

OHIO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

FIVE – YEAR STATE PLAN 2022 – 2026

for DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Project Descriptions

Approved by Council 04.02.2021

Supplemental Information

This “Supplemental Information” is the reader-friendly version of the 2022-2026 Five-Year State Plan. The content is the same as what will be sent to the Administration on Developmental Disabilities in its required electronic form. This document also includes for each project, a section called Background, Rationale and Scope of Project. To request a copy of the EDS document, or a list of collaborative partners for a project, please contact the Council at 614-466-5205 or 1-800-766-7426.

Revised 04.02.2021 gld

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PROJECTS	4
Capacity Building, Advocacy, and Systems Change by Council Staff	5
Systems Change and Advocacy by Members/Council Travel	11
Consumer Satisfaction Survey	16
External Evaluation of Council’s Projects & Processes	19
Executive Committee Discretionary Fund	22
Public Awareness Using Digital Media for People with Developmental Disabilities	25
CHILDREN & HEALTH PROJECTS	30
Come Together	31
Empowering Families	34
Inclusive Recreation	37
COMMUNITY LIVING PROJECTS	40
DSP White Paper in Action	41
Replicate and Expand Transportation Project	46
SOAR Ohio Project & Ohio Statewide Independent Living Council..	51
EMPLOYMENT PROJECTS	55
Dollars and Sense	56
Employer Engagement	60

Employment Resources	64
Ohio DB 101 Videos	68
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS	71
Emerging Advocates	72
Empowering People with Disabilities	76
ODDC and Advocacy	79
OUTREACH PROJECTS	82
Detecting Specific Disorders for Amish and Non-Amish Community Project	83
Empowering Reachout E-Diversity Newsletter	88
Human Trafficking and Vulnerable Populations	94
Ohio's LGBTQ Community and People with Disabilities	101
PUBLIC POLICY PROJECTS	106
DD Awareness and Advocacy Day Grant	107
Federal Legislative Advocacy Partnership (FLAP)	111
General Assembly Briefly Sessions	114
Public Policy Research Grants	118
Value of PWD (<u>V</u> ocational <u>A</u> pprenticeship / <u>L</u> egislature <u>U</u> tilizing <u>E</u> mployment of People with Disabilities)	121

OHIO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

Project Descriptions

2022 – 2026

**In the Area
of
Executive Committee Projects**

**Staff Contact: Carla Cox
(614) 644-5538
Carla.Cox@dodd.ohio.gov**

CAPACITY BUILDING, ADVOCACY, AND SYSTEMS CHANGE BY COUNCIL STAFF

PUBLIC LAW 106-402-OCT. 30, 2000 – 114 STAT. 1704

(E) SUPPORTING AND EDUCATING COMMUNITIES – The Council may support and conduct activities to assist neighborhoods and communities to respond positively to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families;

- (i) By encouraging local networks to provide formal and informal supports;
- (ii) Through Education.

Goal:

Provide a broad range of leadership development opportunities for people with developmental disabilities, their family members and allies. Offer a variety of opportunities to develop the skills needed to become leaders in the disability movement.

Objective and impact of project:

Council staff members will be actively involved in advocacy, capacity building and systems change which promotes the self-determination and consumer-control of Ohioans with developmental disabilities, and when necessary, with support from their families.

Background, rationale and scope of project:

Council staff undertakes advocacy, capacity building and systems change activities in the following Federal Areas of Emphasis:

- Formal and Informal Community Supports
- Education and Early Intervention
- Employment
- Health
- Housing
- Quality Assurance
- Cross-cutting (educating policymakers, educating the public and distributing Council products)

- Recreation
- Child care

Key activities:

By Council Staff:

- Work in collaboration with grantees in implementing the project activities
- Serve on related boards, commissions, task forces and committees (see attached list)
- Maintain a website and social media presence which provides information to the public, individuals with developmental disabilities families and stakeholders
- Monitor state and federal legislation
- Analyze pending legislation
- Develop Fast Facts and other materials to educate policymakers
- Maintain up-to-date contact information for members of Congress, the Ohio General Assembly, and the Governor's Cabinet
- Disseminate Council products and also materials from other sources
- Assist other agencies in development of policies, products, programs, grant proposals, etc.
- Write press releases
- Influence story lines related to Council initiatives for new articles
- Respond to newspaper articles, television stories and other media portrayals of concern
- Serve on advisory bodies for state grants from the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services
- Promote and assist in leadership development of people with developmental disabilities, parents and family members
- Research and analyze trends in the field
- Gather information about needs and preferences of individuals and families
- Identify and share resources with other agencies and programs
- Collaborate with DD Act "sister" programs
- Reach out to diverse communities
- Develop partnerships between diverse communities and service providers for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families

- Provide information to families via phone, mail, website, social media and in person
- Provide information to individuals with developmental disabilities via phone, mail, website, social media and in person
- Collaborate with other agencies to replicate best practices
- Serve as active members and “staff” for other boards and task forces, i.e., serve as facilitator, taking minutes, chairing meetings
- Work with grantees on planning and implementing conferences
- Promote self-advocacy in Ohio
- Advocate for Council’s positions
- Promote and influence outreach and diversity on the national level
- Participate in and contribute to NACCD and ADD committees and activities
- Assist in leveraging dollars for Council initiatives
- Encourage public policymakers to introduce resolutions and legislation in support of issues being promoted by Council
- Work with private consultant periodically in the area of cultural competency in order to provide technical assistance to council members and grantees
- Collaborating with multiethnic advocates on cultural competence
- Collaborate with state agencies and organizations on the advancement of the use of technology for people with developmental disabilities

Outputs:

SC 1: The number of Council efforts to transform fragmented approaches into a coordinated and effective system that assures individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life: 3

Short term outcomes:

Increased knowledge of what Council advocates for on behalf of people with developmental disabilities and their families in Ohio.

Long term outcomes:

By the end of each fiscal year, there will be at least 20 people with disabilities and family members with increased knowledge and engaged in advocating for systems change.

This section of the State Plan is included for Federal reporting purposes.

Resources to be invested:

Federal:	\$1,011,000
Matching Funds:	<u>Not required</u>
Total:	\$1,011,000

Funding method:

In-House

Grantee:

None

Listing of Agencies, Boards, Commissions, Committees

National Affiliations

National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities, Board of Directors

National Organization on Disability

National Association of Council on Developmental Disabilities on Cultural Diversity (NACDD)

State and Local Boards, Commissions and Committees

American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Ohio Chapter

Attorney General's Violence and Abuse Task Force

Center for Workers with Disabilities (CWD)

Children's Oral Health Action Team (COHAT)

Columbus Coalition on Family Violence

Conveners Positive Culture Group

Disability Employment Process Improvement

Disability Policy Coalition

Health Policy Institute of Ohio

Housing Policy Panel
Information and Assistance Center for Councils on Developmental
Disabilities
(ITACC) Self-Advocacy Committee
Leadership Academy on Cultural Diversity and Cultural Linguistics -
Georgetown University
Minority Health Advisory Committee/Office of Minority Health at Columbus
Public Health
Minority Health/Prevention Committee
Multiethnic Advocates on Cultural Competency (MACC)
Ohio Alliance for Direct Support Professionals & Volunteer Credentialing
Advisory Committee
Ohio APSE – The Network on Employment
Ohio Asset Development Workgroup
Ohio Disability Program Initiative
Ohio Health Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio (SARNCO)
Ohio Partners in Justice Team
Ohio Olmstead Task Force
Ohio Rehabilitation Association
Ohio Self-Determination Association
Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities
Postsecondary Education and Employment for Youth Advisory Council
Professional Association of Retardation of Ohio (PAR)
Project Search Quarterly Meetings (statewide)
Quarterly Statewide Regional Preparedness Planning Meeting
RAMA Consulting
Statewide Independent Living Council
Supreme Court of Ohio – Interpreter Services
Transportation Equity Coalition
Triple Jeopardy Project – Dayton

DD Act “Sister” Programs

The Nisonger Center Citizens Advisory Committee
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, Developmental and
Behavioral
Pediatrics Advisory Committee
Disability Alliance
Disability Rights Ohio
Nisonger Director Search Committee
Nisonger TOPS Advisory Committee

Nisonger Disability Health Advisory Committee

Ohio Department of Health

Bureau of Children with Medical Handicaps/Parent Advisory Council

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

Medicaid Fee-For-Service Consumer Service Advisory Committee

Medically Fragile Task Force, Special Needs Subcommittee

Ohio Department of Development

Ohio Consolidated Plan Advisory Committee

Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

Family Advisory Council

Employment First Advisory Committee

Employment First Task Force

Family Support Community of Practice

Ohio Supreme Court

Subcommittee on Adult Guardianship

Ohio Department of Mental Health

Forensic Strategies Workgroup

SYSTEMS CHANGE AND ADVOCACY BY MEMBERS/COUNCIL TRAVEL

PUBLIC LAW 106-402-Oct. 30, 2000 – 114 STAT. 1703
ADVOCACY, CAPACITY BUILDING AND SYSTEMIC CHANGE
ACTIVITIES – The Council shall serve as an advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities and conduct or support programs, projects and activities that carry out the purpose of this subtitle.

Goal:

Provide a broad range of leadership development opportunities for people with developmental disabilities, their family members and allies. Offer a variety of opportunities to develop the skills needed to become leaders in the disability movement.

Objective and impact of project:

Increased support will be provided to at least 10 Council members as they strengthen their advocacy and leadership skills, and function as systems change agents for critical issues in the DD field.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

The DD Act requires that 60 percent of the Council members meet one of the following categories: 1) individuals with a developmental disability; 2) parents or guardians of children with a developmental disability; 3) immediate relatives or guardians of adults with mentally impairing disabilities who cannot advocate for themselves; and, 4) immediate relative or guardian of a person with a developmental disability who has been or is living in an institution.

The Council's requirements for membership include "all candidates for DD Council membership should have experience serving on committees, boards or organizations concerned with persons with developmental disabilities." Part of the role of a Council member is to bring information on needs and issues to Council from external groups. This assists Council in

identifying issues and concerns from around the state to address in its advocacy and systems change endeavors.

This section of the State Plan is included for Federal reporting purposes regarding the cost of Council members' participation in Council meetings, conferences and related events, all geared toward advocacy and systems change. The list of external committees, boards and organizations indicates the breadth of involvement of members of the Ohio DD Council in advocacy and systems change efforts around the state.

Key activities:

- Represent Council on various Boards and Committees
- Attend conferences
- Testify at hearings
- Inform Policymakers/impact legislation

Outputs:

IFA 1.1: The number of people with developmental disabilities who participated in Council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect their lives, the lives of others, and/or systems: 10

IFA 1.2: The number of family members who participated in Council supported in activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect the family, the lives of others, and/or systems: 10

SC 1: The number of Council efforts to transform fragmented approaches into a coordinated and effective system that assures individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life: 10

Short term outcomes:

Increased knowledge of what Council advocates for on behalf of people with developmental disabilities and their families in Ohio.

Long term outcomes:

By the end of each fiscal year, there will be at least 20 people with disabilities and family members with increased knowledge and engaged in advocating for systems change.

Resources to be invested:

Federal:	\$115,000
Matching Funds:	<u>Not Required</u>
Total:	\$115,000

Funding method:

In-House Expenditure

Grantee:

None

Agencies, Boards, Commissions, and Committees on Which Members Serve

American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities – Paula Rabidoux

American Speech Language Hearing Association – **Paula Rabidoux**

Association of University Centers on Disabilities – **Paula Rabidoux**

Ohio Speech Language Hearing Association – **Paula Rabidoux**

Ohio State University Advisory Committee on Disability Issues – **Paula Rabidoux**

Society for Disability Studies – **Paula Rabidoux**

TASH – **Paula Rabidoux**

Policy Committee – OPRA – **Joanna Spargo**

Shared Living Committee – DODD – **Joanna Spargo**

Quality Outcomes Committee – DODD – **Joanna Spargo**

Healthy Students, Promising Futures Collaborative – **Mark Smith**

Ohio School Health Services Association – **Mark Smith**

National Alliance for Medicaid in Education – **Mark Smith**

USDOE/USHHS Affinity Group – **Mark Smith**

Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) – **Ilka Riddle**

American Public Health Association (APHA) – **Ilka Riddle**
American Association on Health and Disability (AAHD) – **Ilka Riddle**
American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
(AAIDD) – **Ilka Riddle**
Nisonger Center Community Advisory Committee – **Ilka Riddle**
The Future is Now Aging Caregivers Advisory Council, Hamilton County
Developmental Disabilities Services – **Ilka Riddle**
The Arc, National Chapter- **Ilka Riddle**
Health Care Transition Research Consortium – **Ilka Riddle**
Lucas County Board of DD Human Rights Committee – **Karen Kerr**
Sunshine Inc. of NWO Foundation Board – **Karen Kerr**
Sunshine Inc. of NWO Vocational Services Board – **Karen Kerr**
Allen County Special Olympics Advisory Council – **Jill Radler**
Toledo-Lucas County Commission on Disabilities – **Rochelle Hall-Rollins**
Advisory Committee for The Future is Now: Support for Aging Caregivers –
Emilia Jackson
Ohio Children and Family First Cabinet Deputies Council – **Emilia Jackson**
Ohio Community Recovery Support Planning Council (OCRSPC) – **Emilia
Jackson**
Ohio Grandparent Kinship Coalition – **Emilia Jackson**
APSI Board, Government Affairs Committee – **Michael Denlinger, II**
Community Advisory Council (CAC) UCEDD Cincinnati – **Michael
Denlinger, II**
Housing Policy Panel – **Michael Denlinger, II**
The Housing Network of Hamilton County – **Michael Denlinger, II**
DODD MUI Committee – **Jean Jakovlic**
Autism Power – **Jean Jakovlic**
Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitative Facilities – **Jean Jakovlic**
Ohio Partners in Justice – **Vicki Jenkins**
Ohio Family Violence Prevention Council – **Vicki Jenkins**
The Subcommittee on Adult Guardianship of the Advisory Committee on
Children and Families, the Supreme Court of Ohio – **Vicki Jenkins**
External Review Committee of the Ohio Department of DD – **Vicki Jenkins**
Ohio Attorney General’s Commission on Elder Abuse – **Vicki Jenkins**
Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services Adult Protective Services
Advisory Committee – **Vicki Jenkins**
Ohio Dept. of MH Forensic Conference Planning Committee – **Vicki
Jenkins**
Ohio Ex-Offender Reentry Coalition – **Vicki Jenkins**

Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections – **Vicki Jenkins**
Ohio Interagency Council for Youth – **Shannon Komisarek**
Ohio’s Statewide Consortia: Post-Secondary Advisory Council – **Shannon Komisarek**
Ohio Governor’s Interagency Workgroup on Autism – **Bobbi Krabill**
Ohio Department of Health Cancer Leadership Team – **Bobbi Krabill**
Project Stir – Franklin County, Ohio – **Marcella Straughter**
Council of Ohio Leaders (COOL) – **Marcella Straughter**
Self-Advocacy Advisory Council for Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities – **Marcella Straughter**
OSU Disability Expert Panel by OSU Nisonger Center – **Marcella Straughter**
UCCEDD Community Advisory Committee (CAC) – **Rachel Rice**
Warren County Board of DD Human Rights Committee – **Rachel Rice**
Highland County Board of DD – **Michael Richards**
Ohio Self-Advocacy Task Force – **Michael Richards**
Ohio Department Veteran Service Advisory Committee – **Victor Wilson**
Franklin County Hazard Chemical Preparedness Committee – **Victor Wilson**
New Albany CRAB – **Victor Wilson**
New Albany Veterans Memorial Committee – **Victor Wilson**
New Albany Community Events Committee – **Victor Wilson**
Project Stir – Ottawa County, Ohio – **Brenda Brandon**
UCCEDD Community Advisory Committee – **Rachel Rice**
Warren County Board of DD Human Rights Committee – **Rachel Rice**
Boundless Board – **Marcella Straughter**
APSI Board, Chair of Development – **Marcella Straughter**
ISP Work Group- **Marcella Straughter**
Waiver Committee – OPRA – **Rhonda Rich**
People First of Ohio – **Michael Richards**

CONSUMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

PUBLIC LAW 106-402 - OCT. 30, 2000 - 114 STAT. 1705

As required by the DD Act of 2000. State Councils are required at the end of each grant year to examine their goals and “Determine customer satisfaction with Council supported and/or conducted activities.”

