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SELF-ADVOCACY

For federal fiscal year (FFY) 2025, the Council has designated a total amount of \$300,000 to fund Cycle 47 projects in one or more of the following proposed focus areas: Employment, Health and Safety, and Self-Advocacy. The Council understands that the final list of approved grant projects may not address all of the targeted focus areas. The Council will consider all proposal submissions and choose one (1) or more grant-funded projects that will not exceed the full \$300,000 budgeted amount.

FFY 2025's RFP will contain four (4) project options from which to choose: one (1) in Employment, two (2) in Health (Tribal and CalAIM), and one (1) in Self-Advocacy. Below, please find the Council's brief description for the Self-Advocacy option.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANT (PDG) CYCLE 47 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

DUE: May 10, 2024

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) is invested in ensuring that all Californians with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families are provided with publicly accessible, plain language information about available supports, services and other important resources and issues. Through anecdotal data, SCDD staff reports, and general observation, the Council has recognized that commonly available public information is not consistently provided in plain language or in accessible formats for culturally, linguistically, or cognitively diverse populations of people with I/DD (PwI/DD) and other disabilities and/or their families/support persons.

The Council is seeking a grantee to develop a comprehensive, accessible, culturally relevant training project that will inform and teach PwI/DD, their families and other advocates how to convert hard-copy and/or web-based information, documents, curricula, resources, etc. into accessible, plain language formats. The capacity-building project will feature an employment/micro-business preparation component, so that trained PwI/DD, their family members, and other advocates have the necessary

tools, methodology, and mechanisms to use and market their skills in providing auditing and editing for accessibility and plain language content. Finally, in support of sustainability, the grantee will disseminate the project curriculum and materials, findings (e.g. promising/best practices, detailed recommendations, outcomes and impacts), and resources to the State Council on Developmental Disabilities and partners invested in the project's outcomes and deliverables.

SCDD is interested in funding a project that will:

- 1.** Identify and provide information on culturally appropriate, inclusive plain language and accessibility standards to be applied to publicly available online or hard-copy information, resources, and materials that are accessible for translation into other languages
- 2.** Identify and foster key partnerships with public and private entities to develop new and/or use existing, fully accessible and culturally sensitive, plain language training, information, tools and outreach materials, technical assistance, and resources
- 3.** Develop and provide training and technical assistance (TA) to PwI/DD and other disabilities and their families who wish to use their skills and knowledge to obtain employment and/or develop micro-businesses associated with converting web-based and/or hard-copy information into accessible, plain language formats
- 4.** Provide technical assistance, as requested by PwI/DD and other disabilities and their families, about: a) converting information, resources, services, and/or training, whether online or in hard-copy, into plain language formats; b) using their skills to gain employment and/or develop micro-business opportunities
- 5.** Identify effective mechanisms by which the Council and its collaborative partners may:
 - a.** Continue to provide culturally competent, plain language information, training, resources; and
 - b.** Provide technical assistance/support to PwI/DD and other disabilities, their families, and others throughout the state in converting material into accessible, plain language formats; and
 - c.** Assist PwI/DD and their families in leveraging their skills into employment and/or micro-business opportunities

The project will serve as a replicable model by developing and identifying innovative, promising and/or best practices in and/or barriers to reaching, serving and educating

Pwl/DD, their families, professionals and others that serve and support them in culturally appropriate, accessible ways.

The project grantee will:

- ✓ Have demonstrated knowledge about I/DD disabilities
- ✓ Have experience and cultural competence in reaching and collaborating with Pwl/DD and other disabilities, their families, and those entities/professionals that support and serve them, including those in underserved populations and/or regions of California
- ✓ Have demonstrated experience and cultural competence in developing and providing developmentally/age-appropriate, quality, accessible information, training, services, and/or resources to Pwl/DD and other disabilities and their families
- ✓ Demonstrate a broad understanding of the employment needs of families and individuals with I/DD and other disabilities
- ✓ Demonstrate a broad understanding of outreach principles associated with reaching culturally, economically, ethnically, geographically, linguistically, and other diverse, underserved populations
- ✓ Demonstrate an understanding of and commitment to the concepts of self-advocacy, supported decision-making, and employment opportunities within fully inclusive environments

