

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANT CYCLE 45
PROPOSALS SELECTED FOR FUNDING

Grantee:	Acorns to Oak Trees
Recommended Funding:	\$78,298
Project Area:	Education
Number of People Served:	120

Proposal Summary: Tribal families and individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) are facing challenges in accessing education, training, and supports that meet their needs. The organization's goal is to design a program to help build sustainable capacity in their tribal community and develop local resources to access culturally competent, disability-related, and community-based information, supports and services. The main activities include 1) developing a training plan based on available data from the organization's other projects; 2) developing culturally and linguistically competent outreach and training materials in print, online and video to reach a wider audience; and, 3) conducting sessions to provide knowledge and tools to individuals with I/DD, their families, and tribal community leaders. The success of this program will help not only members in their tribal community with I/DD, but will also help to create a model program for other tribal communities to implement.

Proposal Outcome/Output: The project's primary outcomes are:

- 1.** An increased awareness of developmental milestones, warning signs of I/DD, the Lanterman Act, and resources available in the Pala community, so that they can advocate for themselves and/or for family members; and,
- 2.** A higher level of participation in education and training that are available to tribal members.

Goals & Objectives:

- Goal 1:** The needs of tribal I/DD individuals and their families are recognized
- **Objective 1.1:** An action plan based on available data by 11/2022
 - **Objective 1.2:** An outreach plan and training materials developed by 01/2023
- Goal 2:** People with I/DD and their families on the Pala Reservation will become self-advocates (SA) and family advocates (FA) for free and appropriate education (FAPE) within least restrictive educational (LRE) settings
- **Objective 2.1:** Four (4) outreach and community events will be conducted by 02/2023
 - **Objective 2.2:** Four (4) training sessions will be conducted by 07/2023
- Goal 3:** Promising practices will be documented and shared to benefit more tribal communities and the larger Californian population
- **Objective 3.1:** 50 post-implementation surveys will be provided to individuals with I/DD, their families, and tribal staff and leaders by 07 /2023
 - **Objective 3.2:** A final report highlighting findings, barriers, activities conducted, success vs. roadblocks, & promising practices will be provided by 10/2023 and delivered to SCDD by 11/2023

Agency Description: The organization was founded by a family advocate and member of a tribal community who recognized that tribal families needed assistance with identifying and accessing services for their children with special needs. The organization's mission is to help build a better future for tribal youth, specifically those with special needs, through culturally tailored and evidenced-based therapeutic services, education, and outreach. The organization's vision is to nurture the growth and healing cycle of the individuals they serve so that they can achieve their full potential in mind, body, and spirit. The organization is grounded in the belief that it takes a village to raise a child - but also a village to restore one.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANT CYCLE 45
PROPOSALS SELECTED FOR FUNDING

Grantee:	Jazz Hands for Autism
Recommended Funding:	\$100,000
Project Area:	Employment
Number of People Served:	160

Proposal Summary: This project will provide an innovative, new vocational model to train individuals with I/DD for careers that align with their interests and serve the community of people with I/DD. The grantee will pilot a training program for adults with I/DD to teach music to students with IEPs from LA-area K-12 schools. This project will establish both a digital curriculum for music teacher training and a student-teaching experience. As a result, 10-15 teachers with I/DD will be trained, 150 music learners with IEPs will be served, and promising practice-based recommendations for vocational training of individuals with I/DD will be made.

Proposal Outcome/Output:

1. Develop a Training Curriculum

This grant will fund course development and launch courses for students in the Music Teacher Training Track of the organization. Instruction will be offered in person, digitally, or in a hybrid mode through the Moodle platform. The curriculum is designed to foster soft/social skills, which will improve independence and inclusion for adults with I/DD.

2. Pilot Training Program

To pair lessons with on-the-job training, the grantee will offer a year-long student teaching experience to participants. This will involve pre-teaching preparation with a job training coach (with bi-weekly feedback), and 16 hours of instruction per week in basic rhythm and guitar. Once completed, students will have confidence and independence to secure employment as music teachers in schools,

music-focused organizations, or through private music lessons/tutoring.

3. Create a Framework of Best Practices for Statewide Implementation

This project will expand on evidence-based practices for post-secondary employment. The final deliverable will be a replicable framework for vocational training for individuals with I/DD. This framework (with recommendations for promising practices, logic model, student and staff curriculum/training models, etc.) will be presented to existing state-run vocational rehabilitation programs.

Outcomes: The best practices employed by this program are proven to have a statistically significant impact on participant short/mid-term employment and income. This project will build on existing evidence by developing a promising practice that bolsters community inclusion and job readiness for individuals with I/DD. The result will improve the lives of individuals with I/DD by assisting them with finding paid employment in a career path in their area of interest.

