

NOTICE OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

This Notice of Funds Available (NOFA) is for multiple projects.

Summary Information:

- 1) Awarding Agency Name: The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council
 - 2) Funding Opportunity Title: Multiple projects are being announced. Each project is identified by Project Number and Title:
 - a. 17AC01FA22 – Public Awareness Using Digital Media for People with Developmental Disabilities
 - b. 17OU01FA22 – Empowering Reachout E-Diversity Newsletter
 - c. 17PP01CR22 – DD Awareness & Advocacy Day Grant
 - d. 17PP03SC22 – General Assembly Briefing Sessions
 - e. 22CH01FA22 – Come Together
 - f. 22CH02FA22 – Empowering Families
 - g. 22CH03FA22 – Inclusive Recreation
 - h. 22CL01SC22 – DSP White Paper in Action
 - i. 22CL02SC22 – Replicate and Expand Transportation Project
 - j. 22EM01FA22 – Dollars and Sense
 - k. 22EM02FA22 – Employment Resources
 - l. 22LD01FA22 – Emerging Advocates
 - m. 22LD02FA22 – Empowering People with Disabilities
 - n. 22OU01FA22 – Detecting Specific Disorders for the Amish and Non-Amish Community Project
 - o. 22OU02SC22 – Human Trafficking and Vulnerable Populations
 - p. 22OU03SC22 – Ohio LGBTQ Community and People with Disabilities
 - 3) This is a new announcement.
 - 4) The CFDA number for each project is 93.630.
 - 5) All applications for these projects are due at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Friday, July 2, 2021. Each awarded project is scheduled to begin on October 1, 2021 and run until September 30, 2026, unless otherwise noted.
- (a) – This Notice of Funding Availability is being posted on Wednesday, April 7, 2021. In accordance with 2 CFR, Section 200.203 (b), this award is being posted no less than 60 days prior to the deadline for applications.
- (b) Full Text of NOFA
- 1) Program Description:
 - a) Public Awareness Using Digital Media for People with Developmental Disabilities (17AC01FA22):

This grant will provide information to all Ohioans about issues that people with developmental disabilities and their families experience. This grant will spread the word about the activities of the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council's projects, other information about Council and other disability agencies.

The grant will use technology to communicate with people. This includes social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.), Council's website, email, videos, podcasts and more. This will be used for campaigns about specific issues, outreach to people who are unserved and underserved in Ohio and to find people who would like to be a member of Council.

b) Empowering Reachout E-Diversity Newsletter (17OU01FA22):

The Reach Out e-Diversity Newsletter is a bi-monthly electronic publication of the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council. The newsletter promotes culturally competent interagency collaboration and coordination to unserved and underserved populations in Ohio.

New features of the newsletter will include:

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Tool Kit.
- County Spotlight on outreach efforts.
- Articles that will challenge the reader to act on certain topics.

c) DD Awareness & Advocacy Day Grant (17PP01CR22):

People with disabilities and their family members are their own best advocates when it comes to educating members of the general public and policymakers. Advancements in public policy are due to advocacy by individuals with disabilities. The DD Awareness and Advocacy Day grantee will plan and host a day at the Ohio Statehouse for people with disabilities and family members and others. The event will be on the Internet for those who cannot attend in person. Speakers will be invited to talk about different disability issues. Everyone who comes to the Statehouse and wants to talk with their legislator will have a meeting scheduled for them.

d) General Assembly Briefing Sessions (17PP03SC22):

It is difficult to understand Ohio's system of services and supports. It is challenging for advocates with disabilities, family members and professionals to communicate issues and needs. This is often the case when engaging with policymakers and staff that are unfamiliar with the history and issues that people with developmental disabilities face.