Priority will be given to projects that are led or co-led by people with I/DD and lived experiences and are focused on culturally, ethnically, geographically, economically and linguistically diverse, underserved populations (e.g., Black/African American, Asian, Hispanic/Latino, etc., in addition to low-income, bilingual or non-English-speaking, inner city and/or deeply rural populations, those who are unhoused or in licensed/foster care settings, and/or those from Native/Tribal communities) in urban and/or rural settings throughout the state.

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EMPLOYMENT

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FFY 2025's RFP will contain four (4) project options from which to choose: one (1) in Employment, two (2) in Health (Tribal and CalAIM), and one (1) in Self-Advocacy. Below, please find the Council's brief description for the Employment option.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANT (PDG) CYCLE 47

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

DUE: May 10, 2024

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) is invested in ensuring that all California job seekers with intellectual and/or developmental (I/DD) and other disabilities have the opportunity to access employment opportunities with the support of family advocates that have been educated about benefits and other information associated with obtaining competitive, integrated employment (CIE).

SCDD is seeking a grantee to: a) serve as a 'trusted messenger;' b) engage with families of people with I/DD (PwI/DD) and other disabilities to provide training, information, and resources about CIE, internships, customized and other, inclusive employment opportunities, financial/benefits planning, and other topics relevant to the benefits of employment; c) build a sustainable mentorship network with family advocate peers to provide an employment information and support system for families of PwI/DD; and, d) engage in research about barriers to family support for CIE for their family members with I/DD.

SCDD is interested in funding a project that will:

1. Collaboratively engage with school districts, SELPA's, regional centers and community-based service and support entities to find and engage family advocates in culturally competent, evidence-based, employment-related efforts, including training, information dissemination, family support groups, etc.
2. Identify family members of individuals with I/DD and other disabilities who are actively and successfully employed to serve as parent/peer mentors for family advocates who are not currently involved with and/or resistant to participation in CIE opportunities for their family members with I/DD
3. Establish and provide culturally competent, peer-based mentoring support to one or more family support groups and provide ongoing information, peer mentoring, training and other types of support in promoting CIE for PwI/DD and other disabilities
4. Engage in data collection efforts to identify and document the complex factors limiting family support of CIE, internship opportunities, etc. for family members with I/DD and other disabilities
5. Provide SCDD with a report documenting a) data collection efforts, findings, and detailed recommendations; b) complete descriptions of program development and implementation components; c) training and family peer support methodology; d) successful efforts and barriers to project implementation; and d) a plan for project continuation/replication and longitudinal data collection efforts

The project will serve as a replicable, sustainable and/or scalable model in developing and identifying evidence-based, innovative, promising and/or best practices by: a) reaching, serving and educating families of PwI/DD and other disabilities with information, training and resources and about the benefits associated with CIE in culturally appropriate, accessible ways; b) collecting and reporting data about barriers to family support of CIE opportunities for family members with I/DD and other disabilities; and, c) creating a network of family mentors to provide support to other family advocates of PwI/DD and other disabilities.

The project grantee will:

- ✓ Have demonstrated subject matter expertise in the field of employment, with a broad understanding of competitive, integrated employment (CIE) concepts
- ✓ Have demonstrated experience and cultural competence in developing and providing high-quality, accessible, culturally appropriate, plain-language employment/CIE-related information, training, materials and/or resources

- ✓ Demonstrate a broad understanding of disabilities and the needs of families and individuals with I/DD and other disabilities
- ✓ Demonstrate a broad understanding of principles associated with reaching culturally, economically, ethnically, geographically, linguistically, and other diverse, underserved populations
- ✓ Have demonstrated experience and cultural competence in collecting and reporting longitudinal data associated with projects serving PwI/DD and their families

Priority will be given to projects that are led or co-led by PwI/DD and/or family members - with lived experience(s). Additional priority will be given to those projects that are focused on culturally, ethnically, geographically, economically and linguistically diverse, underserved populations (e.g., Black/African American, Asian, Hispanic/Latino, etc., in addition to low-income, bilingual or non-English-speaking, inner city and/or deeply rural populations, those who are unhoused or in licensed/foster care settings, and/or those from Native/Tribal communities) in urban and/or rural settings throughout the state.