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

As required by the DD Act of 2000, State Councils are required at the end of each grant year to examine their goals and “determine customer satisfaction with Council supported or conducted activities.” (SEC.125(c)(3)(E).

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

The DD Act of 2000 requires a process for identifying and reporting on progress achieved through advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities in the areas of emphasis. In order to monitor how the DD Act programs, address the areas of emphasis the Indicators of Progress are used to describe and measure at a minimum:

- 1.The satisfaction of individuals with developmental disabilities with the advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities provided by State Councils, Protection & Advocacy Systems and University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, and
2. The extent to which these activities result in improvements in the ability of individuals with developmental disabilities to:

- I. make choices and exert control over the type, intensity, and timing of services, supports, and assistance that the individuals have used
- II. participate in the full range of community life with persons of the individuals' choice
- III. access services, supports, and assistance in a manner that ensures that such an individual is free from abuse, neglect, sexual and financial exploitation, violation of legal and human rights, and the inappropriate use of restraints and seclusion

In addition, State Councils are required at the end of each grant year to examine their goals and “determine customer satisfaction with Council supported or conducted activities.” (SEC.125(c)(3)(E). Council reports must include “information on consumer satisfaction with Council supported or conducted activities.” (SEC.125(c)(E)(ii)).

Key activities:

- Work with ODDC Staff to decide which projects will be participating in the Consumer Satisfaction Survey
- Determine steps in gathering consumer satisfaction from participants in Council supported or conducted activities
- Have the consumer satisfaction format available in a wide range of formats
- Provide final results to Council at the end of the year

Outputs:

IFA 3.1: The percent of people with developmental disabilities satisfied with a project activity.

IFA 3.2: The percent of family members satisfied with a project activity.

Short term outcomes:

The consumer satisfaction individual format determines satisfaction from the perspective of the individual with a developmental disability, family member, and others directly involved in Council activities.

Long term outcomes:

To provide council with meaningful information

To satisfy the Office of Management & Budget Performance and Results Act requirements

To provide information to plan for systems change

To document councils' effectiveness

Resources to be invested:

*Federal:	\$5,000.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$1,666.67</u>
Total:	\$6,666.67

*Continued funding is contingent upon successful completion of previous years' activities and the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Personal Service Contract

Grantee:

Nisonger Center or other Center of Excellence

EXTERNAL EVALUATION OF COUNCIL'S PROJECTS & PROCESSES

PUBLIC LAW 106-402-OCT. 30, 2000 – 114 STAT. 1680

For each year of the grant, describing -

- (i) The goals to be achieved through the grant, which, beginning in fiscal year 2012, shall be consistent with applicable indicators of progress described in section 104(a)(3);
- (ii) The strategies to be used in achieving each goal; and
- (iii) The method to be used to determine if each goal has been achieved.

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

Council members, staff and general public will have increased access to evaluation results for at least 3 selected Council projects resulting in council funded activities having a greater impact.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

As part of the planning process to develop the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (ODDC), 2022-2026 State Plan, the ODDC will use a logic model as a tool to create a conceptual framework for proposed projects that explains the linkages among program elements. The logic model will summarize the logical connections between the needs that are the focus of the ODDC, ODDC's goals and objectives, the target population, ODDC's inputs or resources, the proposed activities/processes/outputs directed toward the target needs/population, the expected short- and long-term outcomes the ODDC plans to achieve, and the evaluation plan for measuring the extent to which proposed processes and outcomes actually occur and have been achieved.

The Administration on Developmental Disabilities has asked all Councils to develop and implement a process to examine the progress made in achieving the goals of the State Plan that were developed during the ODDC planning process. Councils are encouraged to develop its own methods and measures for determining progress. The External Evaluation process will be an option available to Council in order to examine the progress of ODDC funded projects.

Council will implement the External Evaluation process for projects that are controversial, high profile or innovative. It will be implemented upon request from staff, Council members or general public.

When evaluating any project through the External Evaluation process the focus will be on the current 5-Year State Plan period not prior years. The prior years would have gone through the Competitive Process and Continuation Grant Reviews and therefore not relevant.

Key activities:

- The extent to which the goals of self-determination and consumer control were achieved
- The strategies that contributed to achieving the goals
- Factors that impeded achievement of the goal(s)
- Explain the methodology, which may be qualitative or quantitative, that will be used to determine if the needs identified and discussed are being met and if the Council results are being achieved
- Define the procedures Council used to monitor progress in meeting its goals prior to External Evaluation
- Discuss Council activities that will measure or otherwise address the Council's effectiveness

Outputs:

SC 1.3.4: The number of best practices supported through Council activities: 3

Short term outcomes:

Council will be made aware that the option of External Evaluation Process can be utilized on any project that is controversial, high profile, innovative or any other reason deemed necessary by Council or staff.

Long term outcomes:

By December 2026, if Council chooses to utilize the External Evaluation Process, Council and general public will have increased information to evaluation results for selected Council projects to determine best practices.

ODDC funded activities will have a greater impact due to the External Evaluation process.

Resources to be Invested:

*Federal:	\$20,000.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$6,666.66</u>
Total:	\$26,666.00

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Contract

Grantee:

To be determined

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISCRETIONARY FUND

PUBLIC LAW 106-402 - OCT. 30, 2000 - 114 STAT. 1704

(E) SUPPORTING AND EDUCATING COMMUNITIES - The Council may support and conduct activities to assist neighborhoods and communities to respond positively to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families -

- (i) By encouraging local networks to provide informal and formal supports;
- (ii) Through education.

Goal:

Provide a broad range of leadership development opportunities for people with developmental disabilities, their family members and allies. Offer a variety of opportunities to develop the skills needed to become leaders in the disability movement.

Objective and impact of project:

Council will support projects that promote self-determination, consumer control to increase public awareness, advocacy and systems change efforts through providing funding of at least 10 mini grants annually.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

Council wishes to support one-time initiatives, not otherwise included in the state plans in an expeditious manner without the necessity of waiting for the next meeting and deliberation by full Council. This would be accomplished by sponsorship/collaboration on a variety of events/conferences as they relate to significant issues in the developmental disabilities arena.

Council will utilize social networking strategies to ensure that new and important information is made available to the developmental disabilities community in a timely and effective manner.

Expenditures shall further Council's positions and its efforts to support persons with developmental disabilities and their families to become more fully integrated into their communities, to learn more about various disabilities and the most up-to-date means to support a person with such a disability, and to foster greater public awareness of both disability issues and Council's role in promoting systems change.

Key activities:

- To describe how the un/underserved population will be reached specifically, which groups will be targeted and what strategies will be employed.
- Provide a detailed budget narrative, as an attachment, that explains how federal funds will be spent and matching funds provided for each mini grant request.

Outputs:

SC I.5.1: The number of Council supported systems change activities with organizations actively involved: 10

Short term outcomes:

Increased knowledge of what Council advocates for on behalf of people with developmental disabilities and their families in Ohio.

Long term outcomes:

Final reports will be completed to display progress and/or no progress of public awareness, advocacy and/or systems change.

Resources to be invested:

*Federal:	\$60,000
Matching Funds:	<u>\$20,000</u>
Total:	\$80,000

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Non-Competitive

Grantee:

To be determined

PUBLIC AWARENESS USING DIGITAL MEDIA FOR PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Public Law 106-402-OCT. 30, 2000 – 114 STAT. 1704

E) SUPPORTING AND EDUCATING COMMUNITIES - The Council may support and conduct activities to assist neighborhoods and communities to respond positively to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

Ensure statewide public awareness on Ohio DD Council's contributions through its grant work and other activities by using various communication methods and targeted campaigns to education and inform about issues related to Ohioans with developmental disabilities. This will result in increased collaborative relationships with disability organizations, state agencies, county boards of DD, individuals with DD and the general public. The increased collaboration will influence continual Council membership of at least three new counties annually and/or individuals that represent the un/underserved as defined by the DD Act requirements.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

Public Awareness is emphasized in the Developmental Disability Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act) under State Plan Implementation through Outreach and Supporting and Educating Communities. It is important to identify individuals with developmental disabilities and their families who otherwise might not be aware of Council as well as support and educate them through public awareness mechanisms.

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council has provided products, programs, events and other activities for many years to Ohioans. However, in general, most people are not aware of the role Council plays in creating visions, piloting new approaches to services and supports, and changing systems for individuals with developmental disabilities.

In addition, the public generally does not understand or is not aware of the issues, strengths, capabilities, preferences and needs of people with developmental disabilities. Nor do most recognize the value of people with disabilities as contributors to our shared communities.

Council's products must educate, train and provide valuable information important to and about people with developmental disabilities and their families and those who support them. This includes county boards of developmental disabilities, state agencies, disability organizations, and community centers and other pertinent stakeholders. All products need to be disseminated widely across the state.

In regard to dissemination, each year efforts and collaboration attempts are made to connect with the county boards of developmental disabilities to ensure outreach is seriously considered. Council staff regularly distribute printed materials and promote the availability of electronic materials (website, social media, e-newsletters) to the county boards, the Department of Developmental Disabilities and other developmental disabilities entities. Council has developed strong collaborative relationships with many disability-related organizations to assist in the dissemination of Council's message and vice versa.

Through these efforts, Council has been able to gradually create diversity among its membership through a broader representation both with ethnicity and the different types of developmental disabilities that people have. Also, this has resulted in reaching Council members from counties throughout the state that have never been reached before, in particular the rural areas of the state.

During the last 2017 – 2021 Five Year State Plan, Council expanded its presence by improving its website and expanding its reach into social media, email marketing and video production. As advancements in technology continue to evolve, the grantee will be expected to provide new

ways with new technology developments for Council to accomplish the development and dissemination of its products and activities. Use of professionally recognized communication tools is necessary and products and activities should be developed with appropriate communication strategies. For example, all should be presented in user-friendly language, and be understandable and usable by all audiences, including people with and without disabilities. These effective communication strategies will be used at all levels – from in-house to the general public and the media.

Key activities:

- Create innovative ideas using various communication tools and techniques for implementing public awareness campaigns and publications which promote self-determination and consumer control. To that end, always show people with disabilities speaking for themselves, even when assistance is necessary.
- Create innovative ideas for highlighting Council members and Council activities using various communication tools and techniques to increase interest for potential new members and new grantees.
- As items are adopted or initiated by the Executive Committee and/or Council Staff, ensure that the materials – whether print, video, web-based, audio, etc. – are developed in accessible and user-friendly formats, including the use of clear language and person first language.
- Incorporate Council's visual identity program (color, logo, style guide) in all products and activities.
- Produce multi-lingual copies of products as requested.
- As new products are produced, develop a dissemination plan for the specific project that will include reaching unserved/underserved areas and populations.
- Work with Council's Electronic Design Specialist to include all products and current/relevant information on website and social media.
- Establish working relationships with the media and provide relevant press releases; respond to interviews as requested
- Assist Council staff with other public awareness projects, including products for Council members and/or people with developmental disabilities, their families and stakeholders.

Outputs:

IFA I.1: The number of people with developmental disabilities who participated in Council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect their lives, the lives of others, and/or systems: 15

IFA I.2: The number of family members who participated in Council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect their lives, the lives of others, and/or systems: 15

IFA 3.1: The percent of people with developmental disabilities satisfied with a project activity.

IFA 3.2: The percent of family members satisfied with a project activity.

Short term outcomes:

Increased knowledge about people with disabilities, in particular in the unserved/underserved areas of Ohio, and within the communities where they live through support and education from products and/or activities of Council and its grantees.

At least one new collaborative effort will be formed to continue effective awareness and improve the number of people reached about people with disabilities through the products and/or activities of Council and its grantees.

A dissemination plan will be created based on each Council project to ensure that the largest target audience is reached.

Long term outcomes:

By the end of 2021, the diversity of Council's membership will expand to reach at least the minimum representation as indicated by the DD Act.

By the end of 2021, Council's membership will reach at least five new counties.

Resources to be invested:

*Federal:	\$80,000.00
Non-Federal funds:	<u>\$26,667.00</u>
Total:	\$106,667.00

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

To be determined

OHIO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

Project Descriptions

2022 – 2026

**In the Area
of
Children and Health Projects**

**Staff Contact: Sara Rebecca Bates
(614) 644-5548
Sara.Bates@dodd.ohio.gov**

COME TOGETHER

114 STAT. 1682 PUBLIC LAW 106–402—OCT. 30, 2000

(2) contribute to a coordinated, consumer- and family-centered, consumer- and family-directed, comprehensive system of community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that enable individuals with developmental disabilities to exercise self-determination, be independent, be productive, and be integrated and included in all facets of community life.

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

An increased number of families of people with developmental disabilities in Ohio will have knowledge and access of available supports to help them effectively advocate for their family member.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

In 2012, The Human Services Research Institute (HSRI), through partial funding from the Ohio DD Council conducted the Ohio Family Advocacy Survey. That survey found that there were over 160 family advocacy organizations. Family advocacy programs provide critical services to individuals and families throughout Ohio. These services assist families in accessing and navigating multiple systems related to education, disabilities, mental health, safety, and other issues. Yet, according to the Five-Year State plan survey conducted in 2019, 44 percent of families surveyed still did not understand how to get services.

