

**SD COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES
GRANT APPLICATION - - TITLE PAGE**

Applicant Organization **Augustana University**
Address **2001 S. Summit Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57197**
Telephone **(605) 274-4624** Federal ID Number **46-0224588**
Project Director **Becky Hatch Fiala, Field Placement Coord.**
Address/Telephone **2001 S. Summit Ave., Sioux Falls, SD
57197 /(605) 274-4617**

Email Address: **fiala@augie.edu**

Type of Organization: **nonprofit** Tax Exempt? **YES**

Under "Type of Organization" indicate all of the following that apply: State, county, municipality, or other public institution; nonprofit or profit private institution. If "nonprofit" and/or "tax exempt", proof of status may be requested.

Title of Project **2023 Lighting the Way: Autism in Our
Community Conference**

Project Begins **June 7, 2023** Project Ends **June 8, 2023**

Total Council Funds Requested **\$5,000.00**

Total Project Budget **\$21,447**

Authorizing Official (please type name)

Colin Irvine, Provost & Executive Vice President



12/14/2022

Signature

FOR OFFICE USE

Date Application Received _____ Assigned Project Number _____

Approved Council Funding _____ Total Project Budget _____

BUDGET SHEET

2023 Lighting the Way							
Budget Item	Cost	Funds Requested	SD Council Match Description	Augustana Match	Augustana Match Description	Other Match	Other Match Description
PERSONNEL							
Becky Fiala (Planning 100 hrs. @ \$40/hr.)	\$4,000			\$4,000	In-Kind hrs./absorb in salary		
Becky Fiala (Conference stipend)	\$1,000					\$1,000	Registration fees
Jessica Lamb (Planning 30 hrs. @\$50/hr)	\$1,500			\$1,500	In-Kind hrs./absorb in salary		
Julie Ashworth (Planning 20 hrs. @ \$50/hr.)	\$1,000			\$1,000	In-Kind hrs./absorb in salary		
Business Office /Continuing Education (Support 30 hrs. @ \$15/hr.)	\$450			\$450	In-Kind hrs./absorb in salary		
FICA	\$112					\$20	FICA (stipend)
TRAVEL							
Keynote Speaker	\$500					\$500	Registration Fees
CONTRACTUAL FEES							
Keynote Speaker	\$5,000	\$5,000					
Second Keynote	\$500					\$500	Registration Fees
Other Presenters (\$100/presenter per session; 20 breakout sessions)	\$2,000					\$2,000	Vocational Rehab grant; funding
OPERATING EXPENSES							
Advertising/Printing/Postage/Other Supplies	\$500					\$500	Registration fees
Door Prizes (books)	\$85					\$85	\$250 from Autism Walk donation
Food (200 attendees)	\$3,500					\$3,500	Registration fees
Credit Card Processing (online payment)	\$300					\$300	Registration fees

Scholarships (individuals unable to pay)	\$1,000					\$1,000	\$1,000 from SD Parent Connections
GRAND TOTAL	\$21,447	\$5,000		\$6,950		\$9,405	

ABSTRACT:

Lighting the Way: Autism Spectrum in Our Community Conference

Augustana University, in collaboration with the Sioux Falls Public Schools, Sanford School of Medicine USD Center for Disabilities, SD Parent Connection, LifeScape, and South Dakota Vocational Rehabilitation, will host a conference on Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). We expect to host potentially 300 conference participants consisting of educators, families, service providers, support personnel, community members, and persons with an ASD from across the Midwest region. Evaluation surveys from the June 2022 conference indicated the importance for continuing this learning and networking conference on ASD. Participants report that there is not another conference such as this available in our area and they appreciate it being held in the summer. Participant comments indicate a need for additional information on transitioning to adult services, work/job/school opportunities beyond K-12, and strategies for working with individuals with ASD, especially strategies to manage behavior. We will be centering our sessions under the umbrella of transitions across the lifespan this year and will offer a wide array of sessions for all attendees. Conference coordinators include Becky Hatch Fiala and Dr. Julie Ashworth, Assistant Professors at Augustana University; Jessica Lamb, Augie Access Coordinator, Carla Miller, Executive Director of SD Parent Connection; Dr. Kristy Feden, Sioux Falls Public Schools; Brittany Schmidt, Autism Behavioral Consulting and USD Center for Disabilities; Emily Meier, USD Center for Disabilities Autism Spectrum Disorders Program; Aimee Deliramich, USD Center for Disabilities; Julie Johnson Dresbach; Laura Schmit, SD Department of Human Services; Lisa Bannwarth, community member; and Bob “Skippy” Blechinger. The ultimate goal of the conference is both retention of attendees from previous years and attraction of new conference participants so that we can raise awareness in the region about ASD, provide professional development and training, and continue collaboration among the various entities serving individuals with ASD and their families. The evaluation plan will be an online conference evaluation and the SD Council on Developmental Disabilities Consumer Satisfaction Survey. The total cost of the conference is \$21,447.00 (see attached budget sheet). Total amount of funds requested from SD Council on Developmental Disabilities is \$5,000.00.

PROJECT NARRATIVE:

Statement of Need/Organization and Staff Qualifications: The prevalence of ASD in our community continues to increase. Service providers in the Sioux Falls area (including representatives from the Sanford School of Medicine USD Center for Disabilities, Sioux Falls Public Schools and area districts; McCrossan Boys Ranch, Southeastern Behavioral Health Care, SD Parent Connection, LifeScape, and Children