

## South Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council

### 2015-2016 Grant Summaries

*July 1, 2015*

<i>Grant Title [Year]</i>	<b>Funds</b>	<b>Counties Served</b>	<b>Program Description</b>
<b>Grantee Name</b>			
<b>Employment</b>			
<i>A Community Options STEP for South Carolina [3]</i> Community Options Inc.	\$80,013	Lexington & Richland	A STEP (School-to-Employment Program) job coach trains and supervises high school students at work sites in the community. Students acquire physical, intellectual, emotional, and social skills they need for community-based, meaningful employment
<i>Students + Job Coach = Job Success [3]</i> York School District One	\$20,802	York	A job coach helps to prepare students with disabilities for internship and job shadowing opportunities with local groups including York Rotary Club and Greater York Chamber of Commerce. The goal is for students with disabilities to be prepared for employment after completing high school.
<i>Virtual Hope [3]</i> Project Hope Foundation Inc.	\$24,999	Greenville & Spartanburg	The program provides a path to high school graduation for students with autism spectrum disorders. Students use a virtual curriculum taught in a classroom setting that is supplemented with individualized academic tutorials. Additionally, young adults with ASD are connected with Big Brain Staffing and SC VR to seek suitable employment.
<i>Consignment Shop, Job Training &amp; Day Center [3]</i> SOS Health Care Inc.	\$35,313	Georgetown & Horry	The program connects young adults with ASD and related disabilities with Job coaches who teach career skills associated with running a consignment shop.

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<i>Project Inclusion</i> [2] Able South Carolina	\$18,417	Abbeville, Laurens, & Fairfield	Independent Living Specialists work with high school students, their family members, school personnel, and community professionals to promote transition to adulthood with an emphasis on employment. This includes classroom-based employment skills development, training in self-advocacy during IEP meetings, and raising awareness of employment rights. The Independent Living Specialists are former students who have disabilities.
<i>Project REAL (Recruiting Entrepreneurs for Advocacy and Leadership)</i> [2] Arts Access South Carolina	\$26,000	Charleston, Berkley, Dorchester, Richland, Lexington, Kershaw, Fairfield, Spartanburg, Cherokee, Orangeburg, Calhoun, Aiken, Saluda, Edgefield, & statewide events	The program recruits high school students and young adults with developmental disabilities to be creative entrepreneurs. The project provides a variety of arts-related apprenticeship and training opportunities for students with I/DD who have a strong desire, ability, and interest to pursue a career in the arts.
<i>Ready, Set to Go to Work</i> [2] Clover School District (York 2)	\$32,500	York, Chester, & Lancaster	The project provides evidence-based training to students and staff that readies students with disabilities for employment through researched assessments curriculum, and facilitated work experiences. The project provides for staff training regarding setting up work experiences for their students. Students will operate a thrift store.
<i>Project SEARCH</i> [2] Arc of the Midlands	\$30,500	Richland & Lexington	The Project SEARCH High School Transition Program serves students with significant disabilities who are 18 to 21 years of age and in their last year of high school. Having partnered with a local school district and work-site hospital in year one, the project intends to connect students to rotating internships in year two.

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<i>Expansion of the Transition Alliance of SC</i> [2] USC Center for Disability Resources	\$86,158	Statewide	The goal of the Statewide alliance is to build local communities' capacity to improve employment outcomes for youth and young adults with I/DD. This will be achieved by developing and implementing a system of support to local interagency collaborative transition teams, a statewide conference, and further development of the Transition Alliance website. In Year two, the group will monitor the progress of local school districts PATH plan for transition improvement.
<i>The Arc @ Work</i> [1] The Arc of the Midlands	\$38,218	Statewide	Using a national Arc program, the project recruits secondary school students with I/DD to participate in various communication and public speaking training activities. An additional component provides training to federal employers in understanding how to hire and support people with disabilities.
<i>Recipe for Success</i> [1] Charleston Co. Schools	\$23,193	Charleston	The program provides for associated travel, equipment, and other items to successfully launch a school-based bakery in which students with I/DD train to develop employability skills, increase awareness of the world of work, increase paid employment and independent living skills, and improve social skills.
<i>R.I.S.E.: Rallying for Inclusive, Successful Employment</i> [1] Able-SC	\$77,233	Statewide	The program provides for an FTE employment specialist position at Able-SC to lead the Employment Taskforce, to train Able-SC staff members to become Community Partner Work Incentives Counselors, to teach employment skills to people with I/DD, & to collect data from SC employers regarding barriers that prevent them seeking and hiring people with I/DD.