There is also a recognized demand for services provided by trained advocates. In the 2012 report from HSRI, 62 % of the programs surveyed

reported that they received requests for trained advocacy services per month.

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council would like to fund a project to help coordinate and support family advocacy organizations throughout the state of Ohio. This project will promote collaboration among family advocacy organizations, increase community capacity to respond to family needs, engage families at the grassroots level to advocate for systems improvement, and increase desired outcomes for families.

ODDC will support activities that build capacity and systemic change through outreach, training, research, technical assistance, supporting and educating communities, interagency collaboration and coordination, demonstration of new approaches, informing policymakers, and system design and redesign.

Proposals should address, if necessary: transportation, accessibility, use of technology, replication, sustainability, if the project reaches entire state or a specific region, cross-disability, and cultural diversity.

Key activities:

- Increase collaboration between family advocacy organizations.
- Establish a support program that can be used across all family advocacy organizations when training advocates.
- Develop a referral protocol for families to access advocates and resources.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of project through data collection.

Outputs:

IFA 1.2: The number of family members who participated in Council supported in activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect the family, the lives of others, and/or systems: 20

IFA 2.3: The percent of people who are better able to say what they want or say what services and supports they want or say what is important to them: 20%

SC 1: The number of Council efforts to transform fragmented approached into coordinated and effective systems that assure individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life: 1

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

Increase consistencies of practice and decrease duplication of services.

Long term outcomes:

Increase the effectiveness of services that help families achieve whatever they believe is a good life.

Resources to be invested:

	2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
*Federal:	\$40,000.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$13,333.33</u>
Total	\$53,333.33

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

TBD

EMPOWERING FAMILIES

PUBLIC LAW 106-402-OCT. 30, 2000 – 114 STAT. 1680 (2) individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have competencies, capabilities, and personal goals that should be recognized, supported, and encouraged, and any assistance to such individuals should be provided in an individualized manner, consistent with the unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, and capabilities of such individuals.

Goal:

All children, youth, and students with intellectual/developmental disabilities, aged birth to 21 years, will receive individualized, evidence-based supports and services in inclusive settings that will help them attain their maximum potential, including extra-curricular activities.

Objective and impact of project:

Family members of people with developmental disabilities will have increased information and supports to obtain inclusive education services for their child.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

Prior to 1975, millions of children with disabilities were either entirely excluded or included to a limited degree in public schools. In 1975, Congress passed the Education for All Handicapped Children Act mandating that public schools not only educate students with disabilities but also provide them with necessary supports and services. Embedded within this law is parental involvement. Congress wrote parents into the legislation in 1975 to ensure that children with disabilities would have advocates in securing their rights to a free, appropriate, public education. Since 1975, the act has been reauthorized several times and in 1990 renamed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Throughout all these changes, parental involvement has remained and, in fact, been strengthened in the legislation.

However, the IDEA is vast and difficult to understand. Many parents have difficulty learning the law. Parents find it difficult to be assertive in Individualized Education Plan (IEP) meetings with the school due to the emotions involved in discussing their child, especially in a setting where they feel overwhelmed due to the power differential between the parent and the school.

The 5-year state plan survey conducted by the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (ODDC) identified families' experience with the special education system as their top issue. With over 250,000 students with disabilities enrolled in Ohio schools and limited numbers of supports through the Parent Mentor program and the Disability Rights Ohio advocates, the ODDC will fund a project to increase and improve the support families receive during the special education process.

ODDC will support activities that build capacity and systemic change through outreach, training, research, technical assistance, supporting and educating communities, interagency collaboration and coordination, demonstration of new approaches, informing policymakers, and system design and redesign.

Proposals should address, if necessary: transportation, accessibility, use of technology, replication, sustainability, if the project reaches entire state or a specific region, cross-disability, and cultural diversity.

Key activities:

- Families will have improved knowledge of the special education process.
- Families will have improved access to supports throughout the special education process.

Outputs:

IFA 1.2: The number of family members who participated in Council supported in activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect the family, the lives of others, and/or systems:

30

IFA 3.2: The percent of family members satisfied with a project activity:
60%

SC 1.3: The number of promising and/or best practices created or supported: 1

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

Families will have increased knowledge and support when participating in the IEP process.

Long term outcomes:

Family members of individuals with developmental disabilities have the supports they need to help their loved ones become independent, productive, and fully participating members of their community.

Resources to be invested:

	2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
*Federal:	\$65,000.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$21,666.66</u>
Total:	\$86,666.66

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

TBD

INCLUSIVE RECREATION

PUBLIC LAW 106-402-OCT. 30, 2000 – 114 STAT. 1680 (7) with education and support, communities can be accessible to and responsive to the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families and are enriched by full and active participation in community activities, and contributions, by individuals with developmental disabilities and their families;

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

People with developmental disabilities will increase their physical activity to improve overall health and decrease the risk of chronic disease.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

According to the 2020 Ohio State Health Improvement Plan (OSHIP), 43.9 percent of people with disabilities in Ohio report no leisure time spent in physical activity. Living a sedentary, or inactive, lifestyle has consistently been one of the top five risk factors for heart disease. The OSHIP has established that people with disabilities in Ohio are a population group that is more likely to have coronary heart disease, hypertension, and diabetes. The Ohio DD Council's (ODDC) Five-Year Plan Statewide Survey found that exercise, learning to exercise or being more active would improve health. Accordingly, Exercise has been shown to improve blood glucose control in type 2 diabetes, reduce cardiovascular risk factors contribute to weight loss and improve well-being.

People with developmental disabilities experience significant barriers when attempting to access health and wellness activities. Many times,

information and services that promote health and wellness are not designed to consider their preferences, needs and disabilities. To support efforts to increase physical activity and improve the health of people with developmental disabilities, the ODDC will support a project that will provide information and best practice protocols to increase the quality of and access to recreation services for people with developmental disabilities and their families. The project should expand upon existing initiatives such as Creating Healthy Communities, an initiative through the Ohio Department of Health, to increase opportunities for inclusive physical activity and recreation for people with developmental disabilities within their communities.

ODDC will support activities that build capacity and systemic change through outreach, training, research, technical assistance, supporting and educating communities, interagency collaboration and coordination, demonstration of new approaches, informing policymakers, and system design and redesign.

Proposals should address, if necessary: transportation, accessibility, use of technology, replication, sustainability, if the project reaches entire state or a specific region, cross-disability, and cultural diversity.

Key activities:

- Promote and sustain participation of people with developmental disabilities in inclusive physical activity and recreation.
- Provide information and training to recreation facilities and professionals to increase opportunities for inclusive physical activity and recreation for people with developmental disabilities within their community.

Outputs:

IFA 3.1: The percent of people with developmental disabilities satisfied with a project activity: 25%

IFA 3.2: The percent of family members satisfied with a project activity: 10%

SC 1.3: The number of promising and/or best practices created or supported: 1

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

People with developmental disabilities will have greater access to inclusive physical activity and recreational opportunities.

Long term outcomes:

People with developmental disabilities will improve their overall physical fitness and health.

Resources to be invested:

	2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
*Federal:	\$24,000.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$8,000.00</u>
Total:	\$32,000.00

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

TBD

OHIO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

Project Descriptions

2022 – 2026

**In the Area
of
Community Living Projects**

**Staff Contact: Fatica Ayers
(614) 644-5543
Fatica.Ayers@dodd.ohio.gov**

DSP WHITE PAPER IN ACTION

PUBLIC LAW 106–402—OCT. 30, 2000

(F) providing training or technical assistance for professionals (including individuals providing education and rehabilitation services), employers, or other individuals who provide services to, employ, or are otherwise substantially involved in the major life functions of, an individual with developmental disabilities.

Goal:

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities are provided services and supports by direct support professionals that are knowledgeable, trained and supported.

Objective and impact of project:

By the end of year one, the grantee would have reviewed the “White Paper” developed by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and the Ohio Alliance of Direct Support Professionals and determined what recommendation(s) will be implemented.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

The Report to the President 2017, America’s Direct Support Workforce Crisis: Effects on People with Intellectual Disabilities, Families, Communities, and the U.S. Economy states the following:

Over the past 30 years, there has been high turnover in the direct support workforce. Almost half of DSPs leave their jobs within the first year, and most within the first six months. This is caused in part by low wages, poor benefits, and lack of training. The average wage for a DSP is \$10.72 per hour, which is below the poverty level for a family of four. Half of DSPs rely on government benefits, and most need to work two or three jobs.

Also, in the Report to the President 2017: America's Direct Support Workforce Crisis it states:

“People with an intellectual disability (ID) rely on Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) for daily support that enables them to live in U.S. communities. Their families rely on the DSP workforce to provide reliable quality support so they can work and have respite from the day-to-day stressors of caregiving. Challenges in finding, keeping, and training this workforce persist and have reached crisis levels in the long-term services and supports (LTSS) industry. The direct support workforce is one of the highest in demand in the U.S.

The trend has been that more people need supports and services, but fewer people are working as DSPs. At the same time, there is less funding for ID/DD services. When the economy is doing poorly and people need jobs, agencies can find people to work as DSPs. But when unemployment rates are low, it is harder to find people to provide direct support. Right now, more than 9% of DSP positions are unfilled. This creates extra work and stress for DSPs who remain on the job and results in lower-quality care. DSPs who are tired from working long hours or more than one job are more likely to make mistakes and to face more stressful situations. When DSPs do not know the people they support, they may not recognize signs and symptoms of illness.

The support needed by persons with ID/DD is primarily provided by family caregivers and paid workers. Most of the paid, hands-on support that is provided is done by DSPs. Due to the relatively high levels of need for assistance among people with ID/DD, Congress has found that “as increasing numbers of individuals with developmental disabilities are living, learning, working and participating in all aspects of community life, there is an increasing need for a well-trained workforce... to provide the services, supports and other forms of assistance required to enable the individuals to carry out those activities” (Sec. 101(a)(14)). Title III of the DD Act, which focuses on a program for direct support workers who provide assistance to individuals with DD, indicates that these workers have played essential roles in supporting people with ID/DD and expanding their community options.

To make sure that people with ID/DD can use all that communities have to offer, they must have skilled support provided by a stable, well-prepared direct support workforce. Another challenge for the DSP workforce is that direct support is not seen as a valued, professional career, and there is little opportunity for career advancement. The direct support workforce and the service system that supports it are in crisis. The results will be tragic for people with ID/DD and their families unless important changes are made at once.”

In the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council 5 Year State Plan survey, a number of questions were asked about providers/direct support professionals such as:

Q20 – People with disabilities were asked to give their thoughts on how their provider could serve them better. There were 318 responses from 324 total participants (98.1% participation rate). Respondents were able to select more than one answer.

Q48 – Family members were asked what they thought the provider could do better for their family member with a disability. There were 590 responses from 598 participants (98.7% participation rate). Respondents were able to enter more than one answer.

Q77 – Providers and stakeholders were also asked what they thought would an individual’s direct support professional could do better. There were 580 responses from a total of 581 participants (99.8% participation rate). Respondents were able to choose more than one answer to this question.

In every group they cited the need for more training for Direct Support Professionals.

Prior to pandemic the Ohio Alliance of Direct Support Professionals and the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities were working on a “White Paper” to outline data and recommend a statewide tiered system for DSPs that established step increases for the various levels and also built in a path to transition from a DSP to other roles within our field.

The “White Paper” would collect data from surveys and studies conducted amid the crisis. The recommendations in this “White Paper” should solidify

the stance that DSPs are *professionals* and deserve to be *recognized* as such with the ability to earn a living wage and increases commensurate with their experience and training. The overall tone of the paper will give credit to Ohio for being the ONLY state in the country that has a competency based add-on, but will outline the challenges of the current structure and recommend a "retooling" of the concept that encompasses all DSPs.

The ODDC would like to invest funds in a project that will review the "White Paper" once it is completed and determine which recommendations can in fact be implemented and sustained.

Key activities:

- Grantee should establish a process or mechanism to have culturally diverse individuals with developmental disabilities and Direct Support Professionals to review the "White Paper".
- Obtain input from individuals with disabilities regarding the skills and training needs of DSPs
- Include the personal experiences and interactions between DSPs and individuals with disabilities.
- The type of skills and training DSP may need to make the Individualized Service Plan (ISP) a self-determined and consumer-controlled process.
- Determine what recommendation(s) will be implemented.
- Determine how recommendation(s) will be implemented.
- Implement the recommendation(s).
- Report such findings to the Community Living Committee of the DD Council.

Outputs:

SC 1.3.2: The number of promising promises supported through Council activities.

SC 1.4: The number of people trained or educated through Council systemic change activities.

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

The Project will review the “White Paper” and determine which recommendation (s) to implement.

Long term outcomes:

The Project will develop ways to sustain the activities implemented from the recommendations in “White Paper.”

Resources to be invested:

	2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
*Federal:	\$40,000.00
Matching funds:	<u>\$13,333.33</u>
Total:	\$53,333.33

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding Method:

Competitive

Grantee:

To Be Determined

REPLICATE AND EXPAND TRANSPORTATION PROJECT

PUBLIC LAW 106–402—OCT. 30, 2000

(11) individuals with developmental disabilities need to have access to and use of public transportation, in order to be independent and directly contribute to and participate in all facets of community life;

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

By the end of the second year of the project, at least two new destinations outside of Athens County and volunteer counties will receive technical assistance and training on how to develop a transportation system that leverages dollars, collaborates, and finds ways to sustain itself.

Background, rationale and scope of project:

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council conducted a study on transportation which reported that obtaining safe, affordable, and appropriate transportation options can be very difficult for Ohioans with disabilities. Existing transportation options do not always operate at the times or in the locations they are needed. Transportation options often do not, or cannot, serve the diversity of disabilities present in the community. There are major scheduling challenges which result in long wait times for rides. Riders did not believe they could make spontaneous or flexible travel decisions, limiting or preventing their participation in a variety of activities and inhibiting integration in their community. For their part, transportation providers indicated they struggled to balance meeting the needs of their clients with budget constraints and regulatory and documentation requirements. Different stakeholders – Ohioans with disabilities,

transportation providers, and other professionals – were often in agreement when identifying issues, if not in full agreement on the best solutions.

Ohio's population is growing more slowly than many other states. In places where Ohio is adding people, the growth is largely attributable to foreign born populations. Most of these individuals are moving to urban areas. •• Foreign born populations tend to be experienced public transportation riders. Many expect and want public transportation services if they are going to make Ohio their permanent home. Ohioans are getting older and poorer, especially in rural areas. ••Seniors and low-income individuals will rely more on public transportation, putting more pressure on transit systems to meet this growing demand. Health and human services are increasingly focused on serving people in their communities and encouraging people to stay in their homes.

