

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDS

Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC)

155 Washington Avenue, 2nd Floor
Albany, NY 12210

DESIGNATED STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT LITERACY ZONE PROGRAMS, OR COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS WITH EXPERIENCE IN EFFECTIVELY SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND WHO DEVELOP FORMAL EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH DESIGNATED LITERACY ZONE PROGRAMS **Literacy Zones Collaboration**

Two grants of \$70,000 per year will be funded by the DDPC for each of two years, to establish models of cross-systems collaboration with NYS Literacy Zone initiatives, for the purpose of demonstrating their effectiveness in maintaining and supporting the community inclusion of individuals and families of people with developmental disabilities. The intent of these model projects is to effectively address the issues of educational, economic, health disparities, and social disadvantages faced by many persons with developmental disabilities. The applicant's program and budget narratives must provide the justification for the amount requested. If additional funds become available, the DDPC reserves the right to approve additional projects under the authority of this RFP.

The socio-economic impact of poverty actively works against inclusion, economic self-sufficiency and the stability of the family structure, including families headed by persons with developmental disabilities. The Literacy Zone approach includes a comprehensive focus on skill development including literacy, English language proficiency, public benefits advocacy, health education and advocacy, developing parenting skills and parental advocacy, facilitating and increasing the involvement of parents with their children's education, voter registration and citizenship skills, and developing skills and abilities essential to employment, including supports to obtain and maintain employment. Each Literacy Zone also includes a Family Welcome Center that provides access to an array of coordinated services that support students and their families and seeks to open pathways out of poverty. Literacy Zones are funded through Title II of the Workforce Investment Act.

Each Literacy Zone has mandatory program components and required federal Performance Targets established by the US Department of Education and SED. In addition to these program and performance components, the DDPC will require each applicant to demonstrate the following:

- Indicate how the project will identify, outreach and engage persons, families and parents with developmental disabilities;
- Describe the process as to how the applicant will identify the barriers to the person and family in literacy, health, education, employment, etc. and provide a thorough plan to address each of these issues to support the person and/or family;
- Describe how the project will identify and make any programmatic modifications or adaptations necessary to facilitate inclusion and success in Literacy Zone component services and supports;
- Describe how the applicant's role in increasing physical, communication and attitudinal accessibility to all LZ and LZ partner programs and services;

- Describe how the applicant's Family Welcome Center will support persons and parents with developmental disabilities, including the type and nature of such supports;
- Demonstrate and evaluate the impact of Literacy Zones on improving people's lives;
- Indicate how the applicant will inform and educate other Literacy Zone programs on their promising practices and approaches in assisting people with developmental disabilities; and
- Indicate how the applicant will sustain their services and supports to persons and parents with developmental disabilities beyond the term of the DDPC grant.

All interested applicants are requested to submit a one-page letter of intent by November 1, 2009 to Nicholas Rose, Program Planner at the address above. Letters of intent are preferred, but not required for applications to be accepted for this RFP. 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 December 1, 2009.

Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities (CQCAPD)

401 State Street
Schenectady, NY 12305

NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS WITH DEMONSTRATED EXPERTISE IN PROVIDING SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS

Protection and Advocacy for the Help America Vote Act (PAVA) Program

As the administering agency for the PAVA Program, CQCAPD is announcing the availability of federal funding to establish two five-year contracts with not-for-profit organizations to provide program services within New York State's upstate and downstate regions for the period March 1, 2010 through February 28, 2015.

Program Summary: Pursuant to the federally authorized PAVA Program, afforded under subtitle C of Title I of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000, the PAVA Program is responsible for providing education, training, and advocacy services to individuals with disabilities for the purpose of ensuring full participation in the electoral process by individuals with disabilities, including registering to vote, casting a vote, and accessing polling places.

Requirements: Grantee must be a not-for-profit organization, independent of any agency that provides treatment or habilitation services to persons with disabilities. Grantee must have the capacity and expertise to effectively advocate on behalf of eligible individuals.

It is anticipated that a total of approximately \$212,555 will be available during the first one-year contract period of March 1, 2010 through February 28, 2011. Funding amounts for years two through five of the five-year term will be subject to the availability of federal program funds.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) is expected to be released on September 10, 2009. Due date for receipt of proposals is November

12, 2009. Subcontracting will not be allowed without the express written approval of CQCAPD.

For an application and a full description of the required services and counties served by each region, contact Thomas A. Gilbert, PAVA Program Director, by phone at (518) 388-2882; or by e-mail at tom.gilbert@cqcaped.state.ny.us. An RFP announcement will also be available on CQCAPD's website at www.cqcaped.state.ny.us by September 10.