



## **Self-Advocacy Grantee Overview**

**All potential grantees are awarded for one year, July 1 – June 30**

### **Native American Disability Law Center: \$37,933**

Funding will support the 30 students with I/DD from the Grey Hills Academy (n=20) and Dine College (n=10) in self-advocacy leadership training and to promote their ability to serve on cross-disability, culturally diverse coalitions/groups on the Navajo Nation. NADLC uses the Equal Native Youth Voices curriculum that was developed by NADLC because of the unique and cultural response necessary to work with Navajo youth. The curriculum is aligned with Navajo traditional thought and is based on the Medicine Wheel and Talking Circles. Pre and post-assessments are done with all students that are participating to gauge their understanding of their own disability, their rights, how to speak up for the things they want, and future opportunities. Participants will also be able to attend the Navajo Nation Council on Disability, twice per semester, to meet with the council members and to learn what they do. Their second meeting is to address the council on a particular initiative that is important to them. NADLC will also take 6 students/2 adults to attend the National Congress of the American Indian (NCAI) conference in Albuquerque, NM scheduled for October 20-25, 2019. The conference planners will work with NADLC to have a presentation on self-advocacy. This event is not included in the NADLC budget or as match. NADLC is also working out details to have self-advocates present at the annual TASH conference in Phoenix.

The ADDPC previously funded this project for two years under a previous self-advocacy grant (Note – just for students at Grey Hills Academy). NADLC post measurements below (n=13) shows a range from 77% - 100% increase in their understanding and knowledge:

- I know I am in the exceptional student services program
- I have a disability
- I have an IEP and I know what my IEP goals are
- I know exactly what to say at my IEP meetings
- I know what accommodations are
- I can tell my teachers about accommodations I need in class
- I (or my parents) have a copy of my IEP
- I feel good about my future
- People with disabilities go to college
- People with disabilities get good jobs after high school

### **Arizona Peer & Family Coalition: \$10,390**

As a statewide organization, AZ Peer & Family Coalition was formed in 2009 to advocate for statewide behavioral health policy development by peers and family members. Approximately 180 persons are affiliated with the organization have a mental illness, are family members and other stakeholders/professionals involved in the behavioral health system. Part of their mission is to increase public support for the awareness of mental health issues in the general community that reduces the stigma, promotes the value of human worth, and generates community acceptance of persons diagnosed with mental illness; and to enable persons with mental illness to transform and improve the AZ behavioral health system.

The Coalition developed the curriculum, Civic Leadership Training, in 2012, and since then it has been updated in 2018, to offer training to peers and family members throughout Arizona. The training is 4 hours long and involves group participation and practice sessions for persons to be prepared to be active in a committee/board setting. Limited funding from NAMI and AHCCCS helped initially to cover training costs. In addition, since October 2018, there has been increased interest in the training from health plans who hold contracts with AHCCCS for Children's Behavioral Health and for general Mental Health/Substance Use Services. These health plans require a behavioral health peer and family member representative on the health plan committees and boards. The Civic Leadership Training is a way to prepare persons with mental illness or a family member for board participation to make the behavioral health system more responsive.

In 2018, training was provided to 101 individuals in Yuma, Cottonwood, Tucson and Phoenix, who were individuals with a mental illness, family members or professionals. The Coalition has 3 trainers in Tucson, 2 in Yuma, 6 in Phoenix, 2 in Yavapai, 1 in Flagstaff.

Requested funding from this grant will allow the Coalition to expand their training to the following counties in AZ because there is interest in the community, trainers available, and collaborators will offer free space and assist with recruitment efforts:

- Yavapai: Sedona, Prescott, Prescott Valley
- Navajo: Pinetop/Lakeside, Show Low
- Mohave: Kingman, Bullhead City, Lake Havasu City
- Coconino: Flagstaff
- Cochise: Sierra Vista
- Gila: Payson