••Implementing these programs requires a corresponding investment in transportation; this can be coordinated with public transportation services to reduce duplication of service and effort. (2014 Ohio Statewide Transit Needs Study)

The pilot program, Athens On Demand Transit, was implemented in November 2012. The service at that time had three wheelchair accessible, ADA compliant minivans. The service is demand response and riders must provide 24 hours' notice for trip requests. Personal care attendants ride free. Travel training is provided to help riders understand how the service works. AODT uses scheduling and dispatching software from a vendor called PCTrans. HAPCAP had already purchased the PCTrans product for Logan Public Transit, and it was relatively inexpensive to add licenses for AODT's use. (2013 External Evaluation Report by Ohio Department of Transportation)

AODT provides each rider with a courtesy card at the drop-off point. The card shows the name and cell number of the driver that will be picking up the rider, as well as the scheduled pickup time. Riders are asked to wear an Athens On Demand Transit lanyard, with the courtesy card in the lanyard's pocket. (2013 External Evaluation Report by Ohio Department of Transportation)

Athens On Demand Transit is running along quite nicely and the ridership continues to increase. A lot of this is from improved scheduling and

planning. Their DD clients reoccurring rides account for 75-80% of the time slots, many of these involve work related activities.

In 2020 AODT was committed to providing affordable and accessible transportation in a professional and safe manner. The COVID-19 outbreak only increased the need. AODT, along with all of their other transportation programs, continued to operate during the crisis with a few modifications. In the case of Athens On Demand Transit, they made the following adjustments –

- They have significantly increased their cleaning and sanitizing practices.
- The vans are wiped down with sanitizer between each trip and thoroughly cleaned and sanitizing at the end of the day.
- During the Stay at Home Order, they temporarily suspended Saturday service. They have since resumed Saturday service.
- They continue to operate fare free. This reduces the additional financial burden on folks who may already be struggling. It also eliminates one more possible contamination point between passengers and drivers.
- Drivers are required to wear face coverings.
- Passengers are also required to wear face coverings in accordance with the state mandate.
- The AODT vans are in the process of being outfitted with retractable protective barriers that will help safeguard both the driver and passenger from potential transmission of COVID-19.

Council would like to invest in two aspects of a transportation project with AODT:

- Conduct a pilot that allows AODT to provide rides outside of Athens county and target people with disabilities first to receive these rides. Incorporate technology when needed.
- Work with interested counties to replicate their project success and focus on ways to leverages dollars, collaborate, and find ways to sustain themselves.

Key activities:

- Develop a system for out of county transportation for individuals with disabilities (i.e. Scheduling, driver and vehicle needs, cost, etc.)

- Seek technologies to assist in the scheduling and dispatch of out of county trips.
- Determine major trip generators for individuals with disabilities traveling out of county to assist in data collection, needs of the community, and future planning.
- Determine cost of trip generators for individuals with disabilities traveling out of county to assist in data collection, future planning, and need.
- The Athens Hocking Mobility Management Program will conduct outreach to counties interested in replicating the AODT Program.
- The AHMM program will conduct trainings and program overviews for counties interested in replicating the AODT program.
- The AHMM program will provide support for applications for counties applying for the replication of the AODT program.
- The AHMM program will work with AODT to host interested counties and discuss funding and operation of the program.

Outputs:

SC 1.1: The number of policy and/or procedures created or changed: 3

SC 1.4: The number of people trained or educated through Council systemic initiatives: 150

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

Strategic efforts will be made to ensure that people with disabilities in the Athens areas will be able to travel outside of Athens County.

Long term outcomes:

Identified counties in the rural area of the state interested in receiving technical assistance in replicating a coordinated transportation which includes technical assistance in how to leverage dollars, collaborate and find ways to sustain themselves will be made available.

Resources to be invested:

	2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
*Federal:	\$80,000.00
Matching funds:	<u>\$26,666.66</u>
Total	\$106,666,66

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

To Be Determined

SOAR OHIO PROJECT & OHIO STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL

PUBLIC LAW 106–402—OCT. 30, 2000

(7) with education and support, communities can be accessible to and responsive to the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families and are enriched by full and active participation in community activities, and contributions, by individuals with developmental disabilities and their families; (C) include activities related to interagency coordination and systems integration that result in improved and enhanced services, supports, and other assistance that contribute to and protect the self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life, of individuals with developmental disabilities.

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

By the end of three years, the SOAR Ohio project will train over 300 case managers (SSAs) and Independent Living Center personnel across the state on general techniques to improve the success of SSI and SSDI applications. The project will specifically focus on how to quickly and successfully transfer benefits from an institution to the community. It will also provide technical assistance to determine why a benefit has been delayed and how to best resolve the problem.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

The Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio's SOAR Ohio project helps highly vulnerable Ohioans reach greater health and independence by securing access to safe, decent, affordable housing. The SOAR Ohio project specializes in helping individuals with disabilities who are preparing

to exit institutions obtain federal Supplemental Security Income/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSI/SSDI) – a crucial support that opens the door to housing and long-term stability.

The application process for SSI/SSDI is very complicated and difficult to navigate, especially for people struggling with homelessness or exiting institutions, that can be extremely challenging. COHHIO has adopted the SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery) model, an evidence-based method to greatly expedite the application process and boost the likelihood of approval. **COHHIO has been designated the SOAR lead agency for Ohio by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).**

The Ohio Department of Medicaid successfully utilized the SOAR Ohio Project to help people enrolled in the HOME Choice program who were exiting institutional care quickly obtain SSI and SSDI benefits. The program also helped those who were trying to port their benefits from the institution into the community.

Council believes that the SOAR Ohio project could provide critical support to people enrolled in the Ohio Department of Development Disabilities' Rental Assistance Program.

Disparity: Some of these individuals who are transitioning from an institution to a community setting experience long delays in receiving their full community benefit of \$771 per month. In the meantime, they often must survive on the institutional rate of \$30 per month, which makes access to housing nearly impossible.

Through its partnership with DODD's Housing Manager, the SOAR Ohio project is already working to resolve benefit delays that have impacted individuals with a developmental disability who are moving from institutions to community settings. While these interventions have been necessary, a broader training and education approach would likely have a greater geographic impact and lead to "upstream" solutions for benefit delays. We believe this will reduce benefit delays, increase access to housing, and ultimately result in more successful community integrations.

The Statewide Independent Living mission is to aid Ohioans with significant disabilities in their quest for independence. Ohio has 12 locally managed CILs with that provide services to assist people with severe disabilities to

live independently and avoid institutionalization. Services provided include information and referral, advocacy, peer counseling, and independent living skills training.

Council would like the Ohio SOAR project to include training and technical assistance to all the Ohio CILs at no cost in order provide their staff with additional knowledge, skills and techniques in assisting people with disabilities with SSI/SSDI issues.

This project is not just limited to case managers, SSAs and OSILC personnel. Any entity supporting people with disabilities who need technical assistance on this issue will be able to receive it.

Key activities:

- Identified SSA's register and complete the self-guided National SOAR online course for 20 free C.E.U.'s. and certification provided from SAMHSA SOAR TA Center.
- Attend in-person SOAR Ohio certification with key focus of Federal and State collaboration tools, upon successful completion of National online course. Offered four times per year with class size of 25 per class. Certificate of completion provided after class.
- Web-based training and TA for all current, certified SOAR Ohio trained staff on a as needed bases along with four scheduled quarterly GoTo webinars.
- Quarterly GoTo meetings for all SOAR certified staff to attend for Federal and State updates and rule criteria. Q&A for newly certified staff provided for building on skill level and quality applications.
- Train over 300 case managers (SSAs) and Statewide Independent Living Center personnel across the state on general techniques to improve the success of SSI and SSDI applications, and specifically on how to quickly and successfully transfer benefits from an institution to the to the community.
- Technical assistance to determine why a benefit has been delayed and how to best resolve the problem.
- Compile data on the following:
 - SSI/SSDI Application Approvals
 - SSI/SSDI Application Denials
 - Total Decisions

Approval percentage
Number of phone calls and emails
Number of trainings and who attended
Number of Technical Assistance provided and to whom

Outputs:

SC 1.4.1: The number of people trained or educated through Council systemic change initiative: 300

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction with Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

Increased number of case managers/ SSAs knowledge statewide on general techniques to improve the success of SSI and SSDI applications.

Increased number of Ohio SILC personnel knowledge statewide on general techniques to improve the success of SSI and SSDI applications.

Long term outcomes:

Reduce benefit delays, increase access to housing, and ultimately result in more successful community integrations.

Resources to be invested:

	2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
*Federal:	\$75,000.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$25,000.00</u>
Total:	\$100,000.00

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Continuation Allocation

Grantee:

The Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio, Inc.

OHIO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

Project Descriptions

2022 – 2026

**In the Areas
of
Employment Projects**

**Staff Contact: Leslie Connelly
(614) 644-5542
Leslie.Connelly@dodd.ohio.gov**

DOLLARS AND SENSE

Public Law 106-402-Oct 30, 2000 Section 125(c) (5)

(C) TRAINING.—The Council may support and conduct training for persons who are individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and personnel (including professionals, paraprofessionals, students, volunteers, and other community members) to enable such persons to obtain access to, or to provide, community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance, including special adaptation of generic community services or specialized services for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

Financial literacy will improve the economic stability and advancement of individuals with disabilities and family members.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

Financial literacy is “the confluence of financial, credit and debt management and the knowledge that is necessary to make financially responsible decisions- decisions that are integral to our everyday lives.” In the United States, there is a general lack of understanding of finances. This lack of knowledge could impact an individual for many years to come. There are efforts to improve financial literacy in the U.S. often targeted at college students and the youth. In Ohio, high schools provide instruction in economics and financial literacy, however these courses do not meet the needs of students with disabilities and their families for multiple reasons. Financial literacy curriculum typically does not consider the use of and maintaining federal and state disability benefits.

In Ohio, state policymakers are committed to ensuring individuals with developmental disabilities have greater opportunities to employment and advancement of their careers. Individuals with developmental disabilities can use their strengths and talents to increase their income, have a sense of accomplishment and create their own social identity. Many people with disabilities have never managed a budget, opened a savings or checking account, used a Social Security Work Incentive, or built assets. It is important these individuals receive a financial education to improve their economic stability and support economic advancement while using state and federal benefits.

Over the years, the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (ODDC) has funded multiple projects aimed at providing the opportunity for individuals with DD and those that support them to foster critical financial literacy skills. However, lack of financial literacy remains a key issue. Results from the ODDC's 5-Year State Plan Public Survey indicated that people with disabilities and those that support them believe understanding benefits and money was one of the greatest barriers for people to live the life they want to live.

To build upon past projects, the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (ODDC) will fund a project to improve the economic stability and advancement of people with disabilities by improving their financial literacy. Components of financial literacy **could include, for example:** developing a livable budget, looking at current spending, saving while receiving benefits, how to access state and federal benefits, how to maintain state and federal benefits, resources to determine benefits, borrowing money, identity theft, where to keep money, using debit and credit cards, how to protect your money, filing taxes, protecting income and assets, state and federal benefit education, available non-disability related resources and benefits, understanding Medicaid waivers, planning for post-secondary education, stable accounts, financial planning for the future, retirement planning, tools to become more employable allowing for advancement.

ODDC will support activities that build capacity and systemic change through outreach, training, research, technical assistance, supporting and educating communities, interagency collaboration and coordination, demonstration of new approaches, informing policymakers and eliminating barriers, and system design and redesign.

ODDC will provide funding as outlined below for each year of the project. Proposals should address, **if necessary**: transportation, accessibility, use of technology, replication, sustainability, if the project reaches entire state or a specific region, cross-disability and cultural diversity.

Key activities:

- Development and implementation of a strategy to improve the financial literacy of people with disabilities.
- Increase in knowledge of individuals with disabilities, family members, and service providers.
- A method to measure the satisfaction of how an increase in knowledge or availability to employment related resources led to a more self-determined and consumer-controlled life for individuals with disabilities.

Outputs:

IFA 1.1: The number of people with developmental disabilities who participated in Council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect their lives, the lives of others, and/or systems: 50

IFA 1.2: The number of family members who participated in Council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect the family, the lives of others, and/or systems: 50

IFA 1.3: The number of 'other individuals' who participated in Council supported in activities designed to increase their knowledge: 50

SC 1.3.1: The number of promising practices supported through council activities: 2

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

Ohioans with developmental disabilities have an increase in knowledge about financial literacy.

Long term outcomes:

There is an increase in economic stability and advancement of people with disabilities.

Resources to be invested:

	2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
*Federal:	\$50,000.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$16,666.66</u>
Total:	\$66,666.66

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

TBD

EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT

Public Law 106-402-Oct 30, 2000 Section 125 (c) (5)
(I) COALITION DEVELOPMENT AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION. The Council may support and conduct activities to educate the public about the capabilities, preferences, and needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

Three best practices will increase awareness and capacity building and the number of employers hiring people with developmental disabilities.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

In Ohio, state policymakers are committed to ensuring individuals with developmental disabilities have greater opportunities to employment and advancement of their careers. Individuals with developmental disabilities can use their strengths and talents to increase their income, have a sense of accomplishment and create their own social identity. Employer engagement is essential to furthering this progress.

“Hiring people with disabilities is good for your bottom line. According to research, 92% of the American public view companies that hire people with disabilities more favorably than those who do not. And, 87% of the public would prefer to give their business to companies that hire people with disabilities.

Employing people with disabilities helps generate revenues by allowing employers to tap into the disability market, build brand loyalty and trust, and create new products and services.

Creating an inclusive workplace can reduce turnover costs as people with disabilities tend to keep their jobs longer (62% of employees with a disability have been at the same job three years or longer); employees with disabilities have the same or better absentee and sick rates as non-disabled employees. Industry reports consistently rate workers with disabilities as average or above average in performance, quality and quantity of work, flexibility to demands, attendance and safety.”

Employing People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities: A Report by the Institute for Corporate Productivity (i4cp)

Disability: Dispelling the Myths, How People with Disabilities Can Meet Employer Needs

Hiring people with disabilities is good for business. However, many employers are not aware of this untapped resource or how to effectively recruit, retain and advance people with disabilities. In addition, many service providers are unskilled in working with employers and supporting employers to accommodate an employee with a disability.

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council will increase the competitive employment of Ohioans with developmental disabilities by funding Disability:IN to support Ohio employers with their disability inclusion initiatives and share disability resources and strategies for employing job seekers with disabilities in new and creative ways.

Disability:IN Ohio is a nonprofit organization with over 200 member businesses and a 10-member volunteer executive board led by Huntington Bank. Disability:IN Ohio is an Affiliate of Disability:IN, a leading nonprofit resource for business disability inclusion worldwide. Disability:IN and 27 Affiliates raise a collective voice of positive change for people with disabilities in business.

Disability:IN Ohio will develop several employer focused disability inclusion programs. These programs will include:

- Educating federal contractors on leading practices through collaboration with Ohio Industry Liaison Group.

