

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

(Program Announcement No. 93631-95-02)

Developmental Disabilities: Availability of Financial Assistance for Projects of National Significance for Fiscal Year 1995

AGENCY: Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD), Administration for Children and Families (ACF).

ACTION: Announcement of availability of financial assistance for Projects of National Significance for fiscal year 1995.

SUMMARY: The Administration on Developmental Disabilities, Administration for Children and Families, announces that applications are being accepted for funding of Fiscal Year 1995 Projects of National Significance.

This program announcement consists of five parts. Part I, the Introduction, discusses the goals and objectives of ACF and ADD. Part II provides the necessary background information on ADD for applicants. Part III describes the review process. Part IV describes the priorities under which ADD solicits applications for Fiscal Year 1995 funding of projects. Part V describes in detail how to prepare and submit an application. All of the forms and instructions necessary to submit an application are published as part of this announcement following Part V.

No separate application kit is either necessary or available for submitting an application. If you have a copy of this announcement, you have all the information and forms required to submit an application.

Grants will be awarded under this program announcement subject to the availability of funds for support of these activities.

DATES: The closing date for submittal of applications under this announcement is August 3, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Applications should be mailed to: Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/Division of Discretionary Grants, Sixth Floor, 370 L'Enfant Promenade SW, Washington, DC 20447, Attn: 93.631 ADD—Projects of National Significance.

Hand-delivered applications are accepted during the normal working hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, on or prior to the established closing date at: Administration for Children and

Families, Division of Discretionary Grants, 6th Floor OFM/DDG, 901 D Street, SW, Washington, DC 20447.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Adele Gorelick, Program Development Division, Administration on Developmental Disabilities, (202) 690-5982.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Part I. Introduction

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). Although different from the other ACF program administrations in the specific populations it serves, ADD shares a common set of goals that promote the economic and social well-being of families, children, individuals and communities. Through national leadership, 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 which transcend traditional agency boundaries;
- Services planned and integrated to improve client access; and
- A strong commitment to working with Native Americans, persons with developmental disabilities, refugees and migrants to address their needs, strengths and abilities.
- A community-based approach that recognizes and expands on the resources and benefits of diversity. Emphasis on these goals and progress toward them will help more individuals, including people with developmental disabilities, to live productive and independent lives integrated into their communities. The Projects of National Significance Program is one means through which ADD promotes the achievement of these goals.

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 which promote

the self-sufficiency and protect the rights of persons with developmental disabilities.

The Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (42 U.S.C. 6000, *et seq.*) (the Act) supports and provides assistance to States and public and private nonprofit agencies and 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 and integration and inclusion into the community.

The Act points out that:

- Disability is a natural part of the human experience that does not diminish the right of individuals with developmental disabilities to enjoy the opportunity for independence, productivity and inclusion into the community;
- Individuals whose disabilities occur during their developmental period frequently have severe disabilities that are likely to continue indefinitely;
- Individuals with developmental disabilities often require lifelong specialized services and assistance, provided in a coordinated and culturally competent manner by many agencies, professionals, advocates, community representatives, and others to eliminate barriers and to meet the needs of such individuals and their families; The Act further finds that:
 - Individuals with developmental disabilities, including those with the most severe developmental disabilities, are capable of achieving independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion into the community, and often require the provision of services, supports and other assistance to achieve such;
 - 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;
 - Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families are the primary decision makers regarding the services and supports such individuals and their families receive; and play decision making roles in policies and programs that affect the lives of such individuals and their families; and
 - It is in the nation's interest for people with developmental disabilities to be employed, and to live