This grant will have four trainings each year to help legislators and their staff understand how people with disabilities receive services and how programs work. A person with a disability or a family member will tell their story at each training.

e) Come Together (22CH01FA22):

Family advocacy programs provide critical services to individuals and families throughout Ohio. The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council will fund a project to organize and support family advocacy organizations throughout the state of Ohio. This project will:

- Promote family advocacy organizations to work together.
- Increase ways to ensure family needs are met by the community.
- Encourage families at the local level to advocate for improvements to their services and supports.

f) Empowering Families (22CH02FA22):

During IEP meetings, parents/families find it hard to be speak up because they are overwhelmed. This is due to the power differences between the parents/families and the school. With limited support for over 250,000 students with disabilities in Ohio, the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council will fund a project to increase and improve:

- The support parents/families have during the special education process.
- The knowledge parents/families have about the special education process.

g) Inclusive Recreation (22CH03FA22):

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.

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council will support a project that will provide information and best practices on how individuals with developmental disabilities can increase their physical activity and improve their health through recreation.

h) DSP White Paper in Action (22CL01SC22):

In Ohio, people with developmental disabilities and their families are impacted by the Direct Support Professional (DSP) crisis. There are significant challenges in finding, keeping and training this workforce. The Ohio Alliance of Direct Support Professionals and the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities are working on a “White Paper” that will show DSP data and recommendations for improvement.

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council will fund a project to review the “White Paper” once it is completed and determine which recommendations would be most beneficial.

i) Replicate and Expand Transportation Project (22CL02SC22):

Ohioans with disabilities have difficulty obtaining safe, affordable, and appropriate transportation. In 2012, the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council funded the Athens on Demand Transit (AODT) project. This project has been successful in offering a transportation option in a rural area of Ohio (Athens County).

To further these efforts, this project will:

- Conduct a pilot program, using technology when necessary, that allows AODT to provide rides outside of Athens County.
- Work with interested counties to replicate the project.

j) Dollars and Sense (22EM01FA22):

Financial knowledge lets people make financially responsible decisions. However, many people with disabilities have never managed a budget, opened a savings or checking account, used a Social Security Work Incentive or built assets. The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council's Five-Year State Plan Public Survey showed that understanding benefits and money was a barrier for people to live the life they want to live.

The Council will fund a project that develops and uses a plan so people with disabilities have the financial knowledge and support they need to manage their finances.

k) Employment Resources (22EM02FA22):

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council's Five-Year State Plan Public Survey identified two of the biggest issues for people with disabilities to live the life they want to live. These issues were:

- Finding a job or getting a better job or more money.
- Understanding how to get employment services.

The Council will fund several projects to increase the knowledge of and access to employment related resources, technology, and programs for individuals with disabilities, family members and service providers.

l) Emerging Advocates (22LD01FA22)

Youth with disabilities need advocacy skills to achieve their goals and independence. It is never too early to start teaching these skills. There are few advocacy education programs for youth with disabilities in Ohio.

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council 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 advocacy and leadership skills.
- Opportunities children and youth with DD have to use advocacy skills in educational planning and all decision-making.
- Advocacy and leadership skills of children and youth with DD for them to speak on their own behalf.

m) Empowering People with Disabilities (22LD02FA22)

The DD Act requires the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council to work on these three areas:

- Support a state advocacy organization led by individuals with developmental disabilities.
- Support leaders with developmental disabilities to give leadership training to future leaders with developmental disabilities.
- Support and expand individuals with developmental disabilities to participate in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership.

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council will fund several projects that meet the requirements of the DD Act, as well as to:

- Empower leaders and advocates.
- Provide leadership opportunities.
- Increase advocacy skills so people speak up.

n) Detecting Specific Disorders for the Amish and Nob-Amish Community Project (22OU01FA22)

This project is a collaboration of medical professionals, families, hospitals, and teachers in the Amish area of Northeast, Ohio. The primary focus of the project is to visit, diagnosis, test and treat genetic disorders in the Amish community. This project will:

- Support research comparing rare genetic disorders across multiple Amish communities.
- Develop up to 30 new diagnostic tests and provide expanded diagnostic testing to Ohio Amish communities at the lowest cost.
- Expand education and outreach services that includes genetic counseling and support services for Amish families and the medical professionals that care for them.

o) Human Trafficking and Vulnerable Populations (22OU02SC22)

Human trafficking is a horrific form of abuse that takes away a person's freedom and dignity. Individuals with developmental disabilities may be more likely to be used by traffickers.