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HEALTH (CaAIM)

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FFY 2025's RFP will contain four (4) project options from which to choose: one (1) in Employment, two (2) in Health (Tribal and CaAIM), and one (1) in Self-Advocacy. Below, please find the Council's brief description for the Health (CaAIM) option.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANT (PDG) CYCLE 47

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

DUE: May 10, 2024

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) is invested in ensuring that all Californians with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD) and other disabilities and their families have an opportunity to receive quality, accessible health-related information, training, services, and resources.

California is in the process of implementing a new, waiver-based framework to address its diverse health-related programs. This is intended to ensure a more seamless and integrated management and delivery system that is responsive to social determinants and a 'whole person' approach to providing health supports and services. With the rollout and multi-year implementation of CaAIM, there have been concerns raised about: 1) coverage and eligibility (especially in regard to those participating in California's Self-Determination Program [SDP]); 2) case management (for people with I/DD [PwI/DD] who are otherwise eligible for regional center services); and, 3) other

supports and services available through either the previous Medi-Cal model and/or CalAIM.

The Council, while not an active partner in the original design of the program, wants to ensure that CalAIM meets the diverse and complex needs of individuals with I/DD and other disabilities and their families, without benefit loss or support/service disruption.

SCDD is seeking a grantee to actively engage with health organizations, state agencies and other collaborative partners in California and to research and identify how CalAIM will (or may potentially) impact individuals and families with I/DD, at both the state and local levels.

SCDD is interested in funding a project that will:

1. Identify and foster key partnerships with entities and individuals associated with CalAIM, including state and county agencies, the regional center system, representative/service/oversight organizations, including counties, and state or county health-related and service/support entities
2. Research and identify CalAIM rollout/implementation considerations impacting PwI/DD, their families, and/or entities providing supports/service to those individuals and their families
3. Develop a comprehensive report on research, findings, and detailed recommendations, as they relate to CalAIM and its impact on case management, programs, and/or fully accessible, appropriate, and culturally sensitive supports/services for diverse and under/unserved populations of PwI/DD and their families in both urban and rural regions throughout California
4. Work with the Council and its Executive and Policy teams to:
 - a. Provide technical assistance (TA) to county-level health-related entities and administrators associated with CalAIM, within the scope of the grantee's proposed catchment area
 - b. Draft policies and detailed recommendations to address any gaps, risks or deficits in CalAIM's programs that do or may impact PwI/DD and their families
5. Identify mechanisms (e.g. statutory or regulatory changes, proposed legislation/initiatives, new policies, practices, projects/programs, etc.) by which the Council and its collaborative partners may continue to monitor and provide accurate, timely input/recommendations regarding CalAIM to PwI/DD, their families, state/county health administrators/officials, current or potential providers, and others throughout the state

The project will serve as a replicable and/or scalable model by developing and identifying innovative, promising and/or best practices in reaching, serving and

educating PwI/DD, their families, and those health-related entities that serve them in culturally appropriate, accessible ways.