- Disability Inclusion@Work Trainings in collaboration with EARN, JAN as well as disability subject matter experts. The virtual trainings will provide best practice strategies for employers highlighting inclusion in the marketplace, workplace and workforce.
- WrightChoice Virtual Mentoring Program creating an employer mentoring experience for Ohio employers.
- Ohio Regional Disability Employer Assessment/Consulting by creating strategies for Ohio employers to collaborate with their local disability provider community.

Key activities:

- Educate Federal contractors on leading practices in disability inclusion hiring.
- Educate employers on disability inclusion strategies and best practices
- Build the bridge to connect employers and disability providers to increase knowledge and capacity leading to increased disability employment outcomes.
- Employer's will experience Disability Mentoring with college students

Outputs:

IFA.1.3: The number of 'other individuals' who participated in Council supported in activities designed to increase their knowledge: 250

IFA 3.1: The percent of people with developmental disabilities satisfied with a project activity: 90

IFA 3.2: The percent of family members satisfied with a project activity: 90

SC 1.3.1: The number of promising practices supported through council activities: 4

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

The development of employer engagement best practices leads to an increase in knowledge and capacity of businesses and service providers.

Long term outcomes:

More Ohioans with developmental disabilities are competitively employed.

Resources to be invested:

	2022, 2023, 2024
*Federal:	\$65,000.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$21,666.67</u>
Total:	\$86,666.67

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Continuation Allocation

Grantee:

Disability:IN Ohio

EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES

Public Law 106-402-Oct 30, 2000 Section 125 (c) (5)
(H) BARRIER ELIMINATION, SYSTEMS DESIGN AND REDESIGN.—
The Council may support and conduct activities to eliminate barriers to access and use of community services by individuals with developmental disabilities, enhance systems design and redesign, and enhance citizen participation to address issues identified in the State plan.

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

People with disabilities, families and service providers have knowledge and access to employment related resources, technology and programs resulting in improved employment outcomes.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

Recently the Ohio DD Council conducted the 5-Year State Plan Public Survey as a first step in identifying problems and needs to be addressed the council's state plan.

Key findings from this survey in the area of employment identified:

- Two of the biggest issues for people with disabilities to live the life they want to live were: finding a job or getting a better job or more money and understanding how to get services.
- One of top reasons people with disabilities were not working in the community was they are afraid of losing their benefits.
- Barriers to continued education or training after school were lack of knowledge of programs.

- Understanding benefits, including Medicaid, SSI, and SSDI, was identified as a significant need.
- Barriers to accessing technology included: do not know what kind of technology would be helpful and unsure how to pay for the technology.

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (ODDC) will fund several projects to ensure people with disabilities, families and service providers have knowledge and access to employment related resources, technology and programs. ODDC will fund several projects from 2022-2026. ODDC will provide funding for \$10,000-\$50,000 per project each year. Proposals must indicate the number of years funding is being requested (1 to 5 years in 2022, 1 to 4 years in 2023, 1 to 3 years in 2024, 1 to 2 years in 2025, 1 year in 2026) and the amount of funding.

ODDC will support activities that build capacity and systemic change through outreach, training, research, technical assistance, supporting and educating communities, interagency collaboration and coordination, demonstration of new approaches, informing policymakers and eliminating barriers, and system design and redesign.

Proposals should address, **if necessary**: transportation, accessibility, use of technology, replication, sustainability, length of the project, if the project reaches entire state or a specific region, cross-disability and cultural diversity.

Key activities:

- Increase in knowledge of employment related resources, technology and programs of individuals with disabilities, family members, and service providers.
- Increase in the access of employment related resources, technology and programs of individuals with disabilities, family members, and service providers.
- Method to measure the satisfaction of how an increase in knowledge or availability to employment related resources led to a more self-determined and consumer-controlled life for individuals with disabilities.
- More people with disabilities are employed in integrated competitive employment.

Outputs: (for all projects funded)

IFA 1.1: The number of people with developmental disabilities who participated in Council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect their lives, the lives of others, and/or systems: 20

IFA 1.2: The number of family members who participated in Council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect the family, the lives of others, and/or systems: 20

IFA 1.3: The number of 'other individuals' who participated in Council supported in activities designed to increase their knowledge: 20

SC 1.3.1: The number of promising practices supported through council activities: 4

SC 2.2: The number of Council efforts that were implemented to transform fragmented approaches into a coordinated and effective system that assures individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life: 4

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

Ohioans with developmental disabilities have an increase in knowledge about and access employment related resources, technology, and programs.

Long term outcomes:

There is an increase in economic stability and advancement of people with disabilities.

Resources to be invested: (for all projects funded)

	2022 and 2023	2024	2025 and 2026
*Federal	\$50,000.00	\$89,000.00	\$134,000.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$16,666.66</u>	<u>\$29,666.66</u>	<u>\$44,666.66</u>
Total	\$66,666.66	\$118,666.66	\$178,666.66

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee(s):

TBD

OHIO DB 101 VIDEOS

Public Law 106-402-Oct 30, 2000 Section 125 (c) (5)
(H) BARRIER ELIMINATION, SYSTEMS DESIGN AND REDESIGN.—The Council may support and conduct activities to eliminate barriers to access and use of community services by individuals with developmental disabilities, enhance systems design and redesign, and enhance citizen participation to address issues identified in the State plan.

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

Over 1,200 people with disabilities a year will be empowered to make informed decisions related to competitive integrated employment.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

Ohio's Disability Benefits 101 (www.oh.db101.org) is a comprehensive website that empowers people with disabilities to make informed decisions about making competitive integrated employment a part of their lives. OHDB 101 offers Ohio-specific, individualized tools and information on employment and career planning, health coverage options, disability benefits, asset building, education, housing, and community living. OHDB 101 provides 24/7 access to interactive planning tools, information, and enhanced self-directed learning that deepen the user's knowledge about work possibilities, opening the potential of people who may otherwise believe that work is not an attainable goal. OHDB 101 serves a range of users, including youth with disabilities, job seekers with disabilities, service providers, and their communities.

Ohio recently updated and redesigned the OHDB 101 website with the World Institute on Disabilities (<https://wid.org/about/vision/>) to make the site more accessible and user friendly to people in Ohio and improve the usefulness of the tools.

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities contracts with The World Institute on Disability (WID) to provide technical assistance on the integration of OHDB101 into daily practices and policies in response to federal and state directives and initiatives towards competitive integrated employment for people with and without disability benefits. WID is a nationally renowned agency that manages the OHDB101 web platform (<https://www.db101.org/>) for numerous states across the country.

The ODDC will fund continuing efforts to improve the user experience for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This includes the use of video tutorials to provide users an accessible and meaningful method for learning about how to maximize their disability benefits to engage in competitive and integrated employment. Video subject matters may include, but are not limited to: What is SSI, SSI and Work, Ohio's STABLE Account program and Medicaid Waivers.

Key activities:

- Development and management of video tutorials for OHDB101.
- Improve the accessibility of OHDB101 including when possible those that are non-readers or those that do not understand English.
- Increase the financial literacy of individuals with disabilities, family members, and service providers.

Outputs:

IFA 1.1: The number of people with developmental disabilities who participated in council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect their lives, the lives of others, and/or systems: 1,000

SC 1.3.1: The number of promising practices supported through council activities: 2

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

Ohioans with developmental disabilities have more resources to make informed decisions related to competitive integrated employment.

Long term outcomes:

There is an increase in economic stability and advancement of people with disabilities.

Resources to be invested:

	2022 and 2023
*Federal	\$39,000.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$13,000.00</u>
Total	\$52,000.00

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Allocation

Grantee:

World Institute on Disabilities

OHIO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

Project Descriptions

2022 – 2026

**In the Area
of
Leadership Development Projects**

**Staff Contact: Leslie Connelly
(614) 644-5542
Leslie.Connelly@dodd.ohio.gov**

EMERGING ADVOCATES

Public Law 106-402-Oct 30, 2000 Section 125(c) (5)
(K) (i) DEMONSTRATION OF NEW APPROACHES TO SERVICES AND SUPPORTS. The Council may support and conduct, on a time-limited basis, activities to demonstrate new approaches to serving individuals with developmental disabilities that are a part of an overall strategy for systemic change. The strategy may involve the education of policymakers and the public about how to deliver effectively, to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, services, supports, and assistance that contribute to the achievement of the purpose of this subtitle.

Goal:

Provide a broad range of leadership development opportunities for people with developmental disabilities, their family members, and allies. Offer a variety of opportunities to develop the skills needed to become leaders in the disability movement.

Objective and impact of project:

Over the five-year grant period, children and youth with developmental disabilities will be empowered through skill development and opportunities to advocate for themselves and others.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

According to Wrights Law self- advocacy is:

Learning how to speak up for yourself, making your own decisions about your own life, learning how to get information so that you can understand things that are of interest to you, finding out who will support you in your journey, knowing your rights and responsibilities, problem solving, listening and learning, reaching out to others when you need help and friendship, and learning about self-determination.

Why is Self-Advocacy Important?

So that you have the knowledge needed to succeed and are given the chance to participate in decisions that are being made about your life.

*(<https://www.wrightslaw.com/info/self.advocacy.htm>)

Developing self-advocacy skills is a critical tool for youth with disabilities to achieve their goals and increase self-sufficiency. It is never too early to start teaching these skills. The foundation for self-advocacy can begin when a child is young and then be expanded upon during the elementary, middle, and high school years.

Currently in Ohio, there are few education programs for youth with disabilities to improve self-advocacy skills. Most programs are focused on adults with disabilities. Fortunately, several school districts have developed goals focusing on student self-advocacy and self-determination, but it is not enough. Often the youth programs occur in the final years of high school, leaving youth with inadequate skills to speak up and be involved in making important decisions about their life, as well as become leaders in adulthood.

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council (ODDC) will fund a project to increase and improve the:

- support children and youth with DD receive from families, schools, direct service providers, and other entities to learn self-advocacy and leadership skills and put these skills into practice.
- opportunities children and youth with DD have to use advocacy skills in educational planning, including Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), transition plans, and all decision-making.
- self-advocacy and advocacy skills of children and youth with DD for them to advocate for themselves and others.

ODDC will support activities that build capacity and systemic change through outreach, training, research, technical assistance, supporting and educating communities, interagency collaboration and coordination, demonstration of new approaches, informing policymakers and eliminating barriers, and system design and redesign.

ODDC will provide funding as outlined below for each year of the project. Proposals should address each year of the project. Proposals should address, **if necessary**: transportation, accessibility, use of technology, replication, sustainability, if the project reaches entire state or a specific region, cross-disability, and cultural diversity.

Key activities:

- Increase self-advocacy and advocacy skills of children and youth with developmental disabilities
- Improve self-advocacy and advocacy support received from families, educators, and providers
- Improve the awareness of families, educators and providers regarding self-advocacy and advocacy of children and youth with developmental disabilities
- Increase opportunities for children and youth to advocate and be leaders
- The grantee will review and evaluate the project funded by the Virginia Department of Education which focuses on providing direct instruction, models and opportunities to practice skills associated with self-determined behavior. The grantee will make a recommendation to DD Council on whether such a project should be replicated in Ohio's education system.

Outputs:

IFA 1.1: The number of people with developmental disabilities who participated in council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect their lives, the lives of others, and/or systems: 50

IFA 1.3: The number of 'other individuals' who participated in Council supported in activities designed to increase their knowledge: 50

IFA 2.4: The percent of people who are participating now in advocacy activities: 75

IFA 2.4IND: Of the total in IFA 2.1B, the number of PWDD who responded that they are 'participating now in advocacy activities': 30

SC 1.3.3: The number of best practices created: 2

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

Children and youth with developmental disabilities have improved self-advocacy skills and knowledge.

Long term outcomes:

Children and youth with developmental disabilities become effective self-advocates and leaders in their communities.

Resources to be invested:

	2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
*Federal	\$85,000.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$28,333.00</u>
Total:	\$113,333.00

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

TBD

EMPOWERING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Public Law 106-402-Oct 30, 2000 Section 125(c) (5)

(I) COALITION DEVELOPMENT AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION.—The Council may support and conduct activities to educate the public about the capabilities, preferences, and needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families and to develop and support coalitions that support the policy agenda of the Council, including training in self-advocacy, education of policymakers, and citizen leadership skills.

Goal:

Provide a broad range of leadership development opportunities for people with developmental disabilities, their family members, and allies. Offer a variety of opportunities to develop the skills needed to become leaders in the disability movement.

Objective and impact of project:

Individuals with developmental disabilities will develop self-advocacy and leadership skills to live their lives as they choose and advocate for issues important to them.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

The DD Act, as reauthorized, includes a requirement that every Developmental Disabilities Council address these three areas:

- (I) establish or strengthen a program for the direct funding of a State self-advocacy organization led by individuals with developmental disabilities;
- (II) support opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities who are considered leaders to provide leadership training to individuals with developmental disabilities who may become leaders; and

- (III) support and expand participation of individuals with developmental disabilities in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership

To meet this requirement, Ohio DD Council will:

- Fund projects that meet the requirements of the DD Act, as stated above.
- Support activities that build capacity and systemic change through outreach, training, research, technical assistance, supporting and educating communities, interagency collaboration and coordination, demonstration of new approaches, informing policymakers, and system design and redesign.

Several five-year projects may be selected for funding. ODDC will provide funding for \$10,000-\$35,000 per project each year. Proposals should address, if necessary: transportation, accessibility, use of technology, replication, sustainability, if the project reaches entire state or a specific region, cross-disability, and cultural diversity. In addition, each proposal should clearly state which area(s) of the DD Act requirements the proposal is addressing. Proposals that do not address one of the areas will not be considered for funding.

Key activities:

- Empower leaders and advocates
- Provide leadership opportunities
- Increase self-advocacy skills
- Support and expand participation in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership

Outputs: (for all projects funded)

IFA 1.1: The number of people with developmental disabilities who participated in council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect their lives, the lives of others, and/or systems: 100

IFA 2.4: The percent of people who are participating now in advocacy activities: 75

IFA 2.4IND: Of the total in IFA 2.1B, the number of PWDD who responded that they are 'participating now in advocacy activities': 75

IFA 2.5IND: Of the total in IFA 2.1B, the number of PWDD who responded that they are 'participating on cross disability coalitions, boards, and/or serving in leadership positions': 30

SC 1.3.3: The number of best practices created: 2

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have improved self- advocacy and leadership skills.

Long term outcomes:

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families are leaders in their communities and advocate for issues important to them.

Resources to be invested: (for all projects funded)

	2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
*Federal	\$70,000.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$23,333.33</u>
Total:	\$93,333.33

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

TBD

ODDC AND ADVOCACY

Public Law 106-402-Oct 30, 2000 Section 125(c) (5)

(I) COALITION DEVELOPMENT AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION.—The Council may support and conduct activities to educate the public about the capabilities, preferences, and needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families and to develop and support coalitions that support the policy agenda of the Council, including training in self-advocacy, education of policymakers, and citizen leadership skills.

