

PADDC Community Grants Program

Dear Applicant:

The PA Developmental Disabilities Council invites you to apply for funding from our Community Grants Program. These Community Grants are intended to bring together people with and without disabilities in a local community alliance to influence social change and improve the lives of members of the community.

Community Grant projects will have the following characteristics:

* People with developmental disabilities and/or their family members are active members who influence the group and project’s direction and participate in doing the project’s work. Action is with people with developmental disabilities, not for them.
* Project activities focus on making communities better for everyone. The initiative is not about specialized responses to disability but engaging people who care about working together on local issues of common interest. This means learning to listen carefully to fellow citizens who are outside the circle of those primarily concerned with disability – as well as those who are – in order to discover what issues people care about enough to take action together.
* Over time, projects build up local capacity for collective action by creating and strengthening continuing relationships with a variety of associations and groups. The initiative is not about single victories but building communities where people have a growing capacity to act together.
* Projects support ways for people with developmental disabilities to do the work of active citizenship and makes what they have found available to other communities.

We are interested in work which develops “generic” change – providing benefits to people with disabilities in settings which are the same as those available to the regular community, and, if necessary, changing that generic community to meet the needs of people with disabilities in ways that affirm the status of people with disabilities as full and equal members. We also strongly believe that the work of “disability competence” is closely allied with the work of doing other forms of cultural competence.

For information on our beliefs and the sort of things we have funded in the past, please see [www.paddc.org](http://www.paddc.org)

These grants are intended to support short term projects of up to 18 months and bidders can request funding in amounts up to $10,000. To apply, please write us or email us with a brief statement of the following:

1. Who you are?
2. What problem you are trying to address?
3. How you are trying to address it? and
4. How this relates to the Council’s values and/or past efforts?

Your Intent Letter of 1 to 2 pages can be submitted electronically or by paper no later than 3:00 pm on Wednesday, September 19, 2018. If submitting electronically, send your application to dgolin@pa.gov . If submitting by paper, send your letter to the Developmental Disabilities Council, Room 561, Forum Building, 607 South Drive, Harrisburg, PA 17120-0025. *ATTENTION: COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM.*

Before making your application you are invited to a ‘Question and Answer’ conversation with Council staff where you will have an opportunity to present your ideas and get feedback from the Council and fellow applicants.  This meeting is intended to help you develop your ideas and test them out against the Council’s knowledge of its past interests and funding decisions.  The date, time, and location of the Question and Answer conversation is listed below.

WEBINAR/CONFERENCE CALL DATE/TIME: SEPTEMBER 7, 2018 10:30 AM

FORUM BUILDING ROOM 558 (COUNCIL’S CONFERENCE ROOM)

DIAL 1-866-210-1669 AND ENTER PARTICIPANT CODE 3478987#

& USE THE LINK BELOW /

[**http://paddc.adobeconnect.com/communitygrants2018/**](http://paddc.adobeconnect.com/communitygrants2018/)

There **is no registration required** to attend; however, if you need accommodations to participate, please let us know at least 14 days before the date of the Conversation.

You may do so by emailing adaub@pa.gov or by calling the Council's offices at 717-787-6058.

All Letters of Intent will be reviewed to determine if they best meet the purposes of the Council. The “finalists” will be notified by mail and receive a final application packet for submission. In addition to your final application, you will be required to attend a webinar before submitting your full final proposal.

We look forward to reading your ideas for this Grants Program. If you have questions concerning this application process, or would like to receive this packet in an alternative format, please contact me at 717-772-4127.

 Sincerely,

 David Golin

 Project Officer