This project will develop a “White Paper” to provide the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council with information on how people with disabilities, including people of color, are being used or abused by human traffickers and how Council can help stop this negative behavior against people with developmental disabilities.

p) Ohio’s LGBTQ Community and People with Disabilities (22OU03SC22)

Research shows that people in the LGBTQ community face barriers finding employment, housing, healthcare and more. LGBTQ people with disabilities often report that it is challenging to have their identities fully recognized. This project will explore whether LGBTQ people with disabilities receive necessary services and supports.

The project will develop a “White Paper” to provide:

- Information about the challenges faced by people with disabilities, including people of color, in the LGBTQ community.
- Supporting data.
- Recommendations for future projects.

A complete description of each project, known as the State Plan Language, is included as part of the Notice of Funds Available on www.ddsuite.org.

Funding for these projects are made available through the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000, Public Law 106-402.

2) Federal Award Information:

Each opportunity listed is a grant project and will be funded on an annual basis for a period of five years, beginning on October 1, 2021 and ending on September 30, 2026, unless otherwise noted by the state plan language. Projects will be subject to an annual review of progress (continuation review) prior to grant renewal. Continuation reviews are not subject to a competitive review of other applications. Federal funding for each project is as follows:

| Project Number | Project Title | Federal Award | Match Requirement |
|----------------|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| 17AC01FA22 | Public Awareness Using Digital Media for People with Developmental Disabilities | \$80,000 Each Year | \$26,667 Each Year |
| 17OU01FA22 | Empowering Reachout E-Diversity Newsletter | \$30,000 Each Year | \$10,000 Each Year |
| 17PP01CR22 | DD Awareness & Advocacy Day | \$35,000 Each Year | \$11,667 Each Year |

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| 17PP03SC22 | General Assembly Briefing Sessions | \$35,000 Each Year | \$11,667 Each Year |
| 22CH01FA22 | Come Together | \$40,000 Each Year | \$13,333 Each Year |
| 22CH02FA22 | Empowering Families | \$65,000 Each Year | \$21,667 Each Year |
| 22CH03FA22 | Inclusive Recreation | \$24,000 Each Year | \$8,000 Each Year |
| 22CL01SC22 | DSP White Paper in Action | \$40,000 Each Year | \$13,333 Each Year |
| 22CL02SC22 | Replicate and Expand Transportation Project | \$80,000 Each Year | \$26,667 Each Year |
| 22EM01FA22 | Dollars and Sense | \$50,000 Each Year | \$16,667 Each Year |
| 22EM02FA22 | Employment Resources | \$50,000 Each Year | \$16,667 Each Year |
| 22LD01FA22 | Emerging Advocates | \$85,000 Each Year | \$28,333 Each Year |
| 22LD02FA22 | Empowering People with Disabilities | \$70,000 Each Year | \$23,333 Each Year |
| 22OU01FA22 | Detecting Specific Disorders for the Amish and Non-Amish Community Project | \$50,000 Each Year | \$16,667 Each Year |
| 22OU02SC22 | Human Trafficking and Vulnerable Populations | \$30,000 Each Year | \$10,000 Each Year |
| 22OU03SC22 | Ohio's LGBTQ Community and People with Disabilities | \$30,000 Each Year | \$10,000 Each Year |

The source for matching funds or cost sharing on all DD Council projects can be cash or in-kind contributions. Match or cost sharing cannot be derived from federal funds.

