

overnight/express mail couriers shall be considered as meeting an announced deadline if they are received on or before the deadline date, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., e.s.t., Monday through Friday (excluding Federal holidays), at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/Office of Grants Management, ACF Mailroom, 2nd Floor (near Loading Dock), Aerospace Center, 901 D Street, SW., Washington, DC 20024. Applicants using express/overnight services should allow two working days (Monday through Friday, excluding holidays) prior to the deadline date for receipt of applications. (**Note to applicants:** Express/overnight mail services do not always deliver at the time to which they agreed.)

Receipt of Applications

Applications must either be hand delivered or mailed to the addresses listed above (under *Deadline*). Notification will not be sent to applicants regarding the receipt of their application.

ACF cannot accommodate transmission of applications by fax or through other electronic media. Applications transmitted electronically will not be accepted. Videotapes and cassette tapes may not be included as part of a grant application for panel review.

Additional material will not be accepted, or added to an application, unless it is received by the deadline date.

Closed Captioning for Audiovisual Efforts

Applicants must include closed captioning and audio description in the development of any audiovisual products.

Late Applications

Applications that do not meet the criteria above are considered late applications. ADD shall notify each late applicant that its application will not be considered in the current competition.

Extension of Deadlines

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) may extend application deadlines when circumstances such as acts of God (e.g., floods, hurricanes) occur, or when there is widespread disruption of the mail service. Determinations to extend or waive deadline requirements rest with the Chief Grants Management Officer.

Notice of Intent to Submit

Application: If you intend to submit an application, under this announcement, please contact, Joan Rucker of ADD at

(202) 690-7898 within 15 days of the date of this announcement. Please give your organization's name and address, and your contact person's name, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail address.

The information will be used to determine the number of expert reviewers needed and to update the mailing list for program announcements.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information about the application process, program information and application materials contact, Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Lois Hodge, Grants Officer, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW., Washington, DC, 20447, 202/401-2344, lhodge@acf.hhs.gov, or Joan Rucker, Program Specialist, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, SW., Washington, DC, 20447, 202/690-7898, jrucker@acf.hhs.gov. Copies of this program announcement and many of the required forms may be obtained electronically at the ADD World Wide Web page: <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/add/>.

Project Duration: The projects will be awarded for a project period of up to seventeen (17) months.

Federal Share of Project Costs: The maximum Federal shares for applicants requesting planning funds shall not exceed \$200,000 for a state or \$100,000 for a territory for the budget period. The maximum Federal shares for applicants requesting development funds shall not exceed \$100,000 for a state and not to exceed \$50,000 for a territory.

Anticipated Number of Projects to be Funded: It is anticipated that up to 14 projects will be funded.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Part I. General Information

A. Goals of the Administration on Developmental Disabilities

The Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD) is located within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). ADD shares goals with other ACF programs that promote the economic and social well being of families, children, individuals, and communities. ACF and ADD envision:

- Families and individuals empowered to increase their own economic independence and productivity;
- Strong, healthy, supportive communities having a positive impact on the quality of life and the development of children;
- Partnerships with individuals, front-line service providers,

communities, States, and Congress that enable solutions that transcend traditional agency boundaries;

- Services planned and integrated to improve client access;
- A strong commitment to working with Native Americans, persons with developmental disabilities, refugees, and migrants to address their needs, strengths and abilities;
- A recognition of the power and effectiveness of public-private partnerships, including collaboration among community groups, such as faith-based organizations, families, and public agencies; and
- A community-based approach that recognizes and expands on the resources and benefits of diversity.

These goals will enable individuals, including people with developmental disabilities, to live productive and independent lives integrated into their communities.

B. Purpose of the Administration on Developmental Disabilities

The Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD) is the lead agency within ACF and DHHS responsible for planning and administering programs to promote the self-sufficiency and protect the rights of persons with developmental disabilities. ADD administers the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (the DD Act of 2000). The DD Act defines developmental disabilities, reauthorizes four major programs under ADD, authorizes States to provide advocacy, promote consumer oriented systems change and capacity building activities and facilitates network formations.

This Act supports and provides assistance to States, public, private non-profit agencies, and organizations, including faith-based organizations, to assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to culturally competent services, supports, and other assistance and opportunities that promote independence, productivity, integration, and inclusion into the community.

The Act establishes, in part, as the policy of the United States:

- Individuals with developmental disabilities have competencies, capabilities and personal goals that should be recognized, supported, and encouraged, and any assistance to such individuals should be provided in an individualized manner, consistent with the unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, and capabilities of the individual;