Agency Description: The mission of the agency is to help artists of color and those from disadvantaged communities and create pathways for community, social inclusion, and employment for adults on the autism spectrum. They are working toward a world where individuals on the autism spectrum are fully included members of society who make valued social, cultural, and economic contributions to their communities. The agency has over eight years of experience working with adults with I/DD and their families. During this time, they have developed the experience, staff, and capacity to lead the proposed project and develop new, innovative projects and recommendations for vocational training. The agency has a strong track record of success in assisting individuals with I/DD in obtaining Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE). To date, they have helped over 200 musicians with ASD engage in over 180+ music-related jobs, 75% of which were paid opportunities.

**PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANT CYCLE 45
PROPOSALS SELECTED FOR FUNDING**

Grantee:	Adaptive Parent Project
Recommended Funding:	\$28,125
Project Area:	Health and Safety
Number of People Served:	950

Proposal Summary: The grantee and its collaborative partners will identify educational curriculum and resources written by providers that have expertise in caring for patients with I/DD and will perform quality assurance assessments for best practices and inclusivity. They will develop educational materials/products for patients with I/DD to build a better understanding of healthcare and build more collaborative care practices for patients and their providers. The grantee will create multiple digital and printable resources in plain language, with visuals for individuals with I/DD, covering topics that may include primary care, reproductive health, lactation, etc.

Proposal Outcome/Output:

The grantee will

- Develop professional curriculum for providers
- Create accessible, easy-to-understand educational material for patients about healthcare
- Create marketing and educational materials that are representative and inclusive of patients with I/DD

Outcome:

This project aims to change healthcare for individuals with I/DD. This project will increase the knowledge and skills of healthcare professionals working with patients with I/DD. The materials developed through this program will allow people with I/DD to be more self-determinative and

proactive about their health by providing user-friendly resources. This will lead to:

- More informed providers with special skills necessary for working with patients with I/DD.
- Increased number of I/DD-friendly providers, increased patient comfort levels, and better patient health outcomes.
- Increased quality of care, more accurate diagnoses, and higher patient satisfaction among project participants.

Agency Description: The organization and its collaborative partners are committed to providing resources to educate/train healthcare professionals about working with patients with I/DD. The organization is composed of individuals with extensive training and experience in navigating the healthcare system, both as patients and providers. The founder/CEO is a mother with cerebral palsy who holds a bachelor's degree in Human Biology. The organization's Board consists of an Associate social worker, a physical therapist, and a registered nurse. Collaborative partners include 1) a physician who specializes in physical medicine; 2) a rehabilitation therapist who works directly with patients with I/DD daily; 3) an organization with more than two decades of experience working with women with autism on the severe end of the spectrum; and, 4) the San Diego Breastfeeding Coalition, with certified lactation professionals.

**PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANT CYCLE 45
PROPOSALS SELECTED FOR FUNDING**

Grantee:	The Kelsey
Recommended Funding:	\$50,000
Project Area:	Housing
Number of People Served:	565

Proposal Summary: This project will support people with I/DD who are seeking housing by increasing access to plain language housing resources. The goal of this project is to create/revise and promote the use of free, open-source, plain language versions of materials that are commonly used in rental housing applications and annual recertification forms. Major activities will include 1) making five commonly used forms in low-income housing rentals available in plain language; 2) getting three (3) projects to commit to adopting and using these plain language housing forms; and, 3) conducting five statewide presentations to housing owners and property managers about the results of this project and lessons learned. Within the project year, we aim to help more than 75 people with I/DD gain access to housing by building a more accessible rental/housing application process through the development of plain language forms. After the program year, we expect that more accessible housing materials will lead to thousands of people with I/DD having easier access to housing.

Key Activities:

- Making five commonly used forms in low-income housing rentals available in plain language.
- Getting three projects to commit to adopting the plain language housing forms.
- Conducting five statewide presentations to housing owners and property managers about the results of this project and lessons learned.

Outcomes:

- Within the program year, we aim to help more than 75 people with I/DD gain access to housing by building a more accessible rental/housing application process through developing plain language forms.
- After the program year, we expect that more accessible housing materials will lead to thousands of people with I/DD having easier access to housing.
- We also anticipate that plain language documents have the potential to benefit those who do not have I/DD or are not a family member or service provider for someone with I/DD, such as English Language Learners, people with language processing impairments, and others who may benefit from accessible resources.

Agency Description: The agency was developed by a family advocate who leads a team of people with and without disabilities, in close partnership with other housing and advocacy organizations, statewide, to advance disability-forward housing solutions that open doors to more affordable homes and opportunities for everyone. Together, they work to develop affordable, accessible, inclusive housing communities and lead in organizing and advocacy efforts to create market conditions for inclusive housing. The agency currently has communities in development, with over 225 homes and more than \$100 million in public, private and philanthropic investments.