3) Eligibility Information:

There are no restrictions on the type of entity that may apply for and receive this award. This includes eligibility for state governments, local governments, Native American tribal organizations, non-profit organizations, for-profit businesses, and individuals.

Pursuant to Section 5123.35 of the Ohio Revised Code, an award may be provided to a state agency that has a representative on the Council, university center of excellence on developmental disabilities, or state protection and advocacy organization under specific circumstances. Any other organization that includes a representative on the Council will not be considered.

All applications must include matching funds. Matching funds may be cash or in-kind contributions. Statewide projects are required to provide match equal to 25 percent of the total award. Projects located in areas defined as a poverty area are permitted to provide a

match equal to 10 percent of the total award. More information about funding restrictions may be found in the following section.

For 2022, 2 counties in Ohio have been identified as a poverty counties, which include:

- Athens
- Scioto

Applicants who cannot comply with the requirements of the DD Council Assurances, which can be found at www.ddc.ohio.gov, will not be awarded.

4) Application and Submission Information:

All applications must be submitted using the online grant submission website known as DD Suite. The website address is <https://ddsuite.org>. In order to create and submit an application in DD Suite, each applicant will be required to create an account. The creation of an account in DD Suite requires an e-mail address and contact information. More information about how to create an account and submit an application can be found at <https://ddsuite.org/TA>.

Applicants can request more information about the application by writing to the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, 899 E. Broad St., Ste. 203, Columbus, OH 43205. All applications will be required to include an executive summary, a description of the applying entity's qualifications, a narrative description of the proposed project, a description of efforts to reach underserved communities, a description of efforts to include people with developmental disabilities in the project, a work plan that identifies outcomes, activities for each outcome, timelines and staff responsible for each activity, a detailed budget and budget justification. Each section of the application that requires a narrative description will be subject to the following character limits:

- Executive Summary: 2,500 Characters
- Qualifications: 5,000 Characters
- Project Narrative: 25,000 Characters
- Outreach to Un/Underserved Communities: 5,000 Characters
- Inclusion of Individuals with Disabilities: 5,000 Characters
- Budget Justification: 7,500 Characters

All applications must include three (3) letters of recommendation, the resume of the project director, and the names of the organization's board members (if the applicant is an organization with a governing board), proof of non-profit status (if the applicant is a non-profit organization), a copy of the applicant's most recent federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (if requesting indirect costs and not using the de minimis rate), and a signed copy of the Council's Assurances form, which will be available on the DD Suite application website. These materials can be uploaded as part of the application submission in DD Suite.

Successful applicants will be required to submit the following materials with appropriate signatures: a) Standard Affirmation and Disclosure Form for Grants; and b) Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Form. Successful applicants, if not already registered, will have to set up an account as a supplier with the state at supplier.ohio.gov.

All applicants, with the exception of individuals or an entity exempted under 2 CFR 25.110 (b) or (c), or has an exception approved under 2 CFR 25.110 (d), must be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM) before submitting their application and must include a valid Dun and Bradstreet Universal Number System (DUNS) number in the application. Applicants are also required to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times that an application is pending or the applicant holds this federal award. The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council may not make an award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with the requirements of DUNS and SAM. In the case of an applicant who does not meet the applicable requirements of DUNS and SAM, the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council may award this grant to another applicant.

The deadline for all applications for this project is 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Friday, July 2, 2021. The time and date for all applications is recorded electronically by DD Suite and will be considered the acceptable proof of the time and date of submission. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

Applicants will receive an e-mail from DD Suite, sent to the project director, fiscal officer, and organization director, confirming receipt of the proposal.

All DD Council projects are subject to the following funding restrictions:

- Allowable Project Costs include audits, bonding, books and periodicals, communications, consultant services, fringe benefits, insurance, printing or copying, publications, rentals, equipment, salaries and wages, supplies, taxes, transportation, and travel that is subject to the maximum allowable travel rates permitted by the state of Ohio.
- The following project costs are not permitted: bad debts, construction, contingency funds or savings, entertainment, fines and penalties, gift cards, organizational fundraising, interest costs, land or buildings, lobbying.
- Funds may not be used to schedule an event or activity that is in conflict with a meeting of the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, as provided on the council's website at www.ddc.ohio.gov.

