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November 20, 2023

To: I/DD community members, Tribal partners and ODDS staff

From: Anna S. Lansky, Interim Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS)

Subject: Self-Advocacy Innovative Projects American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) opportunities are now available

The Office of Developmental Disabilities (ODDS) is pleased to share that a new American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funded Request for Proposals (RFP) to support self-advocacy is now open. Self-advocacy among people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) is essential to a strong service system. One of ODDS' top priorities is supporting self-advocacy, and this funding will make a significant impact in that effort.

The Self-Advocacy Innovative Projects is one opportunity for a maximum of \$250,000 and several smaller opportunities not to exceed \$75,000 each. This funding is meant to strengthen self-advocacy for people with I/DD

receiving ODDS services. Part of the funding is for a self-advocacy reimbursement program for qualifying self-advocacy activities and events.

The proposals must meet one of these six categories or areas of need:

- Start-up funding for the creation of new self-advocacy entities in Oregon
- Expansion of current self-advocacy entities in Oregon
- Expansion of access to self-advocacy activities, including written materials, digital access, and website development
- Increasing languages other than English, and including additional cultures into self-advocacy activities and projects
- Self-advocacy trainings
- Peer-to-peer mentoring

All details, requirements, qualifications, and funding amounts [are available in the solicitation](#). You must be logged into Oregon Buys to view the RFP document.

There will be two pre-proposal conferences. The first is Dec. 5 at 11 a.m. and will be held [using Zoom](#). The second is Dec. 12 at 2 p.m. and will also be [on Zoom](#). This is a great opportunity to ask questions about the project and RFP process.

If you have accommodation needs, please send those to louie.thomas@odhs.oregon.gov at least 72 hours before the pre-proposal conference.

These are other important dates for the RFP process:

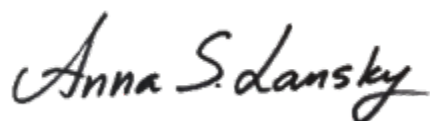
- Questions or requests for clarification are due Jan. 11, 2024
- Proposals are due Jan. 26 by 3 p.m.

Proposals must be submitted through [OregonBuys](#), which is the state's e-Procurement system. All details and documents for the Self-Advocacy Innovative Projects funding opportunity can be found on OregonBuys through bid solicitation number [S-10000-00006610](#). Please make sure you're registered with OregonBuys and logged in to view the RFP documentation. To help with registration, there is a [registration quick step guide](#) and [full registration instructions](#). If you need additional registration assistance, please call the vendor help desk at 855-800-5046 or email suppliersupport@periscopeholdings.com.

The single point of contact for this funding opportunity is Procurement Specialist Louie Thomas. All questions must go directly to Louie at louie.thomas@odhs.oregon.gov or 971-283-4755.

We are grateful for your enthusiasm for this funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anna S. Lansky". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anna S. Lansky

Interim Director
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

Previous ODDS Director's Messages are available at
<https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/agency/Pages/odds.aspx#dm>.

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