

South Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council

Office of Executive Policy and Programs | Department of Administration

2025-2026 Grant Summaries

July 1, 2025

Grant Title [Year] Grantee Name	Funds	Counties Served	Program Description
<u>Employment</u>			
<i>Employment Instructor [2]</i> SOS Care Inc.	\$61,473	Charleston tri-county, Grand Strand area	SOS Care will expand their employment programs to help prepare adults with ASD and IDD for employment using the Job SEEKers program, which is an intensive employment readiness program that teaches necessary skills that do not come naturally to individuals with A/I/DD that are critical for ongoing successful employment.
<i>Project Invest [2]</i> University of South Carolina	\$53,566	Statewide	This project aims to improve career outcomes for individuals with I/DD through enhancing awareness around and creating pathways to industry-recognized credentials. This project also plans to connect IPSE programs with up-to-date resources and networking opportunities in order to adequately advise students.
<i>Job Development and Training Services Program [1]</i> Ability Beyond Barriers	\$48,054.03	Horry and Georgetown	This program seeks to expand employment development and training activities for people with I/DD, preparing individuals for the workforce through the teaching of soft skills and job-readiness critical for success.

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<u>Community Supports</u>			
<i>The Art of Living Well</i> [3] Adult Enrichment Centers	\$23,250	York	This program supports healthy mental wellbeing in adults with diverse abilities through creative expression in a safe space, which encourages and fosters expressions of emotion in a healthy way. This, in turn, promotes self-advocacy and fills a void that exists in available services in the community.
<i>Developing Decision Makers</i> [3] Able SC	\$48,562.50	Statewide	Able SC, in collaboration with Center for Youth Voice, Youth Choice, Family Connection of SC, Disability Rights SC, SC Appleseed Legal Justice Center, SC Project SEARCH, and SC Department of Education, Office of Special Education Services will support youth ambassadors with IDD in paid employment opportunities with a focus on educating students and teachers on self-determination and supported decision-making. In addition, the program educates legislators in SC about the consequences of guardianship and how it can restrict the rights of individuals with disabilities and will grow and sustain a statewide coalition to alleviate undue and overbroad guardianships.
<i>SC Housing Education</i> [3] SOS Health Care, Inc.	\$37,335	Statewide	This program will scan the state housing environment, identify available resources, collaborators, funders, case managers, trainings, etc. In the process, collaborations and partnerships will be made as pertain to needs and interests for housing the ID/DD population. Through this project, SOS will empower efforts statewide to realize the requirements of the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule, which ensures that individuals have full access to the benefits of community living and the opportunity to receive services in the most appropriate, integrated setting.
<i>Possibilities Without End SC</i> [3] Latino Community Development	\$126,787.50	Statewide	The Possibilities Without End grant addresses access, self-determination, and independence for Latino youth with I/DD and their families through partnerships with community-based organizations to provide resources, services, trainings, programs, and materials that strengthen the capacity for self-determination. Families are also educated on how to advocate for their children and youth with disabilities.
<i>A Bridge to Belonging</i> [1] Able SC	\$80,269	Statewide	This program seeks to address the gap in mental health services for individuals with I/DD by creating a peer support initiative that provides accessible care, filling a critical void in South Carolina's mental health system for the I/DD community.

<i>Financial Planning for Parents/Caregivers [1]</i> Arc of the Low Country	\$29,988	Low Country	Based on parent experiences and research, this program will offer a comprehensive financial planning program with an initial target group of parents and caregivers of persons with I/DD in the Low Country. This program will consist of training sessions that focus on specific issues associated with financial planning.
<i>Foundations and Futures: Building Staff Skills and Client Opportunities [1]</i> Project Hope Foundation	\$88,972	Upstate	This project seeks to leverage evidence-based behavioral approaches to improve access, community integration, productivity, self-determination, and independence for individuals with autism and their families through staff and client development.
<i>SOS Community Leadership Program [1]</i> SOS Care	\$28,125	Charleston tri-county, Grand Strand area	This program seeks to help individuals feel more connected to their local communities and facilitate more long-term engagement in their communities. The goal is to do so through the employment of a self-advocate to facilitate this community leadership program to encourage serving within the community through an organized curriculum.

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<u>Self-Advocacy</u>			
<i>Community Leadership Academy</i> [Ongoing] Able-SC	\$19,438	Statewide	Community Leadership Academy increases participation of individuals with disabilities, as well as their family members, on boards, committees, and councils in local communities around the state. This program educates participants on rights, leadership skills, strategies for advocacy, self-advocacy, communication of rights under various laws, effective communication, and demonstrating skills by serving in a leadership role on a community council, board, or committee.
<i>Youth Leadership Forum</i> [Ongoing] Able-SC	\$50,000	Statewide	The program is an established, evidence-based summer program for youth with disabilities who are still in high school or just graduated. The objectives are to build or strengthen participants' self-advocacy skills, self-confidence, and leadership skills for the purpose of remaining in school, graduating, obtaining post-secondary education and obtaining employment that meets each individual's maximum potential.
<i>IMPACT-SC</i> [Ongoing] Center for Disability Resources	\$41,447	Statewide	IMPACT-SC is the statewide self-advocacy council for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. IMPACT-SC's purpose is to increase awareness of self-advocacy among adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Activities include training opportunities, exhibiting, presenting and attending national conferences. The council also maintains a statewide newsletter and website.
<i>Equip: Self-Advocacy & Leadership in Young Adults</i> [Ongoing] Able-SC	\$89,938	Statewide	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.