

# NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDS

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## Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC)

155 Washington Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Albany, NY 12210

PUBLIC OR COMMUNITY-BASED NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS WITH PROVEN EXPERTISE IN THE PROVISION OF RESIDENTIAL AND DAY SERVICES TO PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES. APPLICANTS MUST BE SERVING INDIVIDUALS FROM ONE OF THE TARGETED DDSO REGIONS

### **Establishment of Everyday Heroes Learning Initiatives for Direct Support Professionals (Capital District, Long Island, Taconic and Sunmount DDSOs)**

To incorporate within an organization's culture the implementation of best practices for inclusion by their direct support professionals, and then to mentor other organizations regionally in adopting the Everyday Heroes inclusion model, four grants of up to \$20,000 per year for each of two years to establish an Everyday Heroes Learning Initiative. Contract continuations are subject to availability of Federal funds and should not be construed as automatic. The DDPC will also review the project's progress annually for demonstrated project performance and timely submission of required grant reports.

To recognize the direct support professionals who are representative of inclusion-based best practices, the NYS Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD) has implemented its Everyday Heroes Learning Initiative. The DDPC has supported this initiative by implementing six regional Leadership Initiatives and providing resources for Everyday Heroes training and technical assistance materials. Everyday Heroes activity is now occurring within ten of the OMRDD Developmental Disabilities Services Offices (DDSO). Given the success of phase I of this initiative, the DDPC now seeks to collaborate with OMRDD in implementing regional initiatives within the remaining three DDSO regions and further strengthening the initiative within a fourth region.

The Everyday Heroes Leadership Institutes teach selected direct support leaders about best practice approaches to inclusion and person-centered services/supports. These leaders are then committed to assisting peers in inclusion, empowerment and other person-centered concepts and practices. The DDPC will initiate a Request-for-Proposal (RFP) to establish four regional Everyday Heroes Leadership/Mentor Teams within the Capital District, Long Island, Sunmount and Taconic DDSO regions. These teams will be selected from organizations who agree to infuse the Everyday Heroes commitment to inclusion into their entire structure of services and supports and to then teach such principles to other regional organizations.

At a minimum, within Year One, project participants will be expected to:

- Establish Everyday Heroes Leadership Teams within their organizations;
- Participate within the Everyday Heroes Statewide Learning

Network;

- Develop work plans for implementation throughout their organization;
- Involve direct support professionals in the Everyday Heroes curriculum and concepts;
- Implement their organizational work plans, involving recipients of service in the development of person-centered inclusion opportunities;
- Evaluate the process and implementation of best practices inclusion, learn from actions taken, and modify services and supports as needed;
- Make recommendations as to effective ways to recognize and reward exemplary direct support professionals within their respective organizations; and
- Evaluate one year outcomes, and implement planning for Year Two.

During Year Two, the teams will not only continue their own agency efforts to bring the Everyday Heroes commitment to inclusion within their services and programs, but they will mentor at least two other agencies to incorporate the Everyday Heroes values within their systems. The Mentor Teams will continue to meet to share best practices and to discuss mentoring strategies. Also during Year Two, best practices will be documented and compiled into a handbook of Everyday Heroes: Commitment to Inclusion organizational implementation strategies.

The full RFP can be downloaded from [www.ddpc.state.ny.us](http://www.ddpc.state.ny.us) All interested applicants are asked to submit a one page letter of intent by October 20, 2006 to Nicholas, Program Planner, at the address above. Letters of intent are not required but will assist the DDPC in identifying interest and the potential applicant pool. All final grant applications should be sent to Sheila Carey, Executive Director, and must be delivered to the DDPC office by close of business (5:00 pm) on October 30, 2006.

## Department of State

41 State Street  
Albany NY, 12231

COUNTIES, TOWNS, CITIES, VILLAGES, LOCAL PUBLIC AUTHORITIES, LOCAL PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATIONS, INDIAN TRIBES/NATIONS, AND NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATIONS (UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS)

### **Environmental Protection Fund; New York State Quality Communities Program 2006-2007**

Funds are available for planning projects which revitalize downtowns, develop strong economies and protect environmental resources. Eligible applicants may apply for grants by submitting proposals that incorporate one or more of the following programs: Intermunicipal Growth, Community Growth, Community Open Space, Mountain Communities and Community Center.

Request for applications and forms along with other pertinent information are available for downloading from the: Quality Communities Clearinghouse Web site: [www.qualitycommunities.org](http://www.qualitycommunities.org)

*For other information please call, 518-473-3355 or email [QC@dos.state.ny.us](mailto:QC@dos.state.ny.us)*

Applications must be received (received, not postmarked) no later than: 4:00p.m. Friday, November 17, 2006.