



Administration for Community Living

Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

The Paralysis Resource Center
HHS-2015-ACL-AIDD-PR-0093
Application Due Date: 04/27/2015

The Paralysis Resource Center
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**Department of Health & Human Services
Administration for Community Living**

ACL Center:	Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
Funding Opportunity Title:	The Paralysis Resource Center
Announcement Type:	Initial
Funding Opportunity Number:	HHS-2015-ACL-AIDD-PR-0093
Primary CFDA Number:	93.325
Due Date For Letter of Intent:	03/10/2015
Due Date for Applications:	04/27/2015
Date for Informational Conference Call:	N/A

Applications that fail to meet the application due date will not be reviewed and will receive no further consideration. You are strongly encouraged to submit your application a minimum of 3-5 days prior to the application closing date. Do not wait until the last day in the event you encounter technical difficulties, either on your end or, with <http://www.grants.gov>. Grants.gov can take up to 48 hours to notify you of a successful submission.

Executive Summary

The Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), announces the availability of Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 funds authorized under Section 301 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 241, 247b(k)(2)). Funds will be awarded to support a national Paralysis Resource Center (PRC) that will improve the health and quality of life of individuals living with paralysis of all ages, their families and caregivers by raising awareness of and facilitating access to a broad range of services relevant to individuals with paralysis. The PRC will work to remove environmental barriers to health for individuals living with paralysis and expand the knowledge base of proven, successful health promotion strategies leading to improved physical and emotional health for this population. The PRC will also provide national outreach, grants to enhance community living opportunities and share information and resources targeted to people of all ages living with paralysis.

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Background & Purpose:

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) was established in April 2012 to serve older adults and people with disabilities across their lifespan as they fully engage and participate in their communities, make informed decisions, and exercise self-determination and control about their independence, well-being, and health. ACL's mission is to enable people with disabilities across their lifespans to live in the community through the availability of, and access to, high-quality long-term services and supports, including supports for families and caregivers.

The Christopher and Dana Reeve Paralysis Act ("Act") was signed into law in 2009, as part of Section 301 of the Public Health Services Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 241, 247b(k)(2)). The purpose of the Act is to support paralysis research and to improve the quality of life of individuals who are living with paralysis. Historically, the funding prior to and after passage of the Act was administered by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) through the Paralysis Resource Center (PRC). In 2014 the Paralysis Resource Center program moved from the Centers for Disease Control to ACL as a result of the 2014 budget signed by President Obama. The PRC has been able to provide information services and resources on a full range of topics related to paralysis, including specific health and clinical information on the various conditions that cause paralysis whether by stroke, trauma or disease.

It is estimated that more than a quarter of a million Americans are currently living with spinal cord injuries (SCI) and approximately 4 to 5 million Americans are living with paralysis of the extremities. There are an estimated 10,000 to 12,000 spinal cord injuries every year in the United States. Injuries can occur at any level of the spinal cord. The segment of the cord that is injured, and the severity of the injury, determines which body functions are compromised or lost. Because the spinal cord acts as the main information pathway between the brain and the rest of the body, a spinal cord injury can also have significant cognitive and behavioral (or psychosocial) consequences.

Secondary conditions after spinal cord injury also have the potential to dramatically impact health, emotional well-being, community participation, and quality of life for the individual with paralysis. For example, a common secondary condition for individuals with spinal cord injuries that use mobility devices are pressure ulcers. Pressure ulcers are difficult to detect and expensive to treat. Each year in the U.S., 2.5 million pressure ulcers are treated in acute care settings^[1]. The estimated cost of treating pressure ulcers varies between \$50,000 and \$130,000 per person.^[2] Rates of re-hospitalization caused by secondary conditions can outpace the general population by as much as 260%. ^[3] Innovative applications in new technologies could develop early warning and detection systems for direct use by people with disabilities who are living in the community and at risk for pressure ulcers.

Finding and accessing the right long-term services and supports can be a daunting task for individuals with paralysis and their families. Individuals trying to access information on paralysis frequently find themselves confronted with a bewildering maze of organizations and scientific jargon at a time when they are the most vulnerable or in crisis. This often results in individuals and families making decisions based on incomplete, and sometimes inaccurate, information about their options. The lack of current high quality information makes it difficult for individuals to make informed decisions about both their present and

their future well-being, which may result in frustration, inappropriate services or equipment, negative health impacts and increased costs. This situation becomes worse as the number of people living with paralysis increases.

Through this funding opportunity announcement, ACL plans to award one (1) Cooperative Agreement for a National Paralysis Resource Center to ensure the availability of, and access to, the most comprehensive, high quality information and supports for people of all ages living with paralysis, their families and caregivers. As the number of individuals that experience paralysis increases and the cost of healthcare rises, it is important to ensure that individuals affected have access to the most current, relevant information so that they can make informed choices regarding their physical and emotional health, and overall quality of life.

[1] Sen, CK, Gordillo, GM, Roy, S, Kirsner, R, Lambert, L, Hunt, TK, Gottrup, F, Gurtner, GC, Langaker, MT (2010). *Human Skin Wounds: A Major Snowballing Threat to Public Health and the Economy*. *Wound Repair Regen*, Nov-Dec; 17(6): 763-771.

[2] Brem, H, Maggi, J, Nierman, D, et al. (2010). *The high cost of stage IV pressure ulcers*. *The American Journal of Surgery*. 200(4): 473-477.

[3] Dryden DM, Saunders LD, Rowe BH, et al. *Utilization of health services following spinal cord injury: a 6-year follow-up study*. *Spinal Cord*. 2004;42:513–525. [[PubMed](#)]

Program Activities:

ACL expects applicants for this funding opportunity announcement to propose multifaceted approaches to address the strategies in disseminating current accurate information related to scientific breakthroughs such as but not limited to; cutting edge research, enhancements in the provision of services and supports, new therapies, adaptive equipment, and evidence based practices in the prevention of secondary conditions.

The applicant must describe their experience and expertise to carry out the desired activities in this funding opportunity announcement and must demonstrate the support and active involvement of a wide range of stakeholders to fully achieve the desired outcomes. Provision of funding for sub-grantees or subcontracts to carry out specific activities is permissible, if the applicant identifies within its organization a gap in expertise necessary to fully complete project goals and objectives.

Applicants should clearly describe their expertise in each of the following activities outlined in this funding opportunity announcement and ensure that each area is thoroughly addressed within their application. Applicants should propose strategies and approaches to be used, including technical assistance (TA) modalities, partnership and collaborations with key stakeholders from across the public and private sectors to fully address the key activities. Applicants should propose how it will carry out the following activities:

- 1. Maintain and Expand a National Resource and Information Center:** Individuals with paralysis should have a trusted, nationally recognized entity to acquire needed information specific to their situation at any time. Applicants will propose how they will gather, translate, organize, and make publicly available readily accessible, high-quality information and resources about paralysis, spinal cord injuries, and secondary conditions; services that support and improve independent living;

promotion of community-based opportunities and experiences; and evidence-based interventions.

- 2. Improve the Health and Quality of Life of Americans with Disabilities Living with Paralysis:** The lack of current opportunities to increase independence, self-confidence or improve environmental access for people living with paralysis can be challenging. Applicant proposals should include providing grant opportunities to entities to promote health and wellness programs for individuals living with paralysis, their families & caregivers in order to enhance full participation, self-determination, independent living, self-sufficiency and equality. This grant opportunity is intended to recognize and support organizations that assist individuals living with paralysis, their families and caregivers in ways that increase independence, provide social and education opportunities, and access to services and or supports. The program will provide life-enhancing and life-changing programs and services that improve and address the physical and emotional health needs of individuals living with paralysis.

Applicants for this funding opportunity announcement should describe how they will solicit, select, and make awards to sub-grantees. Applicants should describe how they will measure impact of the goals (individually and in combination) on individuals living with paralysis, their families, and caregivers. In addition, the applicant's proposals should include a description of how they will monitor & measure grantees on their performance towards reaching the goals stated in the grantee's application including at least one measure on the impact on individuals living with paralysis and their caregivers.

Applicants may also describe how they will collaborate with other national agencies to improve access to assistive technology and durable medical equipment. For example, ACL's State Assistive Technology (AT) Act Program provides funds to each state and territory to support State efforts to improve the provision of assistive technology to individuals with disabilities of all ages through comprehensive statewide programs of technology-related assistance. Currently, there are 56 State AT programs.

Applicants are expected to work with ACL to promote & replicate promising practices. Applicants should dedicate at least 25% of the total federal award to fund this activity annually.

