

Comprehensive Health Care RFP

Grant Type: Dollar

Grant Amount: \$50,000

Organization: The Special Hope Foundation

What was the objective of your grant or initiative?

A request for proposal (RFP) was developed to engage and motivate University Centers of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDDs) to share their work on health care issues and how those centers impact adults. The hope was that funding in this area would encourage other state-based centers to develop health care programming to serve this constituency.

What was your approach?

We are the only private funder that has a specific funding cycle targeting the Centers of Excellence network. Since our first RFP, we have sponsored two other rounds (one on community-based projects using health care student volunteers and one on telemedicine) of funding with this group.

- how to navigate an appointment and communicate with health care providers.
- One state developed a web-based application that targeted clinicians providing information and resources on how to work with patients with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Subsequent funding was provided so each organization could share their projects with their peers in a national conference symposium.

What were the outsized results?

Applications were received from 18 states, and three grants were awarded, each with a focus on transition from pediatric to adult health care:

- One state convened a cross-sector stakeholder group and developed a state blueprint for health care transition.
- One state developed a web-based application to support clients and their family's access to medical care, including

This work has national implications: The web-based applications and blueprint are replicable models that could be adopted by all 50 states. The UCEDDs network provides the perfect environment in which to develop and share best practices.