Applications will only be accepted through the online DD Suite website. Information about how to create an account in DD Suite and how to submit an application can be found at <https://ddsuite.org>. Applicants who experience technical difficulties may contact Paul Jarvis at (614) 644-5545 or by e-mail at paul.jarvis@dodd.ohio.gov.

5) Application Review Information:

Applications for this project will be evaluated by a grant review panel that consists of five (5) individuals: two external reviewers with knowledge of the subject matter and three Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council members. Panel members are selected prior to the issuance of this Notice of Funds Available. Panel members must confirm, by signature, they do not have a fiduciary or pecuniary conflict of interest in the project.

Each panel member will independently review and score each application using the DD Council's competitive review evaluation score sheet. During the competitive grant review, the scores for each project will be collected and tabulated. Low scoring proposals may be

eliminated without further consideration or discussion. Following a discussion of any remaining proposals, the review panel may select an application for award. Decisions of the grant review panel require a majority vote of the panel.

Applications may be awarded up to 100 points by a reviewer using the competitive review evaluation score sheet. Each score sheet consists of seven sections and includes a scoring range for each section. The sections of the score sheet have a corresponding section to the application, as follows:

- a. Executive Summary (0-5 Points): Applicants are asked to provide a one paragraph abstract that clearly identifies the goals and major activities of the project. Reviewers are asked if the applicant's response clearly states the goal and major activities of the project.
- b. Qualifications (0-5 Points): Applicants are asked to describe their organization's qualifications to implement the proposed project. Applicants are also asked to include a description of their organization's mission and philosophy. Reviewers are asked to score the project based on the organization's mission and philosophy, experience providing culturally competent services or support to individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members, experience as an advocate on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, the knowledge and expertise that qualifies the applicant to successfully conduct the project, the knowledge and expertise of the project personnel, and how many current grants are held by the applicant. Reviewers may also consider the required letters of recommendation and the resume of the project director.
- c. Project Narrative (0-45 Points): Applicants are asked to describe the project and how it will accomplish the outcome statement and how it will achieve the outputs provided in the project description. Applicants are also asked to describe what strategies will be used to verify data generated by the project. Applicants are also asked to describe what impact the project will have on individuals with developmental disabilities. Reviewers are asked to score this section based on how well the applicant describes methods to reach the outcome statement and outputs, how effective the strategy the verify data will be, and to what degree the project activities will have an impact on individuals with developmental disabilities.
- d. Outreach to Un/Underserved Communities (0-15 Points): Applicants are asked to identify the un/underserved communities in their project area, to identify which un/underserved population the project will target for inclusion in activities, to identify the needs and barriers to service of the identified population, to identify the affirmative or proactive activities the applicant will conduct to reach the identified population, to list key community partners or organizations to assist with the identified population, to describe plans to sustain this activity, to identify how progress towards reaching the identified population will be measured, to identify how barriers towards progress will be addressed, and, if possible, to describe how the project can identify and report on disparities among the identified population. Reviewers are asked to rate the responses provided to each of the sub-questions.
- e. Inclusion of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities (0-15 Points): Applicants are asked to describe how the project will include individuals with disabilities and family members in the project's activities and to identify if there are paid or unpaid roles for individuals with disabilities. Reviewers are asked to score the section based on whether they believe the project includes appropriate efforts to include individuals with disabilities and their family members in project activities.