- 3. Increase Support and Resources Available to People with Paralysis, their Families and Caregivers:** Finding the right supports and resources can be challenging to individuals and their families seeking information. Peer mentoring has proven positive outcomes and provides the most direct and beneficial way to assist those living with paralysis, their families and caregivers. The assistance and guidance from someone who "been there and done that" and has a similar type of paralysis does much to encourage and empower the newly paralyzed, as well as for the person transitioning through the various stages of living with paralysis by sharing best practices at an individual level. Applicants should propose how they will operate a peer program to provide support, information and resources to those living with paralysis, their family members and caregivers nationally. Applicants should also describe how they will measure the impact of the peer program on both the peer mentors and those living with

paralysis, their families and caregivers.

4. Promotional Activities and Outreach: Individuals and service providers need to know where they can find and access services and supports for individuals living with paralysis, their families and caregivers. Applicants will propose how they will develop and carry out a marketing plan to increase awareness and usage of the PRC among professionals in the field of paralysis, individuals living with paralysis, families, caregivers and the general public by;

- Increasing awareness and usage of the PRC among service providers within the disability & aging networks and other community-based organizations.
- Identifying opportunities and submitting proposals for presentations at national or local meetings/conferences for disabilities and aging services professionals, relevant to the specific goals / outcomes of the project.
- Identifying opportunities and submitting proposals for presentations at national or local meetings/conference for people living with paralysis and other paralyzing conditions.
- Ensuring the marketing plan and its implementation includes a strategy to promote and market the PRC to consumers from traditionally underserved populations, including individuals with paralysis and caregivers of color; ethnic minority, low-income, limited-English proficient and rural persons; lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) older adults and caregivers; and caregivers and families coping with a newly acquired disability.

5. Collaborate with Federal Agencies and other National Organizations that have a vested interest in the paralysis community: ACL has a long history of working with and funding States, Technical Assistance Resource Centers as well as a number of community based programs such as the Aging Disability Resource Centers (ADRC), Centers for Independent Living (CILs), Area Agencies on Aging (AAA), the Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems (SCIMS) and the Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems (TBIMS) programs. Applicants should propose how they plan to partner/collaborate with federal agencies and other national organizations that have similar goals, including those with established data resources intended to support a range of research activities, policy change and social practice. Applicants should describe how proposed activities will avoid duplication of efforts. Applicants should also propose how they will work with ACL, researchers and practitioners from across the public, private sectors to collect, synthesize, disseminate and stimulate research in the field of paralysis. Additionally applicant should describe how they will work with ACL to identify gaps in research. Each partner organization should include a letter of support outlining their role in the application.

6. Performance Measurement: Applicants should propose how they will collect information to document and describe output and outcomes for all activities described in this funding announcement opportunity. Applications should include a brief description of expected sources for output and outcome data and methods for data collection (e.g., surveys of consumers, reviews of administrative records).

Applicants should propose how their activities will contribute to the overall goal of the PRC to improve the health and quality of life of individuals living with paralysis and

their families as well as how they plan to achieve the sub-goals of the PRC for:

- Raising awareness and facilitating access to services designed to support individuals with paralysis and their caregivers.
- Removing environmental barriers to health for individuals living with paralysis
- Expanding the knowledge base of proven, successful health promotion strategies leading to improved physical and emotional health for this population.
- Enhancing community-living opportunities for those living with paralysis.
- Collaborating with Federal and National Organizations that have a vested interest in the paralysis community and
- Supporting paralysis research and information sharing.

Statutory Authority

This program is authorized under Section 301 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 241, 247b(k)(2)).

II. Award Information

Funding Instrument Type:	Cooperative Agreement
Estimated Total Funding:	\$6,529,823
Expected Number of Awards:	1
Award Ceiling:	\$6,529,823 Per Budget Period
Award Floor:	\$6,500,000 Per Budget Period
Average Projected Award Amount:	\$6,529,823 Per Budget Period

36-month project with three 12-month budget periods

The terms and conditions for this cooperative agreement are as follows and will be incorporated by reference in the Notice of Award (NOA).

The ACL project officer agrees to execute the responsibilities of the cooperative agreement outlined below:

1. Perform the day-to-day Federal responsibilities of managing a grant initiative and will work with the grantee to ensure that the minimum requirements for the grant are met.
2. Work cooperatively with the grantee to clarify the programmatic and budgetary issues to be addressed by the grantee project, and, as necessary, collaborate with grantee to achieve a mutually agreed upon solution to any needs identified by the grantee or ACL.
3. ACL will share information with the grantee about other federally sponsored projects and activities relevant to the interests of the PRC grantee and their activities.

4. Work with the grantee on the development and implementation of performance measures and quality assurance systems to ensure that performance is measured and continuous quality improvement occurs.
5. Provide technical advice on grantee work products to ensure they are accurate, objective, unbiased, and of high professional quality, and that they do not violate federal, departmental, or agency grant rules.
6. Attend and participate in major project events as appropriate.

The grantee will agree to execute the responsibilities of the cooperative agreement outlined below:

1. Collaborate with the ACL in any in-scope modifications and execution of the work plan, initially within 45 days of the award.
2. Evaluate the impact of overall project activities and ensure quality assurance systems are in place.
3. Share information with ACL, the paralysis network, national, state, and local partner organizations and other entities as appropriate.
4. Work with the ACL PRC program project officer to evaluate performance results reported semiannually and jointly develop strategies to address those areas requiring improvement.
5. Submit resumes of potential key staff hires as detailed under HHS grants prior approval requirements.

III. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants

Domestic public or private non-profit entities including state and local governments, Indian tribal governments and organizations (American Indian/Alaskan Native/Native American), faith-based organizations, community-based organizations, hospitals, and institutions of higher education.

2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing / Matching Requirement: No

No match is required.

3. Responsiveness and Screening Criteria

Application Responsiveness Criteria

1. Demonstrated expertise in the ability to disseminate SCI and paralysis related information through a National network and provide educational opportunities in a variety of forms for professionals and people living with paralysis and other disabling conditions.
2. Demonstrated capacity & past work with federal and state agencies.
3. 25% of the total federal funds annually are dedicated to Improve the Health and Quality of Life of Americans with Disabilities Living with Paralysis.
4. Management and staffing patterns must be clearly and evidently connected to the project design. Applicant will provide a full-time project director that is a recognized national leader in the field of paralysis

Application Screening Criteria

All applications will be screened to assure a level playing field for all applicants. Applications that fail to meet the three screening criteria described below will **not** be reviewed and will receive **no** further consideration.

In order for an application to be reviewed, it must meet the following screening requirements:

1. Applications must be submitted electronically via <http://www.grants.gov> by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time,
2. The Project Narrative section of the Application must be **double-spaced**, on 8 ½" x 11" plain white paper with **1" margins** on both sides, and a **standard font size of not less than 11, preferably Times New Roman or Arial.**
3. **The Project Narrative must not exceed 30 pages.** Project Narratives that exceed 30 pages will have the additional pages removed and only the first 30 pages of the Project Narrative will be provided to the merit reviewers for funding consideration.
NOTE: The Project Work Plan, Letters of Commitment, and Vitae of Key Project Personnel **are not counted** as part of the Project Narrative for purposes of the 30-page limit.

Unsuccessful submissions will require authenticated verification from <http://www.grants.gov> indicating system problems existed at the time of your submission. For example, you will be required to provide an <http://www.grants.gov> submission error notification and/or tracking number in order to substantiate missing the application deadline.

IV. Application and Submission Information

1. Address to Request Application Package

Application materials can be obtained from <http://www.grants.gov> or http://www.acl.gov/Funding_Opportunities/Announcements/Index.aspx.

Please note, ACL is requiring applications for all announcements to be submitted electronically through <http://www.grants.gov>. The Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>) registration process can take several days. If your organization is not currently registered with <http://www.grants.gov>, please begin this process immediately. **For assistance**

with <http://www.grants.gov>, please contact them at support@grants.gov or 1-800-518-4726 between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. Eastern Time. At <http://www.grants.gov>, you will be able to download a copy of the application packet, complete it off-line, and then upload and submit the application via the Grants.gov website (<http://www.grants.gov>).