Goal:

Provide a broad range of leadership development opportunities for people with developmental disabilities, their family members, and allies. Offer a variety of opportunities to develop the skills needed to become leaders in the disability movement.

Objective and impact of project:

Over the five-year grant period, self-advocate leaders with developmental disabilities will be empowered through skill development and opportunities to be effective leaders.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

The DD Act, as reauthorized, includes a requirement that every Developmental Disabilities Council address these three areas:

- (IV) establish or strengthen a program for the direct funding of a State self-advocacy organization led by individuals with developmental disabilities;
- (V) support opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities who are considered leaders to provide leadership training to individuals with developmental disabilities who may become leaders; and

- (VI) support and expand participation of individuals with developmental disabilities in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership

To meet this requirement, Ohio DD Council will:

- Provide technical assistance to state self-advocacy organization(s) to support its members to advocate for policies that remove barriers to the full inclusion of people with developmental disabilities and their families,
- Ensure Council's documents and materials are written in plain language and in a manner appropriate for the intended audience,
- Support various self-advocacy organizations to assist with coordination and collaboration,
- Council members will mentor others in the community.

Key activities:

- Identify self-advocate leaders
- Provide leadership opportunities
- Increase self-advocacy skills

Outputs:

SC 1.3.4: The number of best practices supported through Council activities: 3

Short term outcomes:

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have improved self- advocacy skills and knowledge

Long term outcomes:

Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families are effective self-advocates and leaders in their communities.

Resources to be invested:

*Federal	\$00.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$00.00</u>
Total	\$00.00

Funding method:

In-house

Grantee:

None

OHIO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

Project Descriptions

2022 – 2026

**In the Area
of
Outreach Initiatives**

**Staff Contact: Kenneth Latham
(614) 644-5546
Kenneth.Latham@dodd.ohio.gov**

DETECTING SPECIFIC DISORDERS FOR AMISH AND NON-AMISH COMMUNITIES PROJECT

PUBLIC LAW 106–402—OCT. 30, 2000 (B) OUTREACH.—The Council may support and conduct outreach activities to identify individuals with developmental disabilities and their families who otherwise might not come to the attention of the Council and assist and enable the individuals and families to obtain services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance, including access to special adaptation of generic community services or specialized services.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this title is to assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life through culturally competent programs authorized under this title.

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

By the end of year two, the project will have identified at least 3 additional disorders to the current 160 disease panel currently offered to the Amish as well as Non-Amish communities.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

The Amish Project is a unique grant that does research in the Amish community. The Amish community is a closed community and utilizes as little mainstream society resources as possible. Because it is a closed community, the current grantee, the DDC clinic has established a partnership to deliver healthcare, research, and treatment for genetic disorder conditions.

This unique grant has proven to be extremely innovative, not only State-wide but nationally. A collaboration with medical professionals, families, hospitals, and teachers learn from the work that takes place in the Amish area of Northeast, Ohio.

The outreach services to Holmes County over the last several years played a key role in the development of a new, locally supported clinic – an important step in establishing long-term sustainability of medical care for the Amish DD community in this region. But the need for and impact of services to Amish families across Ohio is great and this opportunity for increased funding, timely. The current estimated Ohio Amish population is 67,000 and growing (estimated doubling rate of 15-20 years), representing 10,000 households in 55 settlements. The fees charged to self-pay families for most of targeted tests is just \$75 - much less than actual cost to run them and a fraction of the fees charged by medical centers and commercial laboratories.

The primary focus of this grant is to visit, diagnosis, test, and treat families in the Amish community who may be experiencing genetic disorders. All findings of the research are shared with other medical facilities, physicians, families, and other Amish communities. Through research, the DDC Clinic translates genetic research from the Laboratory and identifies genetic disorders. The DDC Clinic provides targeted consultation for various clinics in the Holmes Settlement.

In pursuing an Amish grant, it represents a collection of different genetically closed communities. The genetic disorders exist more in isolated districts and some of the disorders are quite rare, or unique, and serious enough to increase the mortality rate among Amish Children.

The major deliverable for the 2012-2016 Amish Community Project was outreach to the Holmes County Amish community.

Earlier diagnoses mean answers for families when for many years there were none. And earlier treatment for at-risk children leads to decreased disability and a higher quality of life for the community.

The focus for the project during 2017-2021 was to expand this effort and provide services to Amish communities across all of Ohio.

The work for 2017 and beyond benefitted the Amish communities across Ohio with the following goals:

- Support expanded research, comparing rare disorders' penetrance across multiple Amish communities.
- Develop up to 30 new diagnostic tests and provide this expanded diagnostic testing menu to Ohio Amish at the lowest possible cost; and
- Expand our education & outreach services to include genetic counseling (newly hired position) and support services for Amish families and the medical professionals that serve them.

These expanded services include research, expanding the number and availability of low-cost genetic tests, providing education and genetic counseling services for physicians and families, and increasing Amish families' awareness of rare genetic disorders, including a focus on young adults before they marry and have families of their own.

Potential Grantee would be working with the DD Clinic the premier genetic center to focus on specific disorders that may affect a larger percentage of the Amish and Non-Amish population in Ohio.

Key activities:

- Services will include: Expanded: Genetic Testing for all
- In-service Training for Amish Teachers of Special Needs Children, when needed.
- Hosting Medical Professional Meetings on Amish Genomic Medicine
- The grantee will facilitate collaboration with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), with particular focus on the ODH's Genetics, Birth Defects, and Children with Special Healthcare Needs Programs. This collaboration will include a reciprocal exchange of information and, potentially other cooperative work, for the purpose of improving systems of care for children by promoting best practices and policy change.
- Collaboration to broaden the scope of the project should be facilitated with the Nationwide Children's Hospital genome study on Somalis.

Outputs:

IFA 1.2: The number of family members who participated in Council supported in activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect the family, the lives of others, and/or systems: 700

SC 1.3.4: The number of best practices supported through Council activities: 3

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction with Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

With the addition of a second physician hired with board certification for Genetics and Internal Medicine, the DD Clinic is the premier genetic center in the State of Ohio. This will allow the project to focus on specific disorders that may affect a larger percentage of the Amish and Non-Amish population in Ohio.

Long term outcomes:

Continue research and development to expand the number of genetic tests and panels.

DDC Clinic will host bi-annual professional meetings to educate regional medical specialists on the rare genetic disorders affecting Ohio's Amish and Non- Amish communities. The overall goal is to build awareness among the medical specialties and facilities that are in the best professional roles and geographic locations to help facilitate earlier interventions.

Resources to be invested:

	2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
*Federal:	\$50,000.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$16,666.66</u>
Total:	\$66,666.66

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

To Be Determined

EMPOWERING REACHOUT E-DIVERSITY NEWSLETTER

Public Law 106-402- Oct. 30, 2000- 114 STAT.1704

(F) INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION.—The Council may support and conduct activities to promote interagency collaboration and coordination to better serve, support, assist, or advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

(7) CULTURALLY COMPETENT.—The term “culturally competent”, used with respect to services, supports, or other assistance, means services, supports, or other assistance that is conducted or provided in a manner that is responsive to the beliefs, interpersonal styles, attitudes, language, and behaviors of individuals who are receiving the services, supports, or other assistance, and in a manner that has the greatest likelihood of ensuring their maximum participation in the program involved.

(5) specific efforts must be made to ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities from racial and ethnic minority backgrounds and their families enjoy increased and meaningful opportunities to access and use community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance available to other individuals with developmental disabilities and their families;

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

By the end of each fiscal year, the newsletter will increase knowledge and awareness to 700 stakeholders including people with disabilities and their families about the benefits of culturally competent interagency collaboration and challenge readers will be encouraged to participate periodically in a challenge where they take action on information shared. Individuals with disabilities from un/underserved populations will be identified to lead the Challenges.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

The Reach Out e-Diversity Newsletter has been a bi-monthly electronic publication being sponsored by the Outreach Committee of the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council. The purpose is to provide information to interested parties on the need to promote more interagency collaboration and coordination that results in agencies providing culturally competent services to the un/underserved populations in Ohio.

Best practice outreach strategies and other pertinent information would be made available to interested agencies, Council grantees and people with disabilities and their families via the e-Diversity update demonstrating the need to promote more interagency collaboration and coordination that results in agencies providing culturally competent services to the un/underserved populations in Ohio.

The Reach-out e-Diversity Newsletter as envisioned by the Outreach Committee will continue the following:

- Increase awareness of services available to minorities with developmental disabilities.
- Increase awareness of grant and funding opportunities.
- Increase understanding of issues that impact minorities with developmental disabilities.
- Include an analyses & summary of polling.

The Reach-out e-Diversity newsletter also included the following features:

1. Polling and other engagement strategies
2. Marketing to social media platforms
3. Experts Corner
4. Program/Agency Highlights
5. Best Practices
6. Networking Opportunities
7. Frequently asked questions (FAQ)
8. 6 sections
9. Electronic version
10. 8 pages
11. Full color
12. Inside email

13. PDF
14. Opt in/out email list
15. Link to website
16. 8 pages & full color

The Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000
FINDINGS-Congress finds that-

- disability is a natural part of the human experience that does not diminish the right of individuals with developmental disabilities to live independently, to exert control and choice over their own lives, and to fully participate in and contribute to their communities through full integration and inclusion in the economic, political, social, **cultural**, and educational mainstream of United States society;
- a substantial portion of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families do not have access to appropriate support and services, including access to assistive technology, from generic and specialized service systems, and **remain unserved or underserved**;
- individuals with developmental disabilities often require lifelong community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance, that are **most effective when provided in a coordinated manner**;
- there is a need to ensure that services, supports, and other assistance are provided in a **culturally competent manner, that ensures that individuals from racial and ethnic minority backgrounds are fully included in all activities provided under this title**;
- the public needs to be made more aware of the capabilities and competencies of individuals with developmental disabilities, particularly in cases in which the individuals are provided with necessary services, supports, and other assistance;
- as increasing numbers of individuals with developmental disabilities are living, learning, working, and participating in all aspects of community life, **there is an increasing need for a well-trained workforce** that is able to provide the services, supports, and other forms of direct assistance required to enable the individuals to carry out those activities;
- there needs to be greater effort to recruit individuals from minority backgrounds into professions serving individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

The purpose of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act 2000 is to assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life, through culturally competent programs authorized under this title, including specifically:

State Councils on Developmental Disabilities in each State to engage in advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities that— contribute to a coordinated, consumer- and family-centered, consumer- and family-directed, comprehensive system that includes needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families;

Reach Out e-Diversity Newsletter will do the following:

- Identify the benefits and outcomes of culturally competent interagency collaboration and coordination to un/underserved populations with disabilities
- Provide call to action strategies that address issues impacting minorities with developmental disabilities
- Facilitate networking among stakeholders (people with disabilities, their families, service providers, agencies, legislators, etc.) that focuses on meeting the needs of minorities with developmental disabilities

During the next 5 years, Council would like the grantee to continue to focus on the following:

- Identify the benefits and outcomes of culturally competent interagency collaboration and coordination to un/underserved populations with disabilities
- Provide call to action strategies that address issues impacting minorities with developmental disabilities
- Facilitate networking among stakeholders (people with disabilities, their families, service providers, agencies, legislators, etc.) that focuses on meeting the needs of minorities with developmental disabilities

New features will include the following:

- **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Tool Kit:** Each newsletter will include tools that readers can add to their DE&I Tool Kit. These will include books and articles, apps, videos, assessment tools, standards, policies, and procedures, etc.; resources that will equip readers to be better equipped to reach out to un/underserved populations with disabilities.
- **County Spotlight:** A spotlight on outreach efforts in each of Ohio's regions will be highlighted in the newsletter. This may vary from being an interview with a board member, community leader, advocate, individual with disability, caregiver, etc. OR it could be a feature story about an organization and its practices, results, etc.
- **Challenge Readers:** The newsletter is going to have segments that will challenge the reader to take action on certain topics.

Key activities:

- Identifying current issues and “best practices” that focus on providing culturally competent services to un/underserved populations with disabilities.
- Feature research, experts, and programs that address issues and practices that focus on providing culturally competent services to un/underserved population with disabilities.
- Developing articles that provide information about these issues and practices.
- Create innovative call to action strategies that engage readership.
- Establish a virtual network of stakeholders that engage in finding practical solutions to meeting the needs of minorities with developmental disabilities.

Outputs:

SC 1.3.4: The number of best practices supported through Council activities: 10

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction with Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

- Increase readers’ awareness of issues and best practices that focus on providing culturally competent services to un/underserved populations with disabilities.
- Increase readers’ understanding of research findings and best practices that result in the provision of culturally competent services to un/underserved populations with disabilities
- Increase number of readers who engage in discussions and participate in calls to action that focuses on providing culturally competent services to un/underserved population with disabilities.
- **Challenge Readers-** The newsletter is going to have segments that will challenge the reader take action on certain topics.

Long term outcomes:

Increased number of readers will be empowered to share information about the benefits of addressing issues and implementing best practices associated with providing culturally competent services to un/underserved populations with disabilities.

Increased number of readers who provide innovative solutions that positively impact minorities with developmental disabilities.

Resources to be invested:

	2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
*Federal:	\$30,000.00
Matching Funds:	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
Total:	\$40,000.00

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

To Be Determined

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

114 STAT. 1682 PUBLIC LAW 106–402—OCT. 30, 2000

(H) HUMAN RIGHTS.—The plan shall provide assurances that the human rights of the individuals with developmental disabilities (especially individuals without familial protection) who are receiving services under programs assisted under this subtitle will be protected consistent with section 109 (relating to rights of individuals with developmental disabilities). (A) protecting individuals with developmental disabilities from abuse, neglect, sexual and financial exploitation, and violations of legal and human rights, so that those individuals are at no greater risk of harm than other persons in the general population; and (5) individuals with developmental disabilities are at greater risk than the general population of abuse, neglect, financial and sexual exploitation, and the violation of their legal and human rights; (5) specific efforts must be made to ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities from racial and ethnic minority backgrounds and their families enjoy increased and meaningful opportunities to access and use community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance available to other individuals with developmental disabilities and their families;

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

By the end of 2022, a “White Paper” will be written which describes human trafficking in Ohio as it relates to people with developmental disabilities and this paper will include recommendations on best practices on how to address the problem for future funding considerations.

Background, rationale and scope of project:

Human trafficking is an egregious violation of the inherent rights and dignity of a person. Individuals with certain disabilities may be more susceptible to exploitation by traffickers. Forced labor and sex trafficking are horrific forms of abuse of a person with or without a disability. Both are crimes under the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA). Pub. L. 106-386. (National Disability Rights Network)

Federal law defines "sex trafficking" as "the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act, in which the commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age." Force, fraud, or coercion do not need to be present for a minor under the age of 18 involved in any commercial sex act because minors cannot consent to a sex act with an adult. Minors are easier to exploit and manipulate, thus vulnerable to trafficking. (Tammy J. Toney-Butler; Olivia Mittel -University of Louisville Last Update: August 10, 2020.)

