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Reference Number: 250-12-DD

Title of Document: Competitive Funding for Special Service Contract:
Statewide Consumer/Family Support Networks

Date of Issue: December 18, 2012
Effective Date: December 18, 2012
Last Review Date: November 20, 2013
Date of Last Revision: November 20, 2013 (REVISED)

Applicability: Non-Profit Statewide Service Providers

This document formalizes procedures and forms utilized for the submission of requests for funding for special projects that strengthen and expand statewide consumer/family support networks relevant to the mission of the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN). The form utilized is the "Competitive Funding for Statewide Consumer/Family Support Networks – Special Projects Application."

Contingent upon available funds and past funding levels to an applicant organization, up to six (6) projects, \$25,000-\$65,000 each will be funded through a competitive selection process each fiscal year.

90 days prior to any posted request for proposals, modified selection criteria must be reviewed and approved by the DDSN Commission. Requests for proposals will be posted on the Department's website in May of each year.

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Non-profit organizations which meet the following criteria are eligible and encouraged to submit a proposal:

- Must be a statewide organization
- Must be the state affiliate of a national consumer/family support network
- Must lead a network of local/regional units
- Must target one or more disability populations served by DDSN
- Must not be on South Carolina Secretary of State's List of Suspended Charities or its Annual "Scrooge" List

Proposals must focus on efforts which:

- Complement, but do not duplicate, DDSN functions/services
- Extend access to information about disabling conditions and relevant resources
- Offer outreach to non-English speaking people with disabilities/families
- Assist people with disabilities/families to connect with peers and support groups
- Improve the effectiveness of peer mentors and support groups
- Enhance individual/family self-advocacy
- Expand social/recreational opportunities for people with disabilities/families
- Provide visibility and organizational leadership for one or more disability groups
- Promote multi-organization linkages and collaboration

Each proposal will be reviewed and scored by the DDSN Special Projects Selection Committee. The DDSN Special Projects Selection Committee will consider the following criteria in evaluating proposed projects:

- Clear and appropriate goal(s) and objectives
- Specific and appropriate implementation activities
- Scope and expected impact of the project
- Compatibility with DDSN mission and services
- Direct/indirect benefits to people with disabilities/families
- Adequate and justified budget; cost-effectiveness
- Capability to administer a DDSN contract

The DDSN Special Projects Selection Committee will be comprised of six members. The Director of Budgeting and Planning will serve as facilitator of the group. Five Committee members are designated scoring members. The Selection Committee is noted below:

Director of the Autism Division	(Scoring Member)
Director of the Head and Spinal Cord Injury Division	(Scoring Member)
Director of the Intellectual Disabilities Division	(Scoring Member)
Director of Budgeting and Planning	(Facilitator)
Director of Cost Analysis and Community Contracts	(Scoring Member)
District Director-Operations Division (Directors will rotate each year)	(Scoring Member)

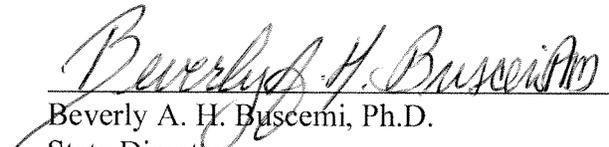
Each member may appoint a designee to serve on his/her behalf on the selection committee. Designees will assume scoring responsibilities of the original member.

DDSN Special Projects Selection

Applicant organizations approved through the competitive selection process will be issued a special service contract. Projects must be implemented between July 1 and June 30 of the subsequent fiscal year. For those entities approved through this competitive selection process, a year-end report documenting programmatic results/outcomes is required. Additionally, a year-end report of funds expended or a year-end financial statement is required of each entity per contractual requirements.



Thomas P. Waring
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(Originator)



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(Approved)

To access the following attachments, please see the agency website page "Attachments to Directives" under this directive number.

Attachment 1: Competitive Funding for Statewide Consumer/Family Support Networks –
Special Projects Application