

COVID-19: What we know today

Disability Foundation Issues RFP for Ohio Organizations Providing Direct Service

Deadline: June 12, 2020

The [Disability Foundation](#), a supporting organization of the Dayton Foundation, has been working with families in Ohio for more than twenty years to ensure that their resources are utilized for the things that matter most to them and their family.

To that end, the foundation has issued a Request for Proposals from organizations serving individuals living with disabilities that are focused on delivering direct services to individual living with disabilities. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the foundation recognizes that many nonprofits serving individuals living with disabilities have been significantly impacted even as they continue to provide vital services. As a result, grants awarded by the foundation in 2020 will focus on the needs of those agencies. To that end, grants of up to \$10,000 will be awarded in support of operating expenditures created directly by the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as other needs directly related to the delivery of services.

Eligible applicants include organizations that tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, governmental agencies, and academic institutions.

See the Disability Foundation website for complete program guidelines and application instructions.

[Link to Complete RFP](#)

Community Living Engagement Toolkit

Looking to increase community life engagement of the people you support? Not sure where to begin? This toolkit was developed to help service providers develop and improve high quality supports for community life engagement (CLE). Inside you will find guideposts for success, a self-assessment tool, real-world examples of service providers making CLE happen, and other helpful resources and tools

May 13 NIDILRR NARIC announced U Mass Boston ICI toolkit [Learn more here](#).

DODD ADS/Voc. Hab. Guidance updates coming

Last week DODD reconvened the ADS re-opening stakeholder workgroup. DODD shared draft updates to previously-released documents, which included adding virtual tours of adult day settings, removing the requirement for floor-to-ceiling walls and allowing dividers at least 6 feet high, and modifying the symptom monitoring log. These changes are still drafts.

DODD staff gave additional guidance on the new Start Toward Emerging Possibilities (STEP) service. She clarified that the STEP service is meant for people who cannot use traditional day service settings. Providers cannot bill for STEP on the same day as adult day or vocational habilitation services.

The group also reviewed proposals for transportation and debated the requirement for 6 feet between occupants during transportation. Smaller groups will attempt to find solutions to the transportation concerns. Additional info. may be forthcoming on this.

Staying Safe Online slides

OACB recently shared a resource to help people understand about how to stay safe online.
([Click here.](#))

FREE webinar: Hiring Better DSPs Despite COVID-19 Wednesday, May 27th at 2 pm

Register at <https://www.blitzmediadesign.com/better-dsps/>

COVID-19 has dramatically changed how you interact with potential employees during the hiring process.

simple actions you can take now to feel more confident

how to quickly adjust your interview process for social distancing

reduce ghosting with quick changes

a simple approach to get better information from candidates even when you can't meet face-to-face

If you have any questions, please call Scott de Fasselle at 513-445-2024

\$10K in DSP Awards available

MITC, a company that provides software to the DD field, is offering cash prizes to nominated DSPs. See below for more info.

Your DSP's are one of the critical groups at the forefront of the fight against COVID-19.

MITC is offering prizes to Direct Support Professionals (DSP) who go above and beyond in providing services to a very vulnerable sector of society in these truly difficult times!

- 31 prizes will be awarded
- One prize of \$1,000. Includes personal recognition and lunch with MITC CEO John Graham
- 30 prizes of \$300.00 (one for each year of MITC history!)

MITC will share the awardees' stories. The first batch of winners will be announced during DSP Recognition Week in September 2020 (\$5,000 in total prizes). The second batch of winners will be announced in December 2020 (\$5,000 in total prizes). Click [here](#) to complete a nomination form.