Applications submitted via <http://www.grants.gov>:

- You may access the electronic application for this program on <http://www.grants.gov>. You must search the downloadable application page by the Funding Opportunity Number or CFDA number.
- At the <http://www.grants.gov> website, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, including the hours of operation. ACL strongly recommends that you do not wait until the application due date to begin the application process through <http://www.grants.gov> because of the time involved to complete the registration process.
- All applicants must have a DUNS number (<http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/>) and be registered with the System for Award Management (SAM, www.sam.gov) and maintain an active SAM registration until the application process is complete, and should a grant be made, throughout the life of the award. Finalize a new, or renew an existing, registration at least two weeks before the application deadline. This action should allow you time to resolve any issues that may arise. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in your inability to submit your application or receive an award. Maintain documentation (with dates) of your efforts to register or renew at least two weeks before the deadline. See the SAM Quick Guide for Grantees at: [https://www.sam.gov/sam/transcript/ SAM Quick Guide Grants Registrations-v1.6. pdf](https://www.sam.gov/sam/transcript/SAM%20Quick%20Guide%20Grants%20Registrations-v1.6.pdf).
- HHS requires all entities that plan to apply for, and ultimately receive, federal grant funds from any HHS Agency, or receive sub-awards directly from recipients of those grant funds to:
 - Be registered in the SAM prior to submitting an application or plan;
 - Maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during
 - which it has an active award or an application or plan under consideration by an
 - OPDIV; and
 - Provide its active DUNS number in each application or plan it submits to the OPDIV.
- The agency is prohibited from making an award until an applicant has complied with these requirements. At the time an award is ready to be made, if the intended recipient has not complied with these requirements, the agency:
 - May determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award; and
 - May use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Note: Once your SAM registration is active, you will need to allow 24 to 48 hours for the information to be available in Grants.gov before you can submit an application through Grants.gov. This action should allow you time to resolve any issues that may arise. Failure

to comply with these requirements may result in your inability to submit your application or receive an award.

- **Note:** Failure to submit the correct suffix can lead to delays in identifying your organization and access to funding in the Payment Management System.
- Effective October 1, 2010, HHS requires all entities that plan to apply for and ultimately receive Federal grant funds from any HHS Operating/Staff Division (OPDIV/STAFFDIV) **or receive subawards directly from the recipients of those grant funds** to be:
 1. Be registered in SAM prior to submitting an application or plan;
 2. Maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active award or an application or plan under consideration by an OPDIV; and
 3. Provide its DUNS number in each application or plan it submits to the OPDIV.

An award cannot be made until the applicant has complied with these requirements. At the time an award is ready to be made, if the intended recipient has not complied with these requirements, the OPDIV/STAFFDIV:

- May determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award; and
- May use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

Additionally, all first-tier subaward recipients must have a DUNS number at the time the subaward is made.

- Since October 1, 2003, The Office of Management and Budget has required applicants to provide a Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number when applying for Federal grants or cooperative agreements. It is entered on the SF 424. It is a unique, **nine-digit identification number**, which provides unique identifiers of single business entities. The DUNS number is *free and easy* to obtain.
- Organizations can receive a DUNS number at no cost by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS Number request line at 1-866-705-5711 or by using this link to access a guide: http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/grants/duns_num_guide.pdf.
- You must submit all documents electronically, including all information included on the SF424 and all necessary assurances and certifications.
- Prior to application submission, Microsoft Vista and Office 2007 users should review the <http://www.grants.gov> compatibility information and submission instructions provided at <http://www.grants.gov> (click on “**Vista and Microsoft Office 2007 Compatibility Information**”).
- **Your application must comply with any page limitation requirements described in this Program Announcement.**
- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgement from <http://www.grants.gov> that contains <http://www.grants.gov> tracking number. The Administration for Community Living will retrieve your application form from <http://www.grants.gov>.
- Each year organizations applying for Federal grants

through <http://www.grants.gov> need to register or update their registration with the System for Award Management (SAM) [Formerly the Central Contractor Registry (CCR)]. You can complete the initial registration on www.SAM.gov in three days; however, you must update your registration on www.SAM.gov every year, which can take five days. When you register, or update your registration on www.SAM.gov, you must have your DUNS number and other information about your organization available.

- To keep your SAM.gov registration active, be sure to renew at least once each year. If your registration expires you cannot submit a grant application until it is renewed.

Contact person regarding this Program Announcement:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Community Living
Elizabeth Leef
Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
Phone Number: (202) 357-3444
E-mail: elizabeth.leef@acl.hhs.gov

2. Content and Form of Application Submission

a. Letter of Intent

Letter of Intent

Due Date for Letter of Intent: **03/10/2015**

Applicants are requested, but not required, to submit a letter of intent to apply for this funding opportunity to assist ACL in planning for the application independent review process. The purpose of the letter of intent is to allow our staff to estimate the number of independent reviewers needed and to avoid potential conflicts of interest in the review.

Letters of intent should be sent to:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Community Living
Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
One Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC, 20001
Attention: Elizabeth Leef
Email: elizabeth.leef@acl.hhs.gov
Fax: 202-357-3474

b. Project Narrative

The Project Narrative must be double-spaced, on 8 ½” x 11” paper with 1” margins on both sides, and a standard font size of not less than 11, preferably Times New Roman or Arial. You can use smaller font sizes to fill in the Standard Forms and Sample Formats. The suggested length for the Project Narrative is ten to thirty pages; thirty pages is the maximum length allowed. Project Narratives that exceed 30 pages will have the additional pages removed and only the first 30 pages of the Project Narrative will be provided to the merit reviewers for funding consideration. The Project Work Plan, Letters of Commitment, and Vitae of Key Personnel are not counted as part of the Project Narrative for purposes of the 30-page limit, but all of the other sections noted below are included in the limit.

The components of the Project Narrative counted as part of the 30 page limit include:

Summary/Abstract

Problem Statement

Goal(s) and Objective(s)

Proposed Intervention

Special Target Populations and Organizations

Outcomes

Project Management

Performance Measurement

Dissemination

Organizational Capability

The Project Narrative is the most important part of the application, since it will be used as the primary basis to determine whether or not your project meets the minimum requirements for grants under the authorizing statutes. The Project Narrative should provide a clear and concise description of your project. ACL recommends that your project narrative include the following components:

Summary/Abstract

This section should include a brief - no more than 265 words maximum - description of the proposed project, including: goal(s), objectives, outcomes, and products to be developed. Detailed instructions for completing the summary/abstract are included in the “Instructions for Completing the Project Summary/Abstract.”

Problem Statement

This section should describe, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, the nature and scope of the particular problem or issue the proposed intervention is designed to address, including how the project will potentially affect older adults and /or people with disabilities, their families and caregivers and the health care and social services systems.

Goals and Objectives

This section should consist of a description of the project's goal(s) and major objectives. Unless the project involves multiple, complex interventions, we recommend you have only one overall goal.

Proposed Intervention

This section should provide a clear and concise description of the intervention you are proposing to use to address the problem described in the "Problem Statement". You should also describe the rationale for using the particular intervention, including factors such as: "lessons learned" for similar projects previously tested in your community, or in other areas of the country; factors in the larger environment that have created the "right conditions" for the intervention (e.g., existing social or economic factors that you'll be able to take advantage of, etc.). Also note any major barriers you anticipate encountering, and how your project will be able to overcome those barriers. Be sure to describe the role and makeup of any strategic partnerships you plan to involve in implementing the intervention, including other organizations, supporters, and/or consumer groups.

Special Target Populations and Organizations

This section should describe how you plan to involve organizations in a meaningful way in the planning and implementation of the proposed project. This section should also describe whether, and if so, how the proposed intervention will target disadvantaged populations, including limited-English speaking populations, those of greatest economic need and those of greatest social need.

Outcomes

This section of the project narrative must clearly identify the measurable outcome(s) that will result from the project. **(NOTE: ACL will not fund any project that does not include measurable outcomes)**. This section should also describe how the project's findings might benefit the field at large, (e.g., how the findings could help other organizations throughout the nation to address the same or similar problems.) List measurable outcomes in the optional work plan grid ("Project Work Plan – Sample Template") under "Measurable Outcomes" in addition to any discussion included in the narrative along with a description of how the project might benefit the field at large.

A "measurable outcome" is an observable end-result that describes how a particular intervention benefits consumers. It demonstrates the functional status, mental well-being, knowledge, skill, attitude, awareness or behavior.) It can also describe a change in the degree to which consumers exercise choice over the types of services they receive, or whether they are satisfied with the way a service is delivered. Additional examples include: a change in the responsiveness or cost-effectiveness of a service delivery system; a new model of support or care that can be replicated in the aging network; new knowledge that can contribute to the field of aging; a measurable increase in community awareness; or a measurable increase in persons receiving services. A measurable outcome is not a measurable "output", such as: the number of clients served; the number of training sessions held; or the number of service units provided.

You should keep the focus of this section on describing what outcome(s) will be produced by the project. You should use the Evaluation section noted below to describe how the outcome(s) will be measured and reported.

Your application will be scored on the clarity and nature of your proposed outcomes, not on the number of outcomes cited. It is totally appropriate for a project to have only ONE outcome that it is trying to achieve through the intervention reflected in the project's design.

Project Management

This section should include a clear delineation of the roles and responsibilities of project staff, consultants and partner organizations, and how they will contribute to achieving the project's objectives and outcomes. It should specify who would have day-to-day responsibility for key tasks such as: leadership of project; monitoring the project's on-going progress, preparation of reports; communications with other partners and ACL. It should also describe the approach that will be used to monitor and track progress on the project's tasks and objectives.