Police departments made 98 arrests last year during human trafficking investigations in Ohio, identifying 181 potential victims. The report says 85 investigations in the state led to 113 suspected traffickers and 68 suspected of trying to pay for sex. The report, by the Attorney General's Human Trafficking Commission, also documented the rescue of 17 potential victims and the referral of 67 victims to social services. Nearly 5,000 officers completed human trafficking training. State law increased penalties for people convicted of soliciting sex from children or people with developmental disabilities.

Ohio is particularly vulnerable to human trafficking because it has both large urban centers, rural counties, a large transient and immigrant population, as well as five major highways with easy access to other states and Canada. 1,032 Ohio children are victims of human sex trafficking every year.

Ohio has ranked as high as fifth among all states in total reported human trafficking cases with Toledo being identified as the fourth highest ranking city in the nation for recruiting victims into the illegal trade. (Feb 10, 2020 <https://odh.ohio.gov>)

Ohio actually in the U.S. ranks as high as fourth in terms as the most prevalent use of Sexually trafficked people,” said Bruce Keller with Compass Ministries, an organization that strives to provide hope and services to women who have been victims of sexual exploitation and sex trafficking. (Feb 22, 2019 <https://www.cleveland19.com>)

The Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center details the vulnerabilities that increase the risk for individuals with disabilities to being trafficked. Some of them are outlined below:

1. **Traffickers may seek out victims with disabilities to gain access to their public benefits** such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits.
2. **Individuals with disabilities may require a caregiver to meet their basic needs, and this caregiver can take advantage of this dependency and force them into prostitution or labor.** Even if the caregiver themselves is not the trafficker, people with disabilities may have a learned response to comply with caregivers’ wishes due to their dependence on them. Therefore, they may have normalized an unequal power dynamic in their relationships, which could carry over into their relationship with a trafficker or abuser.
3. **Some individuals with disabilities may require assistive technologies or additional supports with communication and/or speech.** This may affect their ability to get help and report the abuse they are suffering and could require them to depend on their trafficker for interpretation. For these victims, suffering in silence takes on a very literal meaning.
4. **People with disabilities may be sheltered and isolated and therefore crave friendships and relationships.** In one example from the National Human Trafficking Hotline, an adult potential victim with a developmental disability was recruited from a recreational and vocational training center. The potential trafficker posed as a boyfriend and made the victim believe that counselors, family, and friends did not want her to be an independent adult. He used her fear of being treated as a child against her, which caused her to be isolated from those looking after her interests. He then convinced her to engage in commercial sex out of their home.
5. **Traffickers may also target individuals with disabilities because of the social discrimination and prejudice they face.** This can cause authorities and even their own family and friends to not believe victims

when they report their abuse. This is especially true for victims with disabilities that affect intellectual, cognitive or communication functions or those individuals with mental health diagnoses.

In Ohio, the most common form of human trafficking is sex trafficking, with the majority of the victims being adult females. This is not to say that victims cannot be male, but the majority of cases in Ohio involve female victims. Since 2016, around 1,196 human trafficking cases have been reported in Ohio. These statistics continue to increase each year and come from the human trafficking hotline.

Human traffickers lure their victims by using charm, lies and deception, promising a better life and opportunities to make money. The intention is not romantic but to make money. The victim may be sold off or used for labor or sexual exploitation. (<https://www.thenoproject.org>)

Disability rights advocates and investigators need to play a vital role to identify and prevent trafficking of persons with disabilities as the scope of the problem has become more apparent.

Council would like to invest in a project to create a “White Paper” on the issue of human trafficking as it relates to people with disabilities. A white paper is an authoritative report or guide that often addresses issues and how to solve them. Typically, the purpose of a white paper is to advocate that a certain position is the best way to go or that a certain solution is best for a particular problem. When it is used for advocacy purposes, it could influence the decision-making processes of current and future policies, procedures, and legislation.

For Phase One of the project Council would like this “White Paper” to provide information on the problem, data, and recommendations. Based on the recommendations Council will determine which recommendation to fund during the remaining years of the 5 Year State Plan. For demonstration purposes Council would like to target the inner city in Central Ohio which means 24 miles from Columbus. This can include the following cities:

Westerville, Groveport, Bexley, Lockbourne, New Albany, Upper Arlington, Grove City, Etna, Dublin, Canal Winchester, Derby, Powell, Lithopolis, Bellfontaine, Worthington, Commercial Point, Delaware, Orient, Newark, Reynoldsburg, Marion, Pickerington, Mr. Gilead, Blacklick, Mt. Vernon, Ashville, Harrisburg, Galloway, Carroll and Hilliard.

Key Activities:

The White Paper should include information on the following:

- Identify prevention strategies (and restoration strategies—restoring persons or trauma informed care strategies)
- Best practices for working with survivors of HT who are PWD and PWD of color
- Identify potential barriers and gaps in services (HT services and DD services) for victims of HT who are PWD and PWD of color
- An account of what is known about HT services and DD services that are provided to victims of HT who are PWD and PWD of color
- In Year 3 provide incidence data statewide (this helps give us the scope of the problem in Ohio) around trafficking/abuse of persons with disabilities (we would want the data disaggregated in a way that helped us identify the type of abuse so that we can differentiate between what is traditionally thought of as physical abuse and what is trafficking/exploitation).
- Provide information about interventions utilized in a given community that show promising practice in protecting persons with disabilities from trafficking/exploitation. We would prefer examples from within Ohio, but in the absence of that, information from other states could be beneficial to us in developing programs/projects here.
- The examples must include detailed information about the interventions/strategies and both baseline and outcome data that demonstrates program success or promising practice.
- Information about challenges for survivors... trauma, barriers to identifying new providers, etc.
- Better understanding of what/if there are similarities among traffickers and how do they gain access to persons with disabilities.
- What are providers in Ohio (and other states) doing to be competent around this issue? What are the measures put in place to protect vulnerable persons? What trauma informed care training and practice is in place?
- Identify how current projects in Ohio and other states pay for the interventions they have in place
- People with Disabilities (Our vulnerable population)
- General data
- Legislation
- Inner City population

- Treatment
- Training for Professional Development which includes Cultural Competence training

Outputs:

SC 1.3.3: The number of best practices created: 1

SC 1.3.4: The number of best practices supported through Council activities: 3

SC 1.4: The number of people trained or educated through Council systemic initiatives: 150

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction with Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

To develop informational materials to promote collaboration with other agencies and organizations to have discussions about people with disabilities who have been drawn to the trafficking trade.

Long term outcomes:

The long-term goal is to determine how invested is the State of Ohio in creating Legislation and Regulations that impacts this issue, since Ohio is 4th in the country dealing with Human Trafficking.

Advocate for training, education, and awareness.

Resources to be invested:

*Federal:	\$30,000.00
Matching funds:	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
Total:	\$40,000.00

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

To Be Determined

OHIO'S LGBTQ COMMUNITY AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

PUBLIC LAW 106–402—OCT. 30, 2000 (B) OUTREACH.—The Council may support and conduct outreach activities to identify individuals with developmental disabilities and their families who otherwise might not come to the attention of the Council and assist and enable the individuals and families to obtain services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance, including access to special adaptation of generic community services or specialized services.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this title is to assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life through culturally competent programs authorized under this title.

(5) specific efforts must be made to ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities from racial and ethnic minority backgrounds and their families enjoy increased and meaningful opportunities to access and use community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance available to other individuals with developmental disabilities and their families;

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

By the end of 2022, a “White Paper” will be written that explores and establishes data that does not exist in Ohio about the LGBTQ population as it relates to people with developmental disabilities. This “White Paper” will

include recommendations on best practices on how to address issues for future funding considerations.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

Research shows that LGBT people are more likely than the general population to have a disability and face systemic challenges finding employment, community, and more. Even 29 years after the passage of the ADA, more work is needed to ensure that people with disabilities, including LGBT people with disabilities, have full and equal access in American society. An estimated 3-5 million LGBT people have disabilities. (Center for American Progress)

The Center for American Progress notes several unique challenges for LGBTQ people with disabilities such as:

Limited access to LGBT-inclusive and fully accessible services.

Accessing affordable, accessible, and inclusive health care, community services, and more is challenging for LGBT people with disabilities. This is particularly true for people in rural communities. Not only are people living in rural areas more likely to have disabilities,⁵ but the distances needed to travel to find LGBT-competent and fully accessible service providers, community programming, and more placed LGBT people with disabilities in rural communities at a greater risk for isolation and increased discrimination.

For people with developmental disabilities on the LGBTQ spectrum, dating can be an exacting endeavor. Agencies are now starting to recognize the need for LGBTQ-inclusive services and are working with self-advocates to develop support groups. (slate.com)

Bullying and exclusion for LGBTQ youth with disabilities. LGBTQ youth with disabilities report high rates of harassment and are more likely to be bullied or harassed than students without disabilities.⁶ LGBTQ students with disabilities are more likely to be disciplined in school and to drop out of school, compared to LGBTQ students without disabilities.⁷

Invisibility within both communities. LGBTQ people with disabilities often report that it is challenging to have their identities fully recognized. In spaces focused on disability, their unique experiences as LGBT people

may not be recognized. And in LGBT spaces, services and facilities may not be inclusive or accessible, including having accessible buildings or restrooms, ASL interpretation and/or CART captioning for deaf or hard of hearing people, and more.

Columbus, **Ohio** is primarily known as an art district, but has a strong **gay** community and a high concentration of **gay**-oriented clubs and bars. Now, the city also can boast that it ranks in the top 15 among the nation's 50 large metropolitan areas with 4.3 percent -- or 4,427 -- of its adults identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender, according to a new Gallup poll. (dispatch.com)

Council would like to invest in a project to create a “White Paper” on the issue of **LGBTQ** as it relates to people with disabilities. A **white paper** is an authoritative report or guide that often addresses issues and how to solve them. Typically, the **purpose of a white paper** is to advocate that a certain position is the best way to go or that a certain solution is best for a particular problem. When it is used for advocacy **purposes**, it could influence the decision-making processes of current and future policies, procedures, and legislation.

With limited data about the experiences of both LGBTQ people of color and people of color with disabilities—let alone LGBTQ people of color with disabilities, more and improved data collection and analyses are needed. Advocates, researchers, and policymakers should expand their notions of who are people living with disabilities and center the experiences of those who are often left out. (Center on American Progress suggestion)

For Phase One of the project Council would like this “White Paper” to provide information on the problem, data, and recommendations. The White Paper should include how agencies can provide culturally competent services to the LGBTQ community which includes those persons with developmental disabilities which includes people of color with developmental disabilities. Based on the recommendations Council will determine which recommendation to fund during the remaining years of the 5 Year State Plan. For demonstration purposes Council would like to only target those cities in Central Ohio which means 25 miles from Columbus. This can include the following cities:

Westerville, Groveport, Bexley, Lockbourne, New Albany, Upper Arlington, Grove City, Etna, Dublin, Canal Winchester, Derby, Powell, Lithopolis, Bellefontaine Worthington, Commercial Point, Delaware, Orient, Newark, Reynoldsburg, Marion, Pickerington, Mr. Gilead, Blacklick, Mt. Vernon, Ashville, Harrisburg, Galloway, Carroll and Hilliard.

In Year 3, the project can begin looking at communities that are very differently situated to help identify the different challenges like: access to culturally competent healthcare (provider offices/hospitals/in-home), transportation, access to internet service, community attitudes/stigma, the existence of similar social circles and social opportunities, housing/employment scenarios and barriers, access to and feeling of acceptance by providers of other social services, etc.

Key activities:

- Development of “White Paper”.
- Expanding data collection and reporting the experiences of LGBTQ people with developmental disabilities as well LGBTQ people of color with developmental disabilities.
- Collaboration with other agencies such as DODD and their employees making them aware of what we are doing as it relates to PWD.
- Cultural Competence training.
- Create focus groups.
- Provide training for educational purposes which includes professional development.
- Year 3 capture information about rural communities.
- Year 3 look at persons living in the inner city and a suburban area to identify what challenges exist and where they are most obvious.

Outputs:

SC 1.3.3: The number of best practices created: 3

SC 1.3.4: The number of best practices supported through Council activities: 3

SC 1.4: The number of people trained or educated through Council systemic initiatives: 200

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction with Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

To promote the project to other agencies and groups, especially in the disability community to create an interest in the project activities.

Long term outcomes:

Project activities will create an impact to cause organizations to adopt best practices to create or provide culturally competent services to the LGBTQ population that has developmental disabilities.

Resources to be invested:

*Federal:	\$30,000.00
Matching funds:	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
Total:	\$40,000.00

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

To Be Determined

OHIO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

Project Descriptions

2022 – 2026

**In the Area
of
Public Policy**

Staff Contact: Paul Jarvis
(614) 644-5545
Paul.Jarvis@dodd.ohio.gov

DD AWARENESS & ADVOCACY DAY GRANT

42 USC 15025 (c)(5)(I) Coalition Development and Citizen Participation
The Council may support and conduct activities to educate the public about the capabilities, preferences, and needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families and to develop and support coalitions that support the policy agenda of the Council, including training in self-advocacy, education of policymakers, and citizen leadership skills.

Goal:

Provide a broad range of leadership development opportunities for people with developmental disabilities, their family members and allies. Offer a variety of opportunities to develop the skills needed to become leaders in the disability movement.

Objective and impact of project:

People with developmental disabilities, their family members and friends and others will be active in systems advocacy through a single coordinated awareness and advocacy day.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

People with disabilities and their family members are their own best advocates when it comes to educating members of the general public and policymakers. It has been through their hard work, sacrifice and courage that public and political perceptions of the abilities and talents of people with disabilities has improved in Ohio.

As a result of coordinated efforts of Council and other organizations, positive changes in public policy have occurred in Ohio in the areas of employment, home and community-based services, health care, special education, and civil rights. These advancements in public policy are the result of active advocacy by individuals with disabilities who have traveled to the state capital and met face to face with legislators and their staff to advocate for change.

The face of public policy change in Ohio is not the DD Council, but rather, the individuals with disabilities and their family members who are supported by the Council to meet with their legislators and to tell their story. The DD Awareness and Advocacy Day grant will strengthen that effort through planning and coordination of a single event.

Key activities:

The DD Awareness and Advocacy Day grantee will plan, on an annual basis, a single grassroots advocacy day to be conducted at the state capital. The grantee will be responsible for developing and implementing strategies that successfully:

Recruit people with developmental disabilities, their family members, friends and others to participate in a single-day event at the state capital. Particular focus should include recruiting participants from diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds. The goal of this aspect of the project will be to achieve participation in the event that is equal to racial or ethnic minority representation of Ohio's population (as indicated by the American Community Survey). Emphasis should also be given to recruiting participants from each district of the Ohio House and Ohio Senate.

