

## **Summary for RFGA Conferences, Trainings, or Symposiums**

The RFGA was released on February 8, 2022, and applications were due on March 10. The maximum amount to apply was \$5,000. A total of 8 organizations submitted applications and an outside evaluation committee was convened to review each proposal against the scope of work.

Contractors are required to provide their Conferences online (due to Covid-19 concerns), may request a registration fee if necessary, provide all materials and resources in accessible formats if requested, provide ASL or other accommodations, and conduct outreach to unseved and underserved communities to participate. In addition, contractors are required to conduct a survey post the event and track the number of attendance and other demographic data for the Council.

After a thorough evaluation and reviewing additional clarification responses, the committee is recommending

### **1. The University of Arizona/Sonoran UCEDD**

The UA Sonoran UCEDD will host two 6-hour virtual conferences titled, "I/DD, Aging, Dementia: Screening, Support Adaptation & Access to a Support Network". The purpose of this proposed conference theme is to disseminate accurate information, discuss available tools, and present resources for caregivers/support teams who care for people with I/DD and are affected by Dementia. Tentative four topic areas include: Background/ID & Screening; Planning for the quality of life through the process; Adapting goals/daily activities/support; and Accessing support and services. Three speakers will be identified for each topic. By educating caregivers and support teams of people for people with I/DD with Dementia, the Sonoran UCEDD expects to enhance, strengthen, and expand access to accurate and user-friendly information. The total amount requested is \$5,000.

### **2. Special Olympics of AZ**

SOAZ proposes the Athlete Leadership Program (ALP) designed to provide athletes, individuals with I/DD with the necessary skills to develop their personal and professional leadership skills that they can apply in their home, their team as athletes, and their own communities. The training will empower athletes to utilize their voices and abilities to undertake meaningful leadership roles, influence change, and create inclusive communities in AZ. The ALP will be implemented by SOAZ athletes, for other athletes, as their ideas and opinions will drive the direction of the program. Participants will meet on October 10-15, 2022, through half day workshops on various topics, that will build upon their own leadership skills, opportunities to lead events, and engage in speaking opportunities. Topics such as leadership development, use of social media, public speaking practices, and other topics will be covered by speakers during the training. The overall purpose is to train individuals with I/DD in various areas of leadership, and to pursue opportunities to serve their communities, so that they can live more self-determined lives. The total amount requested is \$4,928.

**3. Spina Bifida Association of AZ**

SBAAZ proposed conference theme, “My Team: Experience Self-Determination and Repel Bullying”, will spotlight healthy relationships and self-image for individuals with I/DD and their sibling (s); identify perspective and role of the caregiver; provide training to establish a strong self-advocacy and personal responsibility; and provide resources to assist with repelling bullying. The target audience are parents/caregivers of children with I/DD that are preschool through elementary age (0-8). It is important to note that this training is not meant to change the bully or the system that allows it, but to strengthen the child in their own identity and acceptance of their disability to make them impervious to bullying in that they are able to identify who has the problem and not internalize nor own as true attacks. Speakers have been identified, the conference will take place on February 11, 2023, and will be recorded and shared with other disability groups. The total amount requested is \$4,832

**4. The Opportunity Tree**

The Opportunity Tree proposes to conduct online information sessions for the families of their Members, on the theme of sexual education. Online sessions will be offered for parents/caregivers, as the first step in offering comprehensive sexual education to their Members. These introductory sessions will cover the following general topics, to include Understanding health boundaries; Health sexuality and healthy relationships; Internet, social media, and communications; How to recognize sexual abuse; How and where to report abuse; What to expect when a report is made; The right to be free from retaliation; and How to access trauma-informed counseling and other resources. Training topics will be offered quarterly during the contract period over Zoom (final dates to be determined). In addition, The Opportunity Tree has identified their qualified speaker who is already certified by Elevatus Training to be a sexuality educator and trainer for people with I/DD. The total amount requested is \$5,000.

The following applications were also reviewed but were not recommended for an award due to lack of information and/or did not comply with the requirements of the scope of work. They include:

Arts for All

Autism Society of Greater Phoenix

Epic Disability

Premier Alliances