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<i>District Five Transition Svcs. Assessment [1]</i>  Lexington/Richland School District Five	\$19,961	Lexington and Richland	The program provides for an independent assessment of its transitions services provided to students with I/DD. The program includes an extensive program evaluation and analysis performed by Francis Marion University, report to district leadership and school-board, and a day-long professional development and technical assistance day for district special education teachers and support staff.

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<b>Community Supports</b>			
<i>Rec-Connect/ArcWorks</i> [3] Arc of South Carolina	\$23,675	Statewide	The program is a recreational and socialization program for adults with I/DD that provides fun and engaging community activities and events across the State. A component of the program includes providing a wide variety of artistic experiences for adults with I/DD. Sample experiences include attending plays, concerts, drama classes, and art workshops.
<i>Extended Hope</i> [3] Project HOPE Foundation	\$25,000	Greenville & Spartanburg	The program helps to revise and extend socialization skills for children, youth and adults with autism spectrum disorders. One-on-one and group methods will be used. Opportunities to practice learned skills in real life settings include classes, social groups, and community outings, partnering with peers, art classes, and dog training classes.
<i>Life Lessons</i> [2] Arc of South Carolina	\$26,000	Sumter, Spartanburg, & Aiken	Life Lessons educates parents and professionals how to engage adults with I/DD in conversation about general sexual health and increase the individuals' knowledge about sexual health. During the second year of the project, the project grows from research and curriculum development to evaluation and revising existing lesson plan with an emphasis on online learning modules.
<i>Kick-It Karate!</i> [2] Arc of the Midlands	\$22,399	Richland, Lexington, Newberry, Fairfield, Saluda, Kershaw, Sumter, Aiken, Lee, Lancaster, Orangeburg, Calhoun, & Clarendon	Kick-It! offers karate instruction to individuals with disabilities in the age groups of 14 years and under, and 14 and up. The classes are expected to increase social assertiveness and cooperation, improve balance and coordination, increase eye contact, improve self-confidence, foster respect for others, and result in new friendships. Integration into mainstream programs is anticipated after a few months.

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<i>Mixed Greens</i> [2] Arc of the Midlands	\$20,884	Richland, Lexington, Fairfield, Saluda, Kershaw, Sumter, Aiken, Horry, Lee, Lexington, Orangeburg, & Clarendon	Mixed Greens is a community-based garden and service project. There will be related social and recreational activities, as well as networking with the public, local businesses, staff and volunteers. Individuals with I/DD and their families receive opportunities for socialization at famers' markets as the project progresses.
<i>Independent Living Skills/Sensory Stimulation Pilot Program</i> [2] AccessAbility*  *disAbility Resource Center DBA AccessAbility	\$20,104.18	Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester, & Williamsburg	The program reinforces skills learned in school essential for activities of daily living and thriving. This includes a sensory development program to improve communication and quality of life in individuals with severe I/DD. For individuals with less severe disabilities, a daily living skills program will reinforce what was already learned and teach new skills for daily living.
<i>UCAN: Community</i> [2] Roger C. Peace Rehabilitation Hospital	\$26,000	Anderson, Greenville, Laurens, Oconee, Pickens, & Spartanburg	UCAN: Community increases social connectedness for persons impacted by head injuries, spinal cord injuries, and stroke. Adaptive recreational activities allow participation in a variety of sports and social activities. The social capital model is used to identify community-based gatekeepers as a way to integrate individuals with disabilities into existing recreational and social opportunities.
<i>Eagle Project</i> [2] Current Transitions	\$9,851	Horry	Self-advocates improve their communication and socialization skills using role playing and video modeling developed by James Stanfield. The skills are practiced in the community during non-threatening activities. The goal is to prevent social and communication breakdowns when self-advocates are away from their classrooms and more familiar supports.

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<i>“Free to be Me” Transition Awareness [1]</i> Family Connection of SC	\$34,000	Midlands, Coastal, & Upstate regions of SC	The program seeks to collaborate with Able-SC regarding transition services for students with I/DD to assess needs, gather information about resources, develop training materials, and host a workshop in each targeted region of South Carolina. The series will focus on empowering young adults with I/DD to live on their own and achieve their dreams and goals.
<i>South Carolina Medical-Legal Partnership [1]</i> Greenville Health System	\$45,000	Abbeville, Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Greenwood, Laurens, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, & Union	The program seeks to adapt a national curriculum that trains clinical providers and collaborative partner participants to recognize social determinants of health, screen patients for non-medical barriers to health, learn about laws and systems that govern these barriers, make referrals to the legal partner, and treat GHS patients with Autism and related neuro-developmental disabilities with effective interventions.
<i>SC Visibility Project [1]</i> Brain Injury Association of SC	\$40,000	Statewide	The program provides information, referral, and assessment services in three areas: hospital discharge, law enforcement, and recreation. Project includes disseminating information about available supports to individuals with disabilities related to brain injury being discharged from Palmetto Health Richland Memorial Hospital in addition to trainings for law enforcement and other assessments.