- f. Budget & Budget Explanation (0-5 Points): Applicants are asked to provide a proposed budget based on eight (8) categories which include Personnel with Fringe Benefits, Personnel without Fringe Benefits, Contracted or Subcontracted Services, Travel, Supplies and Publications, Space or Rental Costs, Other Direct Costs, Volunteer Services or Indirect Costs. Applicants are also asked to include an explanation or justification for how budget items were estimated or calculated. Reviewers will examine this section for appropriateness.
- g. Project Outcomes and Activities (0-10 Points): Applicants are asked to identify outcomes that will be achieved throughout a grant year, to describe activities that will be performed to achieve each outcome, to identify project staff who will be responsible for each activity, and to provide a clear timeline of expected achievement of activities and outcomes. Applicants are also asked to identify outputs they intend to achieve through project activities and outcomes. Reviewers are asked to score this section based on whether the project includes the appropriate outputs and target numbers, whether each activity and output is relevant to the outcome, whether the application adequately describes responsibilities for activities and outcomes and provides a clear timeline, and whether the application includes an objective related to achieving the outreach goal identified in the project narrative section.

The authority to award or decline an application for this project lies with the grant review panel.

6) Federal Award Administration Information:

Successful applications will be notified in writing within 5 business days of the scheduled grant review. This notification is considered a pre-award notification and is not an authorization to begin work on the project. This notification may include additional terms and conditions that must be satisfied prior to a Notice of Grant Award. Once all terms and conditions are satisfied, the successful applicant will receive a Notice of Grant Award signed by the executive director of the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council that includes the Project Title, Project Number, Federal Funding Award, Matching Funding Requirement, and instructions on how to accept the award in DD Suite.

Applications that are not successful will be notified in writing within 5 business days of the scheduled grant review.

The successful applicant will be required to submit periodic program and expense reports. Program and expense reports are due on the last business day of the month that follows the end of a project reporting period. Projects that receive a federal award of \$15,000 or less are required to submit a program and expense report once per year. Projects that receive a federal award of \$50,000 or less are required to submit program and expense reports twice per year. Projects that receive a federal award of \$50,001 or more are required to submit program and expense reports on a quarterly basis.

7) Contact Information:

All inquiries related to the programmatic requirements of these project may be directed to appropriate program staff, as follows:

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| Fatica Ayers (614) 644-5543 fatica.ayers@dodd.ohio.gov | DSP White Paper in Action Replicate and Expand Transportation Project |
| Rebecca Bates (614) 644-5548 sara.bates@dodd.ohio.gov | Come Together Empowering Families Inclusive Recreation |
| Leslie Connelly (614)644-5542 leslie.connelly@dodd.ohio.gov | Dollars and Sense Employment Resources Emerging Advocates Empowering People with Disabilities |
| Carla Cox (614) 644-5538 carla.cox@dodd.ohio.gov | Public Awareness Using Digital Media for People with Developmental Disabilities |
| Paul Jarvis (614) 644-5545 paul.jarvis@dodd.ohio.gov | DD Awareness & Advocacy Day General Assembly Briefing Sessions |
| Ken Latham (614) 644-5546 kenneth.latham@dodd.ohio.gov | Empowering Reachout E-Diversity Newsletter Detecting Specific Disorders for the Amish and Non-Amish Community Project Human Trafficking and Vulnerable Populations Ohio's LGBTQ Community and People with Disabilities |
| Carla Cox (614) 644-5538 carla.cox@dodd.ohio.gov | Public Awareness Using Digital Media for People with Developmental Disabilities |

Fiscal Inquiries may be directed to:

Gary Groom
(614) 644-5541
gary.groom@dodd.ohio.gov

Robin Shipp
(614) 644-5544
robin.shipp@dodd.ohio.gov

Inquiries may also be sent by mail to 899 E. Broad St., Ste. 203, Columbus, OH 43205.

8) Optional Information:

The Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council is not required to make an award for any of these projects. Any award made by the Council is subject to the availability of federal funds.

All information provided by the applicant, including the ideas, concepts or any proprietary information contained in the application will be retained as a public record.