Evaluation

This section should describe the method(s), techniques and tools that will be used to: 1) determine whether or not the proposed intervention achieved its anticipated outcome(s), and 2) document the "lessons learned" – both positive and negative - from the project that will be useful to people interested in replicating the intervention, if it proves successful.

Dissemination

This section should describe the method that will be used to disseminate the project's results and findings in a timely manner and in easily understandable formats, to parties who might be interested in using the results of the project to inform practice, service delivery, program development, and/or policy-making, including and especially those parties who would be interested in replicating the project.

Organizational Capacity Statement

Each application should include an organizational capability statement and vitae for key project personnel. The organizational capability statement should describe how the applicant agency (or the particular division of a larger agency which will have responsibility for this project) is organized, the nature and scope of its work and/or the capabilities it possesses. It should also include the organization's capability to sustain some or all project activities after Federal financial assistance has ended.

This description should cover capabilities of the applicant agency not included in the program narrative, such as any current or previous relevant experience and/or the record of the project team in preparing cogent and useful reports, publications, and other products. If

appropriate, include an organization chart showing the relationship of the project to the current organization. Please attach short vitae for key project staff only. Neither vitas nor an organizational chart will count towards the narrative page limit. Also include information about any contractual organization(s) that will have a significant role(s) in implementing project and achieving project goals.

c. Work Plan

The Project Work Plan should reflect and be consistent with the Project Narrative and Budget and should cover all three (3) years of the project period. It should include a statement of the project's overall goal, anticipated outcome(s), key objectives, and the major tasks / action steps that will be pursued to achieve the goal and outcome(s). For each major task / action step, the work plan should identify timeframes involved (including start- and end-dates), and the lead person responsible for completing the task. Please use the "Project Work Plan - Sample Template" format as a reference and resource, if desired.

d. Letters of Commitment from Key Participating Organizations and Agencies

Include confirmation of the commitments to the project (should it be funded) made by key collaborating organizations and agencies in this part of the application. Any organization that is specifically named to have a significant role in carrying out the project should be considered an essential collaborator. For applications submitted electronically via <http://www.grants.gov>, signed letters of commitment should be scanned and included as attachments. Applicants unable to scan the signed letters of commitment may fax them to the ACL Office of Grants Management at 202-357-3467 by the application submission deadline. In your fax, be sure to include the funding opportunity number and your agency name.

e. Budget Narrative/Justification

The Budget Narrative/Justification can be provided using the format included in the document, "Budget Narrative/Justification – Sample Format." Applicants are encouraged to pay particular attention to this document, which provides an example of the level of detail sought. A combined multi-year Budget Narrative/Justification, as well as a detailed Budget Narrative/Justification for each year of potential grant funding is required

3. Submission Dates and Times

Applications that fail to meet the application due date will not be reviewed and will receive no further consideration. You are strongly encouraged to submit your application a minimum of 3-5 days prior to the application closing date. Do not wait until the last day in the event you encounter technical difficulties, either on your end or, with <http://www.grants.gov>. Grants.gov can take up to 48 hours to notify you of a successful submission.

In addition, if you are submitting your application via Grants.gov, you must (1) be designated by your organization as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR); and (2) register yourself with Grants.gov as an AOR. Details on these steps are outlined at the following Grants.gov Web page: www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp.

After you electronically submit your application, you will receive from Grants.gov an automatic notification of receipt that contains a Grants.gov tracking number. (This notification indicates receipt by Grants.gov only.)

If you are experiencing problems submitting your application through Grants.gov, please contact the Grants.gov Support Desk, toll free, at 1-800-518-4726. You must obtain a Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number and must keep a record of it.

If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline because of technical problems with the Grants.gov system, please contact the person listed under For Further Information Contact in section VII of this notice and provide a written explanation of the technical problem you experienced with Grants.gov, along with the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number. ACL will contact you after a determination is made on whether your application will be accepted.

Note: We will not consider your application for further review if you failed to fully register to submit your application to Grants.gov before the application deadline or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the Grants.gov system.

Unsuccessful submissions will require authenticated verification from <http://www.grants.gov> indicating system problems existed at the time of your submission. For example, you will be required to provide an <http://www.grants.gov> submission error notification and/or tracking number in order to substantiate missing the cut off date.

Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>) will automatically send applicants a tracking number and date of receipt verification electronically once the application has been successfully received and validated in <http://www.grants.gov>.

Due Date for Applications: **04/27/2015**

4. Intergovernmental Review

This funding opportunity announcement is not subject to the requirements of Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."

5. Funding Restrictions

The following activities are not fundable:

- Construction and/or major rehabilitation of buildings
- Basic research (e.g. scientific or medical experiments)
- Continuation of existing projects without expansion or new and innovative approaches

Note: A recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report has raised considerable concerns about grantees and contractors charging the Federal government for additional meals outside of the standard allowance for travel subsistence known as per diem expenses. Executive Orders on Promoting Efficient Spending (EO 13589) and Delivering Efficient, Effective and Accountable Government (EO 13576) have been issued and instruct Federal agencies to promote efficient spending. Therefore, if meals are to be charged in your proposal, applicants should understand such costs must meet the following criteria

outlined in the Executive Orders and HHS Grants Policy Statement:

- *Meals are generally unallowable except for the following:*
 - *For subjects and patients under study (usually a research program);*
 - *Where specifically approved as part of the project or program activity, e.g., in programs providing children's services (e.g., Headstart);*
 - *When an organization customarily provides meals to employees working beyond the normal workday, as a part of a formal compensation arrangement;*
 - *As part of a per diem or subsistence allowance provided in conjunction with allowable travel; and*
 - *Under a conference grant, when meals are a necessary and integral part of a conference, provided that meal costs are not duplicated in participants' per diem or subsistence allowances. (Note: conference grant means the sole purpose of the award is to hold a conference)*

6. Other Submission Requirements

Letters of intent should be emailed or faxed to:

elizabeth.leef@acl.gov

202-357-3474 fax

Elizabeth Leef

Administration for Community Living

Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

One Massachusetts Ave NW

Washington, DC 20201

V. Application Review Information

1. Criteria

Applicants must document all of their source material. If any text, language and/or materials are from another source, the applicant must make it clear the material is being quoted and where the text comes from. The applicant must also cite any sources when they obtain numbers, ideas, or other material that is not their own. If the applicant fails to comply with this requirement, regardless of the severity or frequency of the plagiarism, the reviewers shall reduce their scores accordingly even to the degree of issuing no points at all.

Applications are scored by assigning a maximum of 100 points across five criteria:

- a. Project Relevance & Current Need
- b. Approach
- c. Budget
- d. Project Impact
- e. Organizational Capacity

Project Relevance & Current Need**Maximum Points: 10**

Does the application adequately and appropriately describe and document the key problem(s)/condition(s) relevant to the applicant's purpose/need?

(5 points)

Is the proposed activities justified in terms of the most recent, relevant, and available information and knowledge?

(5 points)

Approach**Maximum Points: 30**

Does the applicant identify the needs and strategies to use multifaceted approaches for each of the six activities as described in this Funding Opportunity Announcement? Are the activities clearly defined? Does it reflect a coherent and feasible approach for successfully addressing the identified problems and achieving the identified goals and outcomes for each activity? Does the project take into account barriers and opportunities that exist in the larger environment that may impact on the project's activities and successes for each activity? Do the activities outlined optimize the use of potential partnerships with other organizations and/or consumer groups, as required? (10 points)

Is the project work plan clear and comprehensive? Does it include sensible and feasible timeframes for the accomplishment of tasks presented? Does the work plan include specific objectives and tasks that are linked to measurable impacts for each activity proposed? Does the proposal include a clear and coherent management plan? Are the roles and responsibilities of project staff, consultants and partners clearly defined and linked to specific objectives and tasks? Are the qualifications of the project staff, consultants and/or partners, and the proposed level of effort, adequate to carry out the project? (10 points)

Does the application describe how entities will be involved in a meaningful way in the planning and implementation of the proposed projects as appropriate? Does the application include disadvantaged populations, including limited-English speaking populations & cultural competency in its target population? (10 points)

Budget**Maximum Points: 10**

Is the budget justified with respect to the adequacy and reasonableness of resources requested for each activity as appropriate? Is the time commitment of the proposed director and other key project personnel sufficient to assure proper direction, management and timely completion of the project for each activity? Does the budget include dedicating 25% of the total award to Grants to Improve the Health and Quality of Life of

Americans with Disabilities Living with Paralysis ? (5 points)

Are budget line items clearly delineated and consistent with work plan objectives for each activity? Is it understandable? Does the applicant include a multiyear budget covering the entire proposed project period been included as well as a budget covering each individual year? (5 points)

Project Impact

Maximum Points: 30

Are the expected activities beneficial with results that are clear, realistic, and consistent with the intent and purpose of the project? Are the anticipated outcomes of the proposed activities likely to be achieved and will they significantly benefit the populations affected by the intervention, and the field of paralysis research as a whole? Are the proposed outcomes quantifiable and measurable, consistent with the definition of a project outcome contained in “Project Work Plan – Sample Template?” (10 points)

