designed to advance the independence, individual choice, and empowerment of at-risk youth with disabilities and their families and break the dependence these youth may ultimately have on the service delivery system.

• Improve access to supports and services through the identification and development of collaborative and comprehensive systems of support including training materials and strategies for technical assistance in state-of-the-art services and supports which promote the independence of atrisk youth with disabilities. The activities of these projects may include a technology component for youth for whom assistive devices become the key to independence.

As a general guide, we will expect to fund only those applications for projects that are

- · Family focussed.
- · Community based.
- Culturally competent.
- In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended by the Rehabilitation Act amendments of 1992 (Pub. L. 102–569).
- Project Duration: This announcement is soliciting applications for project periods up to three years under this priority area. Awards, on a competitive basis, will be for a one-year budget period, although project periods may be for three years. Applications for continuation grants funded under this priority area beyond the one-year budget period, but within the three-year project period, will be entertained in subsequent years on a non-competitive basis, subject to the availability of funds, satisfactory progress of the grantee and determination that continued funding would be in the best interest of the Government.
- Federal Share of Project Costs: The maximum Federal share is not to exceed \$150,000 for the first 12-month budget period or a maximum of \$450,000 for a three-year project period.
- Matching Requirement: Grantees must provide at least 25 percent of the total approved cost of the project. The total approved cost of the project is the sum of the ACF share and the non-Federal share. The non-Federal share may be met by cash or in-kind contributions, although applicants are encouraged to meet their match requirements through cash contributions. Therefore, a project requesting \$150,000 in Federal funds (based on an award of \$150,000 per budget period) must include a match of at least \$50,000 (25% total project cost).

• Anticipated Number of Projects to be Funded: It is anticipated that up to three (3) projects will be funded.

• *CFDA*: ÅDD's CFDA (Code of Federal Domestic Assistance) number is 93.631—Developmental Disabilities—Projects of National Significance. FYSB's CFDA numbers are 93.623, Runaway and Homeless Youth Program, 93.550, Transitional Living Program, and 93.660, Youth Gang Drug Prevention Program.

Fiscal Year 1995 Priority Area 2: Americans With Developmental Disabilities and the Criminal Justice System

- Eligible Applicants: Self-advocacy groups, independent living centers, private nonprofit organizations, or agencies.
- Purpose: Under this priority area, ADD will award demonstration grant funds for projects addressing the consequences of becoming involved in the criminal justice system by individuals with developmental disabilities. The Americans with Disabilities Act requires police to take steps, including training when necessary, to avoid discriminatory treatment on the basis of disability. States and localities require direction and assistance to carry out these provisions.
- Background Information: Both as victims and those accused and convicted of committing crimes, individuals with developmental disabilities (especially mental retardation) are becoming increasingly involved in the criminal justice system. Moreover, these individuals often face unequal justice at the hands of police and the courts precisely because the current system is not educated or prepared to respond or adapt to their disabilities and self-advocates have not been considered as essential elements of the educational process.

Advocates, scholars, and others argue that people who have been very carefully taught all their lives to trust and please authority figures sometimes confess to crimes they have not and could not have committed. Police, prosecutors, and the public need to learn about the raw vulnerability of many of these citizens.

Much more focused effort must be placed on identifying and replicating best and promising practices in this area. This is especially true if the critical concept of community policing is going to be applied to individuals with disabilities in a fair and effective manner throughout our Nation.

Greater emphasis, therefore, must be placed on providing current police and

new recruits with the training and technical assistance needed to afford people with disabilities who are victims or alleged perpetrators of crime with equal justice under the law.

The input and participation of people with developmental and other disabilities is crucial for familiarizing police and others with the unique range of needs and abilities of such individuals.

Additional training is needed to better prepare individuals with disabilities to avoid conduct that might place them at risk of becoming victims or accused perpetrators of criminal activities and to negotiate in the criminal justice system should they become involved with it. An understanding of Miranda rights and responses is crucial.

ÁDD is particularly interested in receiving applications from national, State, and local self-advocacy networks, with the capacity to work collaboratively with the developmental disabilities network, service providers, law enforcement officials, criminal justice agencies, the civil rights community, and others, who would be able to spearhead such efforts.

 Minimum Requirements for Project Design: ADD is particularly interested in supporting projects which include the following:

• Initiation and coordination by a self-advocacy network working collaboratively with the developmental disabilities network, disability groups, Mentally Retarded Defendants Programs, and those agencies included in the criminal justice system.

 A survey and list of programs, materials, curricula that have been developed and implemented, including relevant legal statutes.

- The implementation of an ongoing procedure for soliciting discussion, exploring experiences and perceptions, and strategizing steps for prevention, for dealing with sexual harassment, and for navigating through legal procedures, which may include focus groups, interviews following incarceration, and video presentations with a view toward receiving input and direction from individuals with developmental disabilities.
- The development of self-produced materials in such media as dramatic presentations, artwork, or music to convey issues regarding prevention of involvement and negotiating involvement with the criminal justice system.
- The development or adaptation of model programs at the local level, including coverage of sexual harassment, for implementation with individuals with developmental