

# **NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **State Council on Developmental Disabilities invites agencies and programs to apply for grant funding**

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota State Council on Developmental Disabilities announced today that grant funding is available to support projects that enhance opportunities for people with developmental disabilities and their families. Grant applications are due July 15, 2011. Interested organizations can obtain information online at [www.ndscdd.org](http://www.ndscdd.org) or by contacting the council at 701-328-4847 or [apena@nd.gov](mailto:apena@nd.gov).

Council Executive Director Andrea Peña said the 20-member council distributes funds annually, and has historically provided start-up funds for innovative programs that continue to directly benefit people with developmental disabilities. These include a neonatal intensive care unit family support program, transition-age work experience, medical home care coordination, assistive technology information training, guardianship services, respite care for families, consumer training to promote employment, the Family-to-Family peer support project, after-school programs, outreach to survivors of brain injury, and other initiatives.

Council members include individuals with developmental disabilities, parents and other immediate relatives, guardians, representatives from the North Dakota Department of Human Services and its Developmental Center, Job Service North Dakota, the Department of Public Instruction, the Department of Health, the Protection and Advocacy Project, and the N.D. Center for Persons with Disabilities at Minot State University. Community-based service providers are also represented.

Last year the council approved 12 grants totaling over \$334,000 for projects and services that supported employment, education, early intervention, and community supports for persons with developmental disabilities, as well as quality assurance efforts.

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