Will the dissemination plan get relevant and easy to use information in a timely manner to people living with paralysis, their families and caregivers that might need its findings and increase the ability to access the right long-term services and supports particularly to those individuals that need to make immediate informed decisions about both their present and their future well-being Does the dissemination plan include collaboration with other agencies and organizations? (10 points)

Do the project performance measures reflect a thoughtful and well-designed approach that will be able to successfully measure whether the project has achieved its proposed outcome(s)? Does the plan include the qualitative and/or quantitative methods necessary to reliably measure outcomes and or impacts? Are the performance measures also designed to capture “lessons learned” from the overall effort that might be of use to others in the field of paralysis, especially those who might be interested in replicating the project? (10 points)

Organizational Capacity

Maximum Points: 20

Does the applicant organization clearly identify their capacity for carrying out the proposed activities and performance measures connected to each of the activities proposed? Does the applicant describe and explain the program’s overall organizational structure and operations? (10 points)

Do the proposed project director(s), key staff and consultants have the background, experience, time and other qualifications required to carry out their designated roles? Are letters from participating organizations included, as appropriate, and do they express the clear commitment and areas of responsibility of those organizations, consistent with the work plan description of their intended roles and contributions? (10 points)

2. Review and Selection Process

An independent review panel of at least three individuals will evaluate applications that pass the screening and meet the responsiveness criteria if applicable. These reviewers are experts in their field, and are drawn from academic institutions, non-profit organizations, state and local government, and Federal government agencies. Based on the Application Review Criteria as outlined under section V.1, the reviewers will comment on and score the applications, focusing their comments and scoring decisions on the identified criteria.

Final award decisions will be made by the Administrator, ACL. In making these decisions, the Administrator will take into consideration: recommendations of the review panel; reviews for programmatic and grants management compliance; the reasonableness of the estimated cost to the government considering the available funding and anticipated results; and the likelihood that the proposed project will result in the benefits expected.

3. Anticipated Announcement Award Date

The successful applicant will receive an electronic Notice of Award on or around June 1, 2015.

VI. Award Administration Information

VI. Award Administration Information

1. Award Notices

Successful applicants will receive an electronic Notice of Award. The Notice of Award is the authorizing document from the U.S. Administration for Community Living authorizing official, Office of Grants Management, and the ACL Office of Budget and Finance.

Acceptance of this award is signified by the drawdown of funds from the Payment Management System. Unsuccessful applicants are generally notified within 30 days of the final funding decision and will receive a disapproval letter via e-mail or U.S. mail. Unless indicated otherwise in this announcement, unsuccessful applications will not be retained by the agency and destroyed.

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

The award is subject to DHHS Administrative Requirements, which can be found in 45CFR Part 75 and the Standard Terms and Conditions, included in the Notice of Award as well as implemented through the HHS Grants Policy Statement.

A standard term and condition of award will be included in the final notice of award; all applicants will be subject to a term and condition that applies to the terms of 48 CFR section 3.908 to the award, and requires the grantees inform their employee in writing of employee whistleblower rights and protections under 41 U.S.C. 4712 in the predominant native language of the workforce.

Other Administrative and National Policy Requirements

3. Reporting

Effective March 1, 2011, ACL requires the submission of the SF-425 (Federal Financial Report). The reporting cycle will be reflected in the Notice of Award. The ACL program progress report is due semi-annually from the start date of the award and is due within 30 days of the reporting period end date. The final progress report and SF-425 reports are due 90 days after the end of the project period.

Grantees are required to complete the federal cash transactions portion of the SF-425 within the Payment Managements System as identified in their award documents for the calendar quarters ending 3/31, 6/30, 9/30, and 12/31 through the life of their award. In addition, the fully completed SF-425 will be required as denoted in the Notice of Award terms and conditions.

4. FFATA and FSRS Reporting

The Federal Financial Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) requires data entry at the FFATA Subaward Reporting System (<http://www.FSRS.gov>) for all sub-awards and sub-contracts issued for \$25,000 or more as well as addressing executive compensation for both grantee and sub-award organizations.

For further guidance please see the following link:

http://www.acl.gov/Funding_Opportunities/Grantee_Info/FFATA.aspx

VII. Agency Contacts

Project Officer:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Community Living
Elizabeth Leef
Phone Number: (202) 357-3444
E-mail: Elizabeth.Leef@acl.hhs.gov

Grants Management Specialist:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Community Living
LaDeva Harris
Phone Number: (202) 357-3437
E-mail: LaDeva.Harris@acl.hhs.gov

VIII. Other Information

1. Application Elements

a. SF 424, required – Application for Federal Assistance (See “Instructions for Completing Required Forms” for assistance).

b. SF 424A, required – Budget Information. (See Attachment A for Instructions; See “Standard Form 424A – Sample Format” for an example of a completed SF 424A).

c. Separate Budget Narrative/Justification, required (See “Budget Narrative/Justification - Sample Format” for examples and “Budget Narrative/Justification – Sample Template.”)

NOTE: Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grant projects are REQUIRED to provide a Narrative/Justification for each year of potential grant funding, as well as a combined multi-year detailed Budget Narrative/Justification.

d. SF 424B – Assurance, required. Note: Be sure to complete this form according to instructions and have it signed and dated by the authorized representative (see item 18d on the SF 424).

e. Lobbying Certification, required

f. Proof of non-profit status, if applicable

g. Copy of the applicant's most recent indirect cost agreement, if requesting indirect costs. If any sub-contractors or sub-grantees are requesting indirect costs, copies of their indirect cost agreements must also be included with the application.

h. Project Narrative with Work Plan, required (See “Project Work Plan – Sample Template” for a formatting suggestions).

i. Organizational Capability Statement and Vitae for Key Project Personnel.

j. Letters of Commitment from Key Partners, if applicable.

2. The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (P.L. 104-13)

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The project description and Budget Narrative/Justification is approved under OMB control number 0985-0018 which expires on 3/12/17. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed and reviewing the collection information.

Instructions for Completing Required Forms

This section provides step-by-step instructions for completing the four (4) standard Federal forms required as part of your grant application, including special instructions for completing Standard Budget Forms 424 and 424A. Standard Forms 424 and 424A are used for a wide variety of Federal grant programs, and Federal agencies have the discretion to require some or all of the information on these forms. ACL does not require all the information on these Standard Forms. Accordingly, please use the instructions below in lieu of the standard instructions attached to SF 424 and 424A to complete these forms.

a. Standard Form 424

1. Type of Submission: (REQUIRED): Select one type of submission in accordance with agency instructions.

- Preapplication
- Application
- Changed/Corrected Application – If ACL requests, check if this submission is to change or correct a previously submitted application.

2. Type of Application: (REQUIRED) Select one type of application in accordance with agency instructions.

- New
- Continuation
- Revision

3. Date Received: Leave this field blank.

4. Applicant Identifier: Leave this field blank

5a Federal Entity Identifier: Leave this field blank

5b. Federal Award Identifier: For new applications leave blank. For a continuation or revision to an existing award, enter the previously assigned Federal award (grant) number.

6. Date Received by State: Leave this field blank.

7. State Application Identifier: Leave this field blank.

8. Applicant Information: Enter the following in accordance with agency instructions:

a. Legal Name: (REQUIRED): Enter the name that the organization has registered with the System for Award Management (SAM), formally the Central Contractor Registry. Information on registering with SAM may be obtained by visiting the Grants.gov website (<http://www.grants.gov>) or by going directly to the SAM website (www.sam.gov).

b. Employer/Taxpayer Number (EIN/TIN): (REQUIRED): Enter the Employer or Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN or TIN) as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service. In addition, we encourage the organization to include the correct suffix used to identify your organization in order to properly align access to the Payment Management System.

c. Organizational DUNS: (REQUIRED) Enter the organization's DUNS or DUNS+4 number received from Dun and Bradstreet. Information on obtaining a DUNS number may be obtained by visiting the Grants.gov website (<http://www.grants.gov>). Your DUNS

number can be verified at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/>.

d. Address: (REQUIRED) Enter the complete address including the county.

e. Organizational Unit: Enter the name of the primary organizational unit (and department or division, if applicable) that will undertake the project.

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application: Enter the name (First and last name required), organizational affiliation (if affiliated with an organization other than the applicant organization), telephone number (Required), fax number, and email address (Required) of the person to contact on matters related to this application.

