and therapy services for victims of violence with disabilities. Currently, SFA is available on-site at Arcadia H.S., and Coronado H.S., as well as a variety of other disability-centered community organizations.

This one-day conference will take place in Phoenix, targeting K-12 special education teachers, Title IX Coordinators, and parents/caregivers of special ed. students. It is tentatively set for April 2024 to coincide with Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

The format of the conference is a full day session, with 5 speakers, lunch, and an exhibition hall. Experts in the topic will be invited to present and participate, the conference committee will also issue a request for proposals in which 6 will be chosen based on their topic, experience, and format.

### **Other points about the conference:**

- Registration will be managed by EventBrite & promoted by partners and via social media.
- Expect to have 100 attendees for the conference, and there is no charge for attendance.
- Bloom 365 has multiple partnerships with Ability 360, Special Olympics and the two high schools where SFA takes place.
- Accommodation will be provided if requested during registration.
- Demographic and other required performance measures will be captured and reported to the ADDPC at the end of the contract period. Data collected will also include participant feedback from pre/post surveys and satisfaction with the conference theme and session topics.

### **Brain Injury Alliance of AZ: Requesting \$5,000**

The applicant is requesting \$5,000 to host their annual conference, Rays of Hope Brain Injury Survivor and Family Conference. Rays of Hope provides an opportunity for survivors, their families, and caregivers to share experiences on their respective roads to recovery, learning from professionals and from each other. The conference engages the brain injury community, including those with individuals

with I/DD, in the planning of the conference where they influence speakers, session topics and other details.

Rays of Hope is a two-day conference that will take place in Phoenix. The previous attendance was approximately 300 participants, and 60% of attendees were those with an I/DD and a brain injury. If funded, the conference will take place in May 2024. There is no cost to attend.

Ten stipends will be offered to those participants from rural areas of the state to assist with their travel costs. Those from the rural communities in Navajo, Apache, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, Santa Cruz, and La Paz counties will be eligible for the travel stipend.

The format of the conference is two days, includes a keynote speaker, breakout sessions and video recording for those with memory issues and would like it available to them. Topics may include Introduction to Assistive Technology, Your Rights at Work, Dating with a Disability, the ADA and Returning to Work, Exploring Integrative Medicine and Healing, and Mediation and Mindfulness.

Other points about the conference:

- Materials will be offered in alternative formats, including People First and in plain language.
- Other accommodations include those with vision and auditory impairments.
- There is a vendor fee to set up at their exhibitor hall, \$400.
- Registration will capture the required information to report to the Council.
- Surveys will be distributed and collected from each session and an overall survey will capture satisfaction with the conference.

#### **Care 4 the Caregiver: Requesting \$9,040**

Care 4 the Caregiver will conduct 6 in-person sexual education training courses, Phoenix area, Nogales and in Flagstaff, for caregivers who are raising children with disabilities and I/DD. The promising practice training on sex education for families/caregivers is titled, "Healthy Foundations: Caregiver Workshop about Sexuality and Disability." Unique to this proposal is that Care 4 the Caregiver will take this curriculum and will seek feedback from self-advocates to identify any gaps of knowledge within the curriculum, evaluate resources and strategies that are currently referenced and provide input on other strategies that might not have been considered. The Arc of Tempe S.E.L.F. (Seeking Equality Leading to Fairness) self-advocacy group (n=25 self-advocates) will work with the applicant in the first three months before any training is conducted.

Care 4 the Caregiver will partner with existing disability relationships they have and conduct the training to the communities of Tempe, Anthem, Peoria, Phoenix, Nogales, and Flagstaff. Costs for interpretation, translation of materials into Spanish and other accommodation will be available, covered as part of their match.

During registration, attendees will disclose if any accommodation is necessary, and they will be able to capture the data required to report to the ADDPC. They anticipate between 15-20 caregivers per training location, and there is no cost for attendees. If attendance is low or a virtual meeting is better suited for a community, Care 4 the Caregiver will consider all options.

The format is 1 ½ hours for the training with 30 minutes for Q&A. Attendees will have materials with them for each training session and they will be required to complete a survey at the end of the session.

### **NAU/IHD: Requesting \$10,000**

Funding will be used to support IHD's 2024 Evidence for Success Disability Conference, specifically only for conference sessions that cover the topic of customized, integrated competitive employment. Funds will cover two speakers' fees (at \$2,500 each) and for IHD's staff to oversee the tasks in conference planning and final reporting to the ADDPC. The in-person conference will be held in Phoenix, over two days, in June 2024.

Keynote speakers and several session tracks will be developed that cover three theme areas: Assistive Technology, Innovative practices in disability disciplines and American Indian/Alaskan Native Voc. Rehab. and employment.

The IHD annual conference is designed to educate service providers such as schools, therapists, Voc. Rehab. counselors, DDD support coordinators and families/caregivers – about the trends, research, and evidence-based practices that support the full inclusion of individuals with disabilities in all life activities.

Accommodations will be met as attendees register and state their specific need, including printed materials in People First and plain language, accessible electronic format, and other services such as interpreters and CART services. In addition, IHD will provide 10-15 scholarships for qualified individuals (criteria in place) unable to pay the full registration fee. The discounted rate will be \$150.

In terms of final reporting to the ADDPC, NAU will capture data on the employment sessions they are funded for and will include all required demographic data and identification of attendees, and survey feedback regarding satisfaction of the conference sessions. Surveys are available to attendees electronically or hard copy.

### **United Cerebral Palsy of Southern AZ: Requesting \$3,750**

UCP of Southern AZ will offer 4 free training sessions, September thru-May 2024 on four key topics covering Independent Living. The four-part series will provide resources and tools to self-advocates to enhance their independence, build community, and encourage quality of life. The theme title is, "Powering through Life: by People who have Developmental, Intellectual, and Physical Disabilities." Sessions will be in-person and via Zoom platform.

Each session will be facilitated by self-advocates and professionals. Each session is meant for self-advocates that are 18 and older and use mobility devices. The format will allow participants and the speakers to share their stories, exchange information and ideas and help educate and support one another.

The session topics will cover the following and include professionals and experts to co-present with identified self-advocates:

Session 1: Will address dealing with your caregiver, practicing self-advocacy and communicating boundaries. Participants will learn tips on how to manage personal care staff as well as how to recognize and report abuse and maintain boundaries.

Session 2: Will focus on safety, emergency preparedness and transportation options. This will also include how to prevent falls, prevent bed sores or skin conditions and how to use accessible public paratransit systems and modify vehicles for wheelchair accessibility.

Session 3: will discuss managing assistive technology (AT) and other mobility devices in the home and at work. This includes various applications for security on phones, tablets and computers, including but not limited to smart locks, video cameras, and lighting. They will also teach community resources and learn the process of requesting a repair referral for equipment when needed.

Session 4: Will touch on issues regarding the aging process, how it looks for people with disabilities and end of life planning resources.

Other points, registration will be done online, and all required demographic data will be captured to report to the ADDPC. At the end of every session, participants will be encouraged to fill out a survey online or in person. UCP will also ensure accommodation will be met when attendees register and state specific needs.

Six applications were also reviewed and not selected for the ADDPC to fund. They include the following:

AZ Caregiver Coalition

Choose a School/AZ Inclusion

Idea Analytics

Milemarkers Therapy

Neurodiversity Education & Research Center

Special Olympics of AZ