The project grantee will:

- ✓ Have demonstrated research/reporting competence and experience in identifying best and/or promising practices, with an emphasis in the field of health and human services
- ✓ Demonstrate a broad understanding of principles associated with reaching culturally, economically, ethnically, geographically, linguistically, and other diverse, underserved populations, including the use of diverse and accessible forms of communication
- ✓ Demonstrate competence in identifying health-related concerns in culturally, linguistically, economically and regionally diverse, under/unserved populations throughout California
- ✓ Demonstrate experience and competence in collaborating with policymakers and health and human service-related entities
- ✓ Research and consider building on previous grant projects, deliverables and/or partnerships in development of this project

Priority will be given to projects that are led or co-led by people with I/DD and lived experiences and are focused on culturally, ethnically, geographically, economically and linguistically diverse, underserved populations (e.g., Black/African American, Asian, Hispanic/Latino, etc., in addition to low-income, bilingual or non-English-speaking, inner city and/or deeply rural populations, those who are unhoused or in licensed/foster care settings, and/or those from Native/Tribal communities) in urban and/or rural settings throughout the state. Consideration will be given to those projects that build on evidence-based methods, resources, training, and/or collaborative partnerships with other entities with expertise in the areas specified in this RFP.

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TRIBAL HEALTH

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PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANT (PDG) CYCLE 47 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

DUE: May 10, 2024

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) is invested in ensuring that all Californians with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families have an opportunity to receive quality, accessible health-related information, training, services, and/or resources. SCDD recognizes that Tribal communities have historically been underserved, including those people with intellectual, developmental (PwI/DD) and/or other disabilities and their families.

SCDD is seeking a grantee to actively engage with Tribal health organizations and other collaborative partners in California to provide plain language materials, outreach, and training opportunities to connect Native Americans with critical information about developmental milestones, disabilities, early diagnosis/intervention, and health-related supports and services.

SCDD is interested in funding a project that will:

1. Identify and foster key partnerships with Tribal, public and private entities to partner in providing culturally sensitive outreach to Native American individuals and families with I/DD and/or other disabilities
2. Develop and/or use existing, fully accessible and culturally sensitive, plain language training curricula, information, and outreach materials and resources about health-related topics, including maternal health, infant, toddler and child development, health and wellness, available disability-related and generic services, healthy aging, etc.
3. Provide culturally sensitive outreach, partnering opportunities and training to Tribal health entities and personnel about 1) maternal health; 2) developmental milestones; 3) intellectual, developmental, and other disabilities; 4) the importance of early identification, intervention, and service access; 5) healthy aging; 6) fully accessible, plain language resources; and, 7) entitlement and generic services available to individuals and families with intellectual/developmental and other disabilities
4. Provide technical assistance, as requested by professionals, PwI/DD and other disabilities and their families, about accessing health-related information, resources, services, and/or training
5. Identify mechanisms by which the Council and its collaborative partners may provide culturally competent, health-related outreach, information, training, resources and technical assistance/support to PwI/DD and other disabilities, their families, regional centers and other disability-related agencies, current and potential providers, and others throughout the state.

The project will serve as a replicable and/or scalable model by developing and identifying innovative, promising and/or best practices in reaching, serving and educating Native American PwI/DD and other disabilities, their families, and those Tribal and health-related entities providing services in culturally appropriate, accessible ways.

The project grantee will:

- ✓ Have demonstrated experience and cultural competence in collaborating with Tribal members, governing Councils, and health entities
- ✓ Have demonstrated experience and cultural competence in developing and providing quality, accessible health-related information, training, services, and/or resources

- ✓ Research and consider building on previous grant projects, deliverables and/or partnerships in development of this project
- ✓ Have demonstrated experience collaborating with and providing training for health-related professionals/entities
- ✓ Demonstrate a broad understanding of disabilities and the needs of families and individuals with I/DD and other disabilities
- ✓ Demonstrate a broad understanding of principles associated with reaching culturally, economically, ethnically, geographically, linguistically, and other diverse, underserved populations

Collaboration with and acceptance within diverse communities of Indigenous People are both critical components of this effort. Priority will be given to projects that are: 1) supported by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with a Tribal Health Agency; and, 2) led or co-led by individuals from Native/Tribal communities, people with I/DD and lived experiences, and those that are focused on culturally, ethnically, geographically, economically and linguistically diverse, underserved populations (e.g. low-income, bilingual or non-English-speaking, inner city and/or deeply rural populations, those who are unhoused or in licensed/foster care settings,) and in reservation, urban and/or rural settings throughout the state.

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