9. Type of Applicant: (REQUIRED) Select the applicant organization “type” from the following drop down list.

A. State Government B. County Government C. City or Township Government D. Special District Government E. Regional Organization F. U.S. Territory or Possession G. Independent School District H. Public/State Controlled Institution of Higher Education I. Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Federally Recognized) J. Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Other than Federally Recognized) K. Indian/Native American Tribally Designated Organization L. Public/Indian Housing Authority M. Nonprofit with 501C3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education) N. Nonprofit without 501C3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education) O. Private Institution of Higher Education P. Individual Q. For-Profit Organization (Other than Small Business) R. Small Business S. Hispanic-serving Institution T. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) U. Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs) V. Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions W. Non-domestic (non-US) Entity X. Other (specify)

10. Name Of Federal Agency: (REQUIRED) Enter U.S. Administration for Community Living

11. Catalog Of Federal Domestic Assistance Number/Title: The CFDA number can be found on page one of the Program Announcement.

12. Funding Opportunity Number/Title: (REQUIRED) The Funding Opportunity Number and title of the opportunity can be found on page one of the Program Announcement.

13. Competition Identification Number/Title: Leave this field blank.

14. Areas Affected By Project: List the largest political entity affected (cities, counties, state etc).

15. Descriptive Title of Applicant’s Project: (REQUIRED) Enter a brief descriptive title of the project (This is not a narrative description).

16. Congressional Districts Of: (REQUIRED) 16a. Enter the applicant’s Congressional District, and 16b. Enter all district(s) affected by the program or project. Enter in the format: 2 characters State Abbreviation – 3 characters District Number, e.g., CA-005 for California 5th district, CA-012 for California 12th district, NC-103 for North Carolina’s 103rd district. If all congressional districts in a state are affected, enter “all” for the district

number, e.g., MD-all for all congressional districts in Maryland. If nationwide, i.e. all districts within all states are affected, enter US-all. See the below website to find your congressional district:

<http://www.house.gov/>

17. Proposed Project Start and End Dates: (REQUIRED) Enter the proposed start date and final end date of the project. **If you are applying for a multi-year grant, such as a 3 year grant project, the final project end date will be 3 years after the proposed start date.** In general, all start dates on the SF424 should be the 1st of the month and the end date of the last day of the month of the final year, for example 7/01/2014 to 6/30/2017. The Grants Officer can alter the start and end date at their discretion.

18. Estimated Funding: (REQUIRED) If requesting multi-year funding, enter the full amount requested from the Federal Government in line item 18.a., as a multi-year total. For example and illustrative purposes only, if year one is \$100,000, year two is \$100,000, and year three is \$100,000, then the full amount of Federal funds requested would be reflected as \$300,000. The amount of matching funds is denoted by lines b. through f. with a combined Federal and non-Federal total entered on line g. Lines b. through f. represents contributions to the project by the applicant and by your partners during the total project period, broken down by each type of contributor. The value of in-kind contributions should be included on appropriate lines, as applicable.

NOTE: Applicants should review cost sharing or matching principles contained in Subpart C of 45 CFR Part 74 or 45 CFR Part 92 before completing Item 18 and the Budget Information Sections A, B and C noted below.

All budget information entered under item 18 should cover the total project period. For sub-item 18a, enter the Federal funds being requested. Sub-items 18b-18e is considered matching funds. The dollar amounts entered in sub-items 18b-18f must total at least 1/3rd of the amount of Federal funds being requested (the amount in 18a). For a full explanation of ACL's match requirements, see the information in the box below. For sub-item 18f (program income), enter only the amount, if any, that is going to be used as part of the required match. Program Income submitted as match will become a part of the award match and recipients will be held accountable to meet their share of project expenses even if program income is not generated during the award period.

There are two types of match: 1) non-Federal cash and 2) non-Federal in-kind. In general, costs borne by the applicant and cash contributions of any and all third parties involved in the project, including sub-grantees, contractors and consultants, are considered **matching funds**. Examples of **non-Federal cash match** includes budgetary funds provided from the applicant agency's budget for costs associated with the project. Generally, most contributions from sub-contractors or sub-grantees (third parties) will be non-Federal in-kind matching funds. Volunteered time and use of third party facilities to hold meetings or conduct project activities may be considered in-kind (third party) donations.

NOTE: Indirect charges may only be requested if: (1) the applicant has a current indirect cost rate agreement approved by the Department of Health and Human Services or another Federal agency; or (2) the applicant is a state or local government agency. State governments should enter the amount of indirect costs determined in

accordance with DHHS requirements. **If indirect costs are to be included in the application, a copy of the approved indirect cost agreement must be included with the application. Further, if any sub-contractors or sub-grantees are requesting indirect costs, a copy of the latest approved indirect cost agreements must also be included with the application, or reference to an approved cost allocation plan.**

ACL's Match Requirement

Under many ACL programs, ACL will fund no more than 75 % of the **project's total cost**, which means the applicant must cover at least 25% of the **project's total cost** with non-Federal resources. In other words, for every three (3) dollars received in Federal funding, the applicant must contribute at least one (1) dollar in non-Federal resources toward the project's total cost (i.e., the amount on line 18g.). This "three-to-one" ratio is reflected in the following formula which you can use to calculate your **minimum** required match:

Federal Funds Requested * Match Percentage = Minimum Match Requirement

Inverse Match Percentage

Examples of varying match levels:

1) \$100,000 (federal funds requested) * 5% (match) = \$5,263

95%

2) \$100,000 * 25%(match) = \$33,333

75%

3) \$100,000 * 35%(match) = \$53,846

65%

4) \$100,000 * 45%(match) = \$81,818

55%

If the required non-Federal share is not provided by the completion date of the funded project period, ACL will reduce the Federal dollars awarded when closing out the award to meet the match percentage, which may result in a requirement to return Federal funds.

19. Is Application Subject to Review by State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?

Check c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372

20. Is the Applicant Delinquent on any Federal Debt? (Required) This question applies to the applicant organization, not the person who signs as the authorized representative. If yes, include an explanation on the continuation sheet.

21. Authorized Representative: (Required) To be signed and dated by the authorized representative of the applicant organization. Enter the name (First and last name required) title (Required), telephone number (Required), fax number, and email address (Required) of the person authorized to sign for the applicant. A copy of the governing body's authorization for you to sign this application as the official representative must be on file in the applicant's office. (Certain Federal agencies may require that this authorization be submitted as part of the application.)

Standard Form 424A

NOTE: Standard Form 424A is designed to accommodate applications for multiple grant programs; thus, for purposes of this ACL program, many of the budget item columns and rows are not applicable. You should only consider and respond to the budget items for which guidance is provided below. Unless otherwise indicated, the SF 424A should reflect a multi-year budget. See Attachment B. **Section A Budget Summary**

Section A - Budget Summary

Line 5: Leave columns (c) and (d) blank. Enter TOTAL Federal costs in column (e) and total nonFederal costs (including third party in-kind contributions and any program income to be used as part of the grantee match) in column (f). Enter the sum of columns (e) and (f) in column (g).

Section B Budget Categories

Column 1: Enter the breakdown of how you plan to use the Federal funds being requested by object class category (see instructions for each object class category in Attachment C).

Column 2: Enter the breakdown of how you plan to use the non-Federal share by object class category.

Column 5: Enter the total funds required for the project (sum of Columns 1 and 2) by object class category.

Section C – Non Federal Resources

Column A: Enter the federal grant program.

Column B: Enter in any non-federal resources that the applicant will contribute to the project.

Column C: Enter in any non-federal resources that the state will contribute to the project.

Column D: Enter in any non-federal resources that other sources will contribute to the project.

Column E: Enter the total non-federal resources for each program listed in column A.

Section D –Forecasted Cash Needs

Line 13: Enter Federal forecasted cash needs broken down by quarter for the first year only.

Line 14: Enter Non-Federal forecasted cash needs broken down by quarter for the first year.

Line 15: Enter total forecasted cash needs broken down by quarter for the first year.

Note: This area is not meant to be one whereby an applicant merely divides the requested funding by four and inserts that amount in each quarter but an area where thought is given as to how your estimated expenses will be incurred during each quarter. For example, if you have initial startup costs in the first quarter of your award reflect that in quarter one or you do not expect to have contracts awarded and funded until quarter three, reflect those costs in that quarter.

Section E – Budget Estimates of Federal Funds Needed for Balance of the Project (i.e. subsequent years 2, 3, 4 or 5 as applicable).

Column A: Enter the federal grant program

Column B (first): Enter the requested year two funding.

Column C (second): Enter the requested year three funding.

Column D (third): Enter the requested year four funding, if applicable.

Column E (forth): Enter the requested year five funding, if applicable.

Section F – Other Budget Information

Line 21: Enter the total Indirect Charges

Line 22: Enter the total Direct charges (calculation of indirect rate and direct charges).

Line 23: Enter any pertinent remarks related to the budget.

Separate Budget Narrative/Justification Requirement

Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grant programs are REQUIRED to provide a combined multi-year Budget Narrative/Justification, as well as a detailed Budget Narrative/Justification for each year of potential grant funding. A separate Budget Narrative/Justification is also REQUIRED for each potential year of grant funding requested.

