Oregon Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorder

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS 2014 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

OCASD RFP #42014

Introduction: The Oregon Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders (OCASD) requests proposals from qualified individuals or entities to implement projects that further the achievement of Goals and Recommendations set forth in the 2010 OCASD Report to the Governor. OCASD expects to award a number of small grants in 2014.

Timeline: The RFP will become active on **September 15, 2014**. Proposals must be received by **October 15, 2014**. Project work is expected to begin in **November 2014** with deliverables for each Implementation Grant Project to be completed by the end of **May 2015**.

To be considered for grant funding, a written Proposal Submission must include the following information as outlined below:

A. Name of Primary Contact Person
B. Name of Organization, if applicable
C. Contact Email Address | Phone Number | Mailing Address
D. Outline expertise and experience as it relates to the proposed project work.
E. Provide a detailed description of the proposed project, including expected outcomes.
F. Provide an outline detailing how the designated OCASD Subcommittee(s) will be involved in the Proposed Grant Project.
G. Provide a list of anticipated partnerships /collaborations and a description of how each partner will be engaged with the proposed project.
H. Identify the stakeholders groups this proposed project is expected to reach, and describe the impact project achievement would have on each of these groups.
I. Provide a list of proposed deliverables and action timeline.
J. Amount of Grant Funding Requested
K. Provide a detailed budget, including any additional resources, including in-kind support available
L. Describe how the project outcomes will be sustained after the grant funds have been expended.

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Expectations

The person(s) and/or organization(s) selected must work collaboratively with the designated subcommittee of the Commission. Projects resulting from this solicitation are expected to demonstrate progress toward outcomes identified in the 2010 OCASD Report to the Governor and report this progress to the Commission on a quarterly basis in the form of one page written report outlining actions taken on promised deliverables and progress toward intended outcomes achieved. Please note that all resulting products must be approved by the Commission prior to distribution. All resulting projects must be branded for the Oregon Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders. All resulting work products become property of the Oregon Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders, and are not intended for profit.

Exclusions

Current members of the Oregon Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders and Subcommittee Chairpersons may not receive grant funds; however OCASD Subcommittee Members who are not OCASD Commissioners may submit a Proposal.

Primary Point of Contact

All Proposal submissions and communications with OCASD concerning this RFP must be directed via email to staff@orcommissionasd.org

Evaluation

OCASD will evaluate the overall quality of content and responsiveness of Proposals to the purpose and specifications of this RFP. OCASD will conduct a comprehensive and impartial evaluation of the Proposals received. Proposals may be evaluated by a Review Panel selected by OCASD. Proposals will be evaluated based on Commission priorities, alignment with the OCASD 10 Year Plan, statewide impact, feasibility, and sustainability.

Reservation of OCASD Rights

OCASD reserves all rights regarding this RFP including the right to: Amend or cancel this RFP; Reject any and all Proposals received; Seek clarification of each Proposal; negotiate the statement of work within the scope of work described in this RFP and to negotiate the grant/contract award amount.

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Proposals will be considered for projects that further the achievement of Goals and Recommendations set forth in the 2010 OCASD Report to the Governor, available online at www.orcommissionasd.org. OCASD has identified the following focus areas for this RFP:

Designated Subcommittee:
Healthcare Services

Desired Project Outcomes:
Compilation and dissemination of evidence-driven health and wellness materials that are accessible to youth and adults on the autism spectrum.

Related Goals and Recommendations set forth in the 2010 OCASD Report to the Governor
HE4: Improve the general health of individuals with ASD by promoting healthy behaviors, self-advocacy, self-determination and self-management. (Page 39) **HE4.1:** Individuals and families will have the necessary information and supports, including access to facilities and health and wellness programs, to be able to implement healthy lifestyle choices about diet, exercise, and recreation. (Page 40)

Potential Implementation Project Allocation:
Up to $5,000

Summary:
Evidence-driven information about health and wellness for youth and adults on the autism spectrum--including nutrition, exercise, recreation, relaxation, preventive healthcare, self-advocacy and self-determination, and safety from abuse--exists, but has not been compiled and disseminated to the individuals, organizations, and programs which need them or which have requested them.

Purpose:
Mental and physical health includes attention to nutrition, exercise, recreation, relaxation, preventive healthcare, self-advocacy and self-determination, and safety from abuse. Various efforts have been made by research and self-advocacy groups in Oregon to address these factors through education for individuals with disabilities, including ASD. However, dissemination of these products to individuals on the autism spectrum has not been fully addressed or coordinated; thus these materials remain unknown to those who might distribute or receive them. Further, some materials may not be fully accessible to individuals across the autism spectrum. So while resources exist, individuals who may benefit from them may not know they exist, or may not be able to make use of them even if they are aware of them.

A need has been identified by members of the OCASD Healthcare Subcommittee, as well as by members of the community at large, for general health and wellness materials that are suitable for distribution the people on the autism spectrum and for use by transition and other health or wellness programs, as well as conveniently and centrally located.

"Accessible" means "able to be approached" and it is a concept that applies specifically to making something usable to an individual with a disability. Grantees should include someone with experience in creating accessible information for individuals on the autism spectrum, including individuals who have basic literacy skills and/or rely primarily on illustrations. The presence of this skill should be evident in the proposal.

The specific aims of this project are to:

1. Work with resource partners to collect, assess, and improve the accessibility of existing health, wellness, and self-determination resources for individuals on the autism spectrum ages 14 and up, and their families.
2. Compile a package of materials appropriate to individuals on the spectrum and their families, including in printed and online formats.
3. Work with dissemination partners and the Commission to distribute the materials to self-advocacy and family organizations, state service agencies, the educational system, and Oregon healthcare systems so they will reach the intended audience and/or become integrated within existing programs.
4. Ensure that materials are maintained by a statewide entity for no less than 3 years.

Budget:

The budget for this project will be $5000. Of that amount $2000 will be paid to labor for the individual(s) working with the resource partners to put together the package, including modifications of materials to improve accessibility, and $3000 will be paid to the dissemination effort, including labor, printing costs, and (if necessary) travel. These two aspects of the project may be conducted by the same individual or by different individuals, as they require separate skill sets. AASPIRE has offered to provide electronic media resources (e.g., web platforms, mailing lists, etc. including programming) to this project.

Potential Stakeholders and Collaborators:

Resource partners (partners with existing resources) are the Academic Autistic Spectrum Partnership in Research and Education, the Oregon Self-Advocacy Coalition, and Portland State University. Resources include both the health and wellness resources to be packaged and a platform for housing the package online. Potential dissemination partners for this project include the Oregon Self-Advocacy Coalition, the Autistic Self Advocacy Network (PDX branch), the Autism Society of Oregon, Autism Research and Resources of Oregon, the Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities, Oregon Department of Health and Human Services, the Oregon Consortium of Family Networks, the educational system, transition programs, and the Oregon Coordinated Care Organizations.