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<b>Health</b>			
<i>Bridges at The Therapy Place</i> [3] The Therapy Place	\$50,000	Lexington, Richland, & Kershaw	Bridges provides an innovative and holistic approach to therapy combining special education methods with physical, occupational and speech therapies. The program helps children with developmental delays to gain independence by improving their mobility, social skills, and daily living skills. College students from related disciplines serve as interns.
<i>Everybody Talks</i> [3] Babcock Center	\$49,500	Lexington & Richland	The project provides individualized augmentative communication systems to improve the communication skills of 20 adults with intellectual disabilities/developmental disabilities. Components will include thorough evaluations of communication needs, intensive training, and follow-up with participants and their caregivers.
<i>Walk This Way</i> [3] Arc of South Carolina	\$29,475	Richland, Lexington, Horry, Florence, Charleston, Aiken, Spartanburg, & Greenville	Community based walking groups will be established to increase social supports for individuals with I/DD who want to improve their health and activity habits. Companionship, encouragement, and support will increase their awareness about the benefits of exercise and bolster their self-confidence. Overall fitness is expected to improve as levels of activity increase.
<i>Piece it Together</i> [1] MUSC	\$60,000	Charleston, Berkeley, & Dorchester	The program promotes healthy lifestyle choices, physical, and mental health through a community and school-based fitness and wellness program serving young adults with ASD and/or Neuro-DD.

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<i>Fit for Life</i> [1] SOS Healthcare, Inc.	\$10,912	Horry	The program offers young adults with I/DD to participate in an evidence-based health program developed with input from several young adults with disabilities. Activities include weekly fitness classes, Exercise DVD's, nutritional consultation, and grocery shopping support.
<i>Enhanced Nursing Education for Patients Living with Developmental Disabilities</i> [1] Francis Marion University	\$40,000	Chesterfield, Clarendon, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Georgetown, Horry, Lee, Marion, Marlboro, Sumter, & Williamsburg	The program seeks to integrate curriculum components into FMU's undergraduate and graduate nursing programs that address specific needs of individuals with I/DD. The proposal also seeks to establish a yearly conference about I/DD at FMU and provides for a simulation scenario for undergraduate nursing students focusing on the needs of pediatric and adolescent patients with I/DD.

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<b>Self-Advocacy</b>			
<p><i>Youth Leadership Forum</i> [Ongoing]</p> <p>Parents Reaching Out to Parents of SC (PRO-Parents)</p>	\$10,650	Statewide	<p>A three-day summer program for youth with disabilities who are still in high school or just graduated. The objectives are to build or strengthen the participants' self-advocacy skills, self-confidence, and leadership skills for the purpose of remaining in school, graduating, obtaining post-secondary education (as appropriate), and obtaining employment that meets each individual's maximum potential.</p>
<p><i>IMPACT SC Self-Advocacy Initiatives</i> [Ongoing]</p> <p>Center for Disability Resources, Department of Pediatrics, USC School of Medicine</p>	\$21,700	Statewide	<p>The IMPACT SC Self-Advocacy group meets bi-monthly to explore and approve initiatives that enhance self-advocacy in South Carolina. Initiatives include selecting training materials, choosing speakers on topics critical to building successful self-advocacy, and attending training or conferences in and out of the state.</p>
<p><i>Equip: Self-Advocacy &amp; Leadership in Young Adults</i> [Ongoing]</p> <p>Able-SC</p>	\$61,586	Statewide	<p>EQUIP is a Young Adult Leadership program focused on empowering young adults with disabilities ages 14-25 by showing them the skills necessary to build self-confidence, set and accomplish goals and become community activists. EQUIP is unique in its approach because its leaders are also young adults with disabilities who can directly relate to the group.</p>
<p><i>Let's Talk</i> [1]</p> <p>Arc of the Midlands</p>	\$43,053	Richland, Lexington, Sumter, Newberry, & Fairfield, with opportunities for statewide expansion	<p>A self-advocacy program for people with I/DD to focus on self-development, making choices, taking leadership roles, and achieving dreams. Projects will involve community documentation projects through program-prescribed interview models.</p>