For your use in developing and presenting your Budget Narrative/Justification, a sample format with examples and a blank sample template have been included in these Attachments. In your Budget Narrative/Justification, you should include a breakdown of

the budgetary costs for all of the object class categories noted in Section B, across three columns: Federal; non-Federal cash; and non-Federal in-kind. Cost breakdowns, or justifications, are required for any cost of \$1,000 or for the thresholds as established in the examples. The Budget Narratives/Justifications should fully explain and justify the costs in each of the major budget items for each of the object class categories, as described below. Non-Federal cash as well as, sub-contractor or sub-grantee (third party) in-kind contributions designated as match must be clearly identified and explained in the Budget Narrative/Justification. The full Budget Narrative/Justification should be included in the application immediately following the SF 424 forms.

Line 6a: **Personnel:** Enter total costs of salaries and wages of applicant/grantee staff. Do not include the costs of consultants, which should be included under 6h Other.

In the Justification: Identify the project director, if known. Specify the key staff, their titles, and time commitments in the budget justification.

Line 6b: **Fringe Benefits:** Enter the total costs of fringe benefits unless treated as part of an approved indirect cost rate.

In the Justification: If the total fringe benefit rate exceeds 35% of Personnel costs, provide a breakdown of amounts and percentages that comprise fringe benefit costs, such as health insurance, FICA, retirement, etc. A percentage of 35% or less does not require a break down but you must show the percentage charged for each full/part time employee.

Line 6c: **Travel:** Enter total costs of all travel (local and non-local) for staff on the project. NEW: Local travel is considered under this cost item not under Other. Local transportation (all travel which does not require per diem is considered local travel). Do not enter costs for consultant's travel - this should be included in line 6h.

In the Justification: Include the total number of trips, number of travelers, destinations, purpose (e.g., attend conference), length of stay, subsistence allowances (per diem), and transportation costs (including mileage rates).

Line 6d: **Equipment:** Enter the total costs of all equipment to be acquired by the project. For all grantees, "equipment" is nonexpendable tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit. If the item does not meet the \$5,000 threshold, include it in your budget under Supplies, line 6e.

In the Justification: Equipment to be purchased with federal funds must be justified as necessary for the conduct of the project. The equipment must be used for project-related functions. Further, the purchase of specific items of equipment should not be included in the submitted budget if those items of equipment, or a reasonable facsimile, are otherwise available to the applicant or its subgrantees.

Line 6e: **Supplies:** Enter the total costs of all tangible expendable personal property (supplies) other than those included on line 6d.

In the Justification: . For any grant award that has supply costs in excess of 5% of total direct costs (Federal or Non-Federal), you must provide a detailed break down of the supply items (e.g., 6% of \$100,000 = \$6,000 – breakdown of supplies needed). If the 5% is applied against \$1 million total direct costs (5% x \$1,000,000 = \$50,000) a detailed

breakdown of supplies is not needed. Please note: any supply costs of \$5,000 or less regardless of total direct costs does not require a detailed budget breakdown (e.g., 5% x \$100,000 = \$5,000 – no breakdown needed).

Line 6f: **Contractual:** Regardless of the dollar value of any contract, you must follow your established policies and procedures for procurements and meet the minimum standards established in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR's) mentioned below. Enter the total costs of all contracts, including (1) procurement contracts (except those which belong on other lines such as equipment, supplies, etc.). Note: The 33% provision has been removed and line item budget detail is not required as long as you meet the established procurement standards. Also include any awards to organizations for the provision of technical assistance. Do not include payments to individuals on this line. Please be advised: A subrecipient is involved in financial assistance activities by receiving a sub-award and a subcontractor is involved in procurement activities by receiving a sub-contract. Through the recipient, a subrecipient performs work to accomplish the public purpose authorized by law. Generally speaking, a sub-contractor does not seek to accomplish a public benefit and does not perform substantive work on the project. It is merely a vendor providing goods or services to directly benefit the recipient, for example procuring landscaping or janitorial services. In either case, you are encouraged to clearly describe the type of work that will be accomplished and type of relationship with the lower tiered entity whether it be labeled as a subaward or subcontract.

In the Justification: Provide the following three items – 1) Attach a list of contractors indicating the name of the organization; 2) the purpose of the contract; and 3) the estimated dollar amount. If the name of the contractor and estimated costs are not available or have not been negotiated, indicate when this information will be available. The Federal government reserves the right to request the final executed contracts at any time. If an individual contractual item is over the small purchase threshold, currently set at \$100K in the CFR, you must certify that your procurement standards are in accordance with the policies and procedures as stated in 45 CFR 74.44 for non-profits and 92.36 for states, in lieu of providing separate detailed budgets. This certification should be referenced in the justification and attached to the budget narrative.

Line 6g: **Construction:** Leave blank since construction is not an allowable costs for this program.

Line 6h: **Other:** Enter the total of all other costs. Such costs, where applicable, may include, but are not limited to: insurance, medical and dental costs (i.e. for project volunteers this is different from personnel fringe benefits), non-contractual fees and travel paid directly to individual consultants, postage, space and equipment rentals/lease, printing and publication, computer use, training and staff development costs (i.e. registration fees). If a cost does not clearly fit under another category, and it qualifies as an allowable cost, then rest assured this is where it belongs.

Note: A recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) report number 11-43, has raised considerable concerns about grantees and contractors charging the Federal government for additional meals outside of the standard allowance for travel subsistence known as per diem expenses. If meals are to be charged towards the grant they must meet the following

criteria outlined in the Grants Policy Statement:

- *Meals are generally unallowable except for the following:*
- *For subjects and patients under study (usually a research program);*
- *Where specifically approved as part of the project or program activity, e.g., in programs providing children's services (e.g., Headstart);*
- *When an organization customarily provides meals to employees working beyond the normal workday, as a part of a formal compensation arrangement;*
- *As part of a per diem or subsistence allowance provided in conjunction with allowable travel; and*
- *Under a conference grant, when meals are a necessary and integral part of a conference, provided that meal costs are not duplicated in participants' per diem or subsistence allowances (Note: the sole purpose of the grant award is to hold a conference).*

In the Justification: Provide a reasonable explanation for items in this category. For example, individual consultants explain the nature of services provided and the relation to activities in the work plan or indicate where it is described in the work plan. Describe the types of activities for staff development costs.

Line 6i: **Total Direct Charges:** Show the totals of Lines 6a through 6h.

Line 6j: **Indirect Charges:** Enter the total amount of indirect charges (costs), if any. If no indirect costs are requested, enter "none." Indirect charges may be requested if: (1) the applicant has a current indirect cost rate agreement approved by the Department of Health and Human Services or another federal agency; or (2) the applicant is a state or local government agency. **State governments should enter the amount of indirect costs determined in accordance with DHHS requirements.** An applicant that will charge indirect costs to the grant must enclose a copy of the current rate agreement. Indirect Costs can only be claimed on Federal funds, more specifically, they are to only be claimed on the Federal share of your direct costs. Any unused portion of the grantee's eligible Indirect Cost amount that are not claimed on the Federal share of direct charges can be claimed as un-reimbursed indirect charges, and that portion can be used towards meeting the recipient match.

Line 6k: **Total:** Enter the total amounts of Lines 6i and 6j.

Line 7: **Program Income:** As appropriate, include the estimated amount of income, if any, you expect to be generated from this project that you wish to designate as match (equal to the amount shown for Item 15(f) on Form 424). **Note:** Any program income indicated at the bottom of Section B and for item 15(f) on the face sheet of Form 424 will be included as part of non-Federal match and will be subject to the rules for documenting completion of this pledge. If program income is expected, but is not needed to achieve matching funds, **do not** include that portion here or on Item 15(f) of the Form 424 face sheet. Any anticipated program income that will not be applied as grantee match should be described in the Level of Effort section of the Program Narrative.

c. Standard Form 424B – Assurances (required)

This form contains assurances required of applicants under the discretionary funds programs administered by the Administration for Community Living. Please note that a duly authorized representative of the applicant organization must certify that the organization is in compliance with these assurances.

d. Certification Regarding Lobbying (required)

This form contains certifications that are required of the applicant organization regarding lobbying. Please note that a duly authorized representative of the applicant organization must attest to the applicant's compliance with these certifications.

Proof of Non-Profit Status (as applicable)

Non-profit applicants must submit proof of non-profit status. Any of the following constitutes acceptable proof of such status:

- A copy of a currently valid IRS tax exemption certificate.
- A statement from a State taxing body, State attorney general, or other appropriate State official certifying that the applicant organization has a non-profit status and that none of the net earnings accrue to any private shareholders or individuals.
- A certified copy of the organization's certificate of incorporation or similar document that clearly establishes non-profit status.