- Distribute available materials to participants, including materials developed by Council to help educate policymakers about public policy issues.
- Coordinate legislative visits that maximize advocate's impact on their public policymakers. Coordination may require registration, pairing advocates and meeting coaching to ensure proper utilization of time.
- Collect and aggregate advocates' meeting experiences.
- Obtain media coverage of the DD Awareness and Advocacy Day that provides members of the general public with information about public policy issues that will improve service delivery and system capacity for people with disabilities.

This project will be provided guidance and assistance on establishing the subject matter and training materials for the event by the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council.

Outputs:

IFA 1.1: The # of people with developmental disabilities who participated in Council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to

take part in decisions that affect their lives, the lives of others, and/or systems. First Year Target: 200

IFA 1.2: The number of family members who participated in Council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect the family, the lives of others, and/or systems. First Year Target: 50

IFA 2.1: After participation in Council supported activities, the percent of people with developmental disabilities who report increasing their advocacy as a result of Council work. First Year Target: 85%

IFA 2.2: After participation in Council supported activities, the percent of family members who report increasing their advocacy as a result of Council work. First Year Target: 85%

SC 2.2: The # of Council efforts that were implemented to transform fragmented approaches into a coordinated and effective system that assures individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promotes self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life. First Year Target: 1

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

Individuals with disabilities, family members and professionals will participate in an event program where they will receive training or updates on current services.

People with disabilities, family members and professionals will be engaged in active advocacy by meeting with state level policymakers.

Long term outcomes:

By 2026, the event planning committee will be comprised of at least six self-advocates. An advocate from each county of the state will have participated in the program and engaged in active advocacy.

Resources to be invested:

	Each Year
*Federal	\$35,000
Matching Funds:	<u>\$11,666</u>
Total:	\$46,666

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive.
This project will follow the federal fiscal year calendar.

Grantee:

To be determined by competitive review.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY PARTNERSHIP (FLAP)

42 USC 15025 (c)(5)(J) Informing Policymakers

The Council may support and conduct activities to provide information to policymakers by supporting and conducting studies and analyses, gathering information, and developing and disseminating model policies and procedures, information, approaches, strategies, findings, conclusions, and recommendations. The Council may provide information directly to Federal, State, and local policymakers, including Congress, the Federal executive branch, the Governors, State legislatures, and State agencies, in order to increase the ability of such policymakers to offer opportunities to enhance or adapt generic services to meet the needs of, or provide specialized services to, individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Goal:

Provide a broad range of leadership development opportunities for people with developmental disabilities, their family members and allies. Offer a variety of opportunities to develop the skills needed to become leaders in the disability movement.

Objective and impact of project:

To provide specific training and support to members of the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council and other organizations to engage in advocacy at the federal level of government.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

This project will coordinate a team of Ohioans with disabilities, family members, and professionals from collaborating organizations to travel to Washington DC to receive briefings on federal policy impacts on Ohio specifically and to meet with Congressional offices to report on Ohio-specific data. Individuals representing the Ohio Developmental Disabilities

Council and other organizations will participate in a one-day session of briefings and will meet with their Congressional offices as a team.

This project will provide support for meeting-related expenses for all attendees. Meeting related expenses are to include cost of meeting space, equipment rental, and other costs associated with conducting training sessions.

Key activities:

Council members and others will participate in a one-day briefing session on current federal policy issues as they relate to services and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities in Ohio. Particular focus should include recruiting participants from diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds. Sessions will provide participants with information needed to help educate policymakers about Ohio-specific disability-related issues.

Council members and others will meet with members of Congress and their staff to engage in active advocacy on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Outputs:

IFA 1.1: The number of people with developmental disabilities who participated in Council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect their lives, the lives of others, and/or systems: 10

IFA 1.2: The number of family members who participated in Council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect the family, the lives of others, and/or systems: 5

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

Individuals with disabilities, family members and professionals will participate in an event program where they will receive training or updates on current services.

People with disabilities, family members and professionals will be engaged in active advocacy by meeting with federal level policymakers.

Long term outcomes:

Individuals with disabilities, family members and professionals will establish and maintain ongoing dialogue with federal policymakers on programs and services that impact individuals with developmental disabilities.

Resources to be invested:

	2023	2025
*Federal:	\$16,000	\$16,000
Matching Funds:	<u>\$5,333</u>	<u>\$5,333</u>
Total:	\$21,333	\$21,333

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

To be determined.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY BRIEFING SESSIONS

42 USC 15025 (c)(5)(J) Informing Policymakers

The Council may support and conduct activities to provide information to policymakers by supporting and conducting studies and analyses, gathering information, and developing and disseminating model policies and procedures, information, approaches, strategies, findings, conclusions, and recommendations. The Council may provide information directly to Federal, State, and local policymakers, including Congress, the Federal executive branch, the Governors, State legislatures, and State agencies, in order to increase the ability of such policymakers to offer opportunities to enhance or adapt generic services to meet the needs of, or provide specialized services to, individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

By the end of each General Assembly, state legislators and their staff will be better informed about the structure and the services and supports of the developmental disabilities system in Ohio, including how federal, state, and local public policies may impact individuals with developmental disabilities, their family members, and professionals in the field of developmental disabilities.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

In 1992, Ohioans adopted a state constitutional amendment implementing term limits for members of the Ohio General Assembly. State representatives are limited to four consecutive terms lasting two years and state senators are limited to two consecutive terms lasting four years.

Since the implementation of term limits, the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate have experienced massive changes in the institutional knowledge that many governing bodies value. In the next four years, roughly 1/3 of the Ohio House of Representatives and 1/2 of the Ohio Senate will be subject to term limits. This number does not take into account any new members of either chamber that are seated due to an electoral victory. A review of legislative staff for the House of Representatives reveals a staff turnover rate of roughly 85 percent over the last four years.

For advocates with disabilities, family members and professionals in the field of developmental disabilities, engaging with policymakers and staff can present problems when the policymaker or staff is unfamiliar with the history and issues that people with developmental disabilities face. Ohio's system of services and supports is uniquely complex when considering the state's county-board model, property tax levies, Medicaid financing, Home and Community-Based Waivers, waiting lists, employment initiatives, special education initiatives, guardianship and trust options, and many other programs intended to enhance and improve the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. The challenge of communicating barriers and needs by an individual with a disability can be complicated due to the complex nature of the service delivery system in Ohio.

This project will provide regular trainings to legislators and staff to help bring their knowledge of the service system for people with disabilities to improve their understanding of the policy changes that are sought by individuals with disabilities, parents and family members, and professionals in the field of developmental disabilities.

Key activities:

This project will coordinate legislative briefing sessions for members of the Ohio General Assembly and their staff. The project, with help from the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, will develop a curriculum that aides policymakers and their staff to better understand how the developmental disabilities system works in Ohio. The project will be responsible for:

- Scheduling, with help from the DD Council, briefing sessions that are attended by legislative staff and state representatives and state senators.

- Coordinating invitations and tracking attendance at each briefing session.
- Coordinating with speakers for each briefing, to include arranging materials, A/V equipment, or other presentation needs, waste removal, etc.
- Providing staff support for each briefing.
- Obtaining feedback or evaluations.

Each year, the project, in coordination with the DD Council, will develop a curriculum that includes which topics and target dates for briefings.

Outputs:

SC 1.5.1: The number of Council supported systems change activities with organizations actively involved.

SC 2.1: The number of Council efforts that led to the improvement of best or promising practices, policies, procedures, statute or regulation changes.

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

Members of the Ohio General Assembly and their staff will participate in briefing sessions that increase their understanding of the local, state and federal programs that affect individuals with disabilities. In the first two-year session, no less than eight briefing sessions will be held to improve policymaker understanding on issues such as Medicaid, Home and Community Based Service Waivers, Direct Support Professional Workforce Issues, and accessible, affordable, available housing, healthcare, transportation and employment.

Long term outcomes:

By 2026, a core group of representatives and senators will continue to participate in a caucus of like-minded policymakers dedicated to improving

disability-related programs and services for individuals with developmental and other disabilities.

Resources to be invested:

*Federal:	\$35,000
Matching Funds:	<u>\$11,666</u>
Total:	\$46,666

*All awards are subject to the availability of federal funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

To be determined.

PUBLIC POLICY RESEARCH GRANTS

42 USC 15025 (c)(5)(J) Informing Policymakers

The Council may support and conduct activities to provide information to policymakers by supporting and conducting studies and analyses, gathering information, and developing and disseminating model policies and procedures, information, approaches, strategies, findings, conclusions, and recommendations. The Council may provide information directly to Federal, State, and local policymakers, including Congress, the Federal executive branch, the Governors, State legislatures, and State agencies, in order to increase the ability of such policymakers to offer opportunities to enhance or adapt generic services to meet the needs of, or provide specialized services to, individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Goal:

People with disabilities and their families will have increased access to services and technology that promote leadership, accessibility, safety, independence, outreach, equality, inclusion, health, work opportunities, and community.

Objective and impact of project:

To provide Council, advocates and policymakers with clear and concise data and findings related to needed systems change and capacity building in Ohio by conducting research studies and analyses.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

The Data and Policy Research Grant is established to support the collection and analysis of data that will provide Council, advocates and policymakers with objective research and findings that promote systemic

change and capacity building to improve services and supports for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Issue items for each study conducted under this grant, including parameters and scope, will be identified by Council Issue Committees and communicated to the grantee by Council's Public Policy Committee.

Studies and analyses sought by Council may include, but not be limited to, Employment, Housing, Waivers, Transportation, Education, Higher Education, Health, and Community Supports.

Key activities:

Research conducted under this grant may consist of the following:

- Collecting and aggregating data at local, state and national levels,
- Providing comparative analyses of Ohio and other states' services and supports,
- Identifying outcomes associated with new or different models of services and/or supports, and
- Analyzing impacts.

Each completed study will be embargoed by Council to be supported by public awareness and advocacy efforts of Council and the grantee in mutual agreement. Completed studies will be utilized by Council to inform advocates about appropriate public policy changes that support improved outcomes for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Outputs:

SC 2.2: The # of Council efforts that were implemented to transform fragmented approaches into a coordinated and effective system that assures individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promotes self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life: 1

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

This project will develop a report each project year that will increase knowledge and understanding of a specific topic related to the needs and desires of people with developmental disabilities and their family members and other stakeholders in the developmental disabilities field.

Long term outcomes:

Through the culmination of multiple research reports developed over time, the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council will be considered the source of reliable and objective data related to systems change and capacity building activities for advocates and policymakers.

Resources to be invested:

	2023	2025
*Federal	\$100,000	\$100,000
Matching Funds:	<u>\$33,333</u>	<u>\$ 33,000</u>
Total:	\$133,333	\$133,000

*Continued funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Competitive

Grantee:

To Be Determined.

VALUE of PWD
**(Vocational Apprenticeship / Legislature Utilizing
Employment of People with Disabilities)**

42 USC 15002 Definitions

(27) Self-determination Activities - The term “self-determination activities” means activities that result in individuals with developmental disabilities, with appropriate assistance, having – ... (E) support, including financial support, to participate in coalitions, to educate policymakers, and to play a role in the development of public policies that affect individuals with developmental disabilities.

(30) Supported employment services - The term “supported employment services” means services that enable individuals with developmental disabilities to perform competitive work in integrated work settings, in the case of individuals with developmental disabilities – (A)(i) for whom competitive employment has not traditionally occurred; or (ii) for whom competitive employment has been interrupted or intermittent as a result of significant disabilities; and (B) who, because of the nature and severity of their disabilities, need intensive supported employment services or extended services in order to perform such work.

42 USC 15025 (c)(5)(G) Coordination with related councils, committees, and programs

The Council may support and conduct activities to enhance coordination of services with – (i) other councils, entities, or committees, authorized by Federal or State law, concerning individuals with disabilities (such as the State interagency coordinating council established under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.), the State Rehabilitation Council and the Statewide Independent Living Council established under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 701 et seq.), the State mental health planning council established under subtitle B of title XIX of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 300x et seq.], and the activities authorized under section 3003 or 3004 of title 29, and entities carrying out other similar councils, entities, or committees;

Goal:

Provide a broad range of leadership development opportunities for people with developmental disabilities, their family members and allies. Offer a variety of opportunities to develop the skills needed to become leaders in the disability movement.

Objective and impact of project:

This project has a stated objective of gaining full/part-time employment opportunities or internships for individuals with disabilities into the legislative branch of government.

Background, rationale, and scope of project:

The Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) Agency, the state's Vocational Rehabilitation Program, currently operates the Vocational Apprenticeship Program to gain employment of people with disabilities into executive branch government employment. The agency has successfully placed individuals with disabilities in employment and internships, however, the focus of the program has been limited to placement into cabinet agencies.

The Council seeks to expand the scope of this existing program to gain employment and internship opportunities for individuals with disabilities in the Ohio House of Representatives, the Ohio Senate, the Legislative Service Commission, the House Clerk's Office, the Senate Clerk's Office, or other agencies or organizations that serve at the pleasure of the legislative branch of government. In addition, opportunities to be in the employ of legislative bodies at the local level of government (i.e. county commissioners, city councils, township trustees, etc) or at the federal level of government (i.e. US House District Office, US Senate District Offices, etc.) are also encouraged. **At a minimum, participants in this project must include people with developmental disabilities.**

This project is intended to supplement, not supplant, the Vocational Apprenticeship Program.

Key activities:

Funding will provide support to OOD to expand the scope of the Vocational Apprenticeship Program to gain employment of people with disabilities. Key activities may include, but not be limited to, recruiting eligible candidates for employment, job-specific training, arranging placement opportunities with legislative bodies, providing follow-along support to improve opportunities for success, and other activities deemed necessary and appropriate by OOD or the DD Council.

Outputs:

SC 1.1: The number of policy and/or procedures created or change: 2

SC 1.3.1: The number of promising practices created: 2

SC 1.3.2: The number of promising practices supported through Council activities: 2

SC 1.3.3: The number of best practices created: 1

*ODDC determines customer satisfaction for Council supported or conducted activities. Grantees will be required to assist ODDC with this process.

Short term outcomes:

The number of people with developmental or other disabilities who apply for a job with a legislative body will increase as will education about these opportunities and the job skills needed to succeed in these employment positions.

Long term outcomes:

Legislative agencies will employ people with disabilities to a representative scale of the population of Ohioans with disabilities.

Resources to be invested:

	2022-2026 (each year)
*Federal	\$50,000
Matching Funds:	<u>\$16,666</u>
Total:	\$66,666

*Funding will be contingent upon the availability of funds.

Funding method:

Noncompetitive Allocation (There is only one solely qualified entity that can carry out the project.)

Grantee:

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency