

Community Connections for People with Disabilities Grant

Apply up to \$200,000



Funded with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grant funds available through CARES Act

The program's goal is to help develop innovative technology strategies and cultivate strong community partnerships to address the negative social, economic, and health effects of COVID-19 on Hoosiers with disabilities and to increase community and workplace inclusion for this population. This opportunity is offered through a partnership between the Office of Community and Rural Affairs and the Indiana Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services.

Intended for public services activities only. Goals targeted at activities that address:

- Internet access and technology equity
- Social isolation and lost access to natural supports

Applications must explain how the proposed activities are specifically responding to or mitigating the negative effects of COVID-19 for Hoosiers adults with disabilities.

Projects must be completed within six to nine months

Applications open October 23

No local match is required!

Eligible Applicants



City, county, or incorporated town, both entitlement & non-entitlement

Applicants must partner with a qualifying developmental disability non-profit organization that serves adults (18 and older) with disabilities within the geographical area.

Activities addressing internet access and technology equity may include increasing:

- Access in provider-owned settings and public settings;
- Existing internet access points through assistive technology and universal design strategies;
- Access to internet-capable devices or programs,
- Establishing technical assistance and training programs to increase technology literacy;
- Access to telework opportunities for local employers.

Activities addressing social isolation and lost access to natural supports may include:

- Developing virtual social circles, pairing individuals with family, friends, and/or community volunteers to enhance social interaction;
- Establishing virtual mentorship programs, pairing individuals with business owners or employers to support workplace inclusion;
- Providing virtual emotional support groups, virtual peer-to-peer mentoring, warmlines, virtual exercise initiatives.



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