Indirect Cost Agreement

Applicants that have included indirect costs in their budgets must include a copy of the current indirect cost rate agreement approved by the Department of Health and Human Services or another Federal agency. This is optional for applicants that have not included indirect costs in their budgets.

Standard Form 424A - Sample Format

OMB Approval No. 0348-0044 BUDGET INFORMATION--Non-Construction Programs						
SECTION A-BUDGET SUMMARY						
Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
Lifespan Respite	93.048			340,294	113,433	453,727
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.				340,294	113,433	453,727

TOTALS					
SECTION B-BUDGET CATEGORIES					
6. Object Class Categories	Grant Program, Function, or Activity				Total (5)
	(1) Year 1	(2) Year 2	(3) Year 3	(4)	
a. Personnel	71,254	30,000	35,000		136,254
b. Fringe Benefits	26,114	15,000	20,000		61,114
c. Travel	7,647	5,000	5,000		17,647
d. Equipment	10,000	0	0		10,000
e. Supplies	9,460	2,500	1,000		12,960
f. Contractual	30,171	0	0		30,171
g. Construction	0	0	0		
h. Other	11,480	55,833	47,334		114,647
i. Total Direct Charges (Sum 6a-h)	166,126	108,333	108,334		382,793
OMB Approval No. 0348-0044 BUDGET INFORMATION--Non-Construction Programs					
j. Indirect Charges @	20,934	25,000	25,000		70,934
TOTALS (Sum 6i and j)	187,060	133,333	133,334		453,727
7. Program Income	None				

SECTION C-NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES					
(a) Grant Program	(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e) TOTALS	
8. Lifespan Respite	80,866	32,547		113,433	
9.					
10.					
11.					
12. TOTALS (Sum of lines 8 and 11)	80,866	32,547		113,433	
SECTION D-FORECASTED CASH NEEDS					
13. Federal	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
	140,294	20,000	50,000	20,000	50,294
	46,766	12,000	10,000	9,000	15,766

TOTAL (Sum of lines 13 and 14)					
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SECTION E-BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT				
(a) Grant Program	Future Funding Periods (Years)			
	(b) First	(c) Second	(d)	(e)
Life Span Respite	100,000	100,000		
17.				
18.				
19.				
20. TOTALS (Sum of lines 16-19)				
SECTION F-OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION				
21. Direct Charges		22. Indirect Charges		
23. Remarks				

Authorized for Local Reproduction Standard Form 424A (7-97)

Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

Budget Narrative/Justification - Sample Format

NOTE: Applicants requesting funding for a multi-year grant program are REQUIRED to provide a detailed Budget Narrative/Justification for EACH potential year of grant funding requested.

Object Class Category	Federal Funds	Non-Federal Cash	Non-Federal In-Kind	TOTAL	Justification
Personnel	\$47,700	\$23,554	\$0	\$71,254	Federal Project Director (name) = .5 FTE @ \$95,401/yr = \$47,700 Non-Fed Cash Officer Manager (name) = .5FTE @ \$47,108/yr = <u>\$23,554</u> Total

					71,254
Fringe Benefits	\$17,482	\$8,632	\$0	\$26,114	Federal Fringe on Project Director at 36.65% = \$17,482 FICA (7.65%) Health (25%) Dental (2%) Life (1%) Unemployment (1%) Non-Fed Cash Fringe on Office Manager at 36.65% = \$8,632 FICA (7.65%) Health (25%) Dental (2%) Life (1%) Unemployment (1%)
Travel	\$4,707	\$2,940	\$0	\$7,647	Federal Local travel: 6 TA site visits for 1 person Mileage: 6RT @ .585 x 700 miles \$2,457 Lodging: 15 days @ \$110/day \$1,650 Per Diem: 15 days @ \$40/day \$600 Total \$4,707 Non-Fed Cash Travel to National Conference in (Destination) for 3 people Airfare 1 RT x 3 staff @ \$500 \$1,500 Lodging: 3 days x 3 staff @ \$120/day \$1,080 Per Diem: 3 days x 3 staff @ \$40/day \$360 Total \$2,940

Equipment	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	No Equipment requested OR: Call Center Equipment Installation = \$5,000 Phones = <u>\$5,000</u> Total \$10,000
Supplies	\$3,700	\$5,670	\$0	\$9,460	Federal 2 desks @ \$1,500 \$3,000 2 chairs @ \$300 \$600 2 cabinets @ \$200 \$400 Non-Fed Cash 2 Laptop computers \$3,000 Printer cartridges @ \$50/month \$300 Consumable supplies (pens, paper, clips etc...) @ \$180/month <u>\$2,160</u> Total \$9,460
Contractual	\$30,171	\$0	\$0	\$30,171	(organization name, purpose of contract and estimated dollar amount) Contract with AAA to provide respite services: 11 care givers @ \$1,682 = \$18,502 Volunteer Coordinator = <u>\$11,669</u> Total \$30,171

					<i>If contract details are unknown due to contract yet to be made provide same information listed above and:</i> A detailed evaluation plan and budget will be submitted by (date), when contract is made.
Other	\$5,600	\$0	\$5,880	\$11,480	Federal 2 consultants @ \$100/hr for 24.5 hours each = \$4,900 Printing 10,000 Brochures @ \$.05 = \$500 Local conference registration fee (name conference) = <u>\$200</u> Total \$5,600 In-Kind Volunteers 15 volunteers @ \$8/hr for 49 hours = \$5,880
Indirect Charges	\$20,934	\$0	\$0	\$20,934	21.5% of salaries and fringe = \$20,934 IDC rate is attached.
TOTAL	\$140,294	\$40,866	\$5,880	\$187,060	

Budget Narrative/Justification - Sample Template

NOTE: Applicants requesting funding for a multi-year grant program are REQUIRED to provide a detailed Budget Narrative/Justification for EACH potential year of grant funding requested.

Object Class Category	Federal Funds	Non-Federal Cash	Non-Federal In-Kind	TOTAL	Justification
Personnel					
Fringe Benefits					
Travel					
Equipment					
Supplies					

Contractual					
Other					
Indirect Charges					
TOTAL					

Project Work Plan - Sample Template

NOTE : Applicants requesting funding for a multi-year grant program are REQUIRED to provide a Project Work Plan for EACH potential year of grant funding requested.

Goal:

Measurable Outcome(s):

* Time Frame (Start/End Dates by Month in Project Cycle)

Major Objectives	Key Tasks	Lead Person	1*	2*	3*	4*	5*	6*	7*	8*	9*	10*	11*	12*
1.														
2.														
3.														
4.														
5.														
6.														

NOTE: Please do not infer from this sample format that your work plan must have 6 major objectives. If you need more pages, simply repeat this format on additional pages.

Instructions for Completing the Project Summary/Abstract

- All applications for grant funding must include a Summary/Abstract that concisely describes the proposed project. It should be written for the general public.
- To ensure uniformity, limit the length to 265 words or less, on a single page with a font size of not less than 11, doubled-spaced.
- The abstract must include the project's goal(s), objectives, overall approach (including target population and significant partnerships), anticipated outcomes, products, and duration. The following are very simple descriptions of these terms, and a sample Compendium abstract.

Goal(s) – broad, overall purpose, usually in a mission statement, i.e. what you want to do, where you want to be.

Objective(s) – narrow, more specific, identifiable or measurable steps toward a goal. Part of the planning process or sequence (the “how”) to attain the goal(s).

Outcomes - measurable results of a project. Positive benefits or negative changes, or measurable characteristics that occur as a result of an organization's or program's activities. (Outcomes are the end-point)

Products – materials, deliverables.

- A model abstract/summary is provided below:

The Delaware Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities (DSAAPD), in **partnership** with the Delaware Lifespan Respite Care Network (DLRCN) and key stakeholders will, in the course of this two-year project, expand and maintain a statewide coordinated lifespan respite system that builds on the infrastructure currently in place. The **goal** of this project is to improve the delivery and quality of respite services available to families across age and disability spectrums by expanding and coordinating existing respite systems in Delaware. The **objectives** are: 1) to improve lifespan respite infrastructure; 2) to improve the provision of information and awareness about respite service; 3) to streamline access to respite services through the Delaware ADRC; 4) to increase availability of respite services. Anticipated **outcomes** include: 1) families and caregivers of all ages and disabilities will have greater options for choosing a respite provider; 2) providers will demonstrate increased ability to provide specialized respite care; 3) families will have streamlined access to information and satisfaction with respite services; 4) respite care will be provided using a variety of existing funding sources and 5) a sustainability plan will be developed to support the project in the future. The expected **products** are marketing and outreach materials, caregiver training, respite worker training, a Respite Online searchable database, two new Caregiver Resource Centers (CRC), an annual Respite Summit, a respite voucher program and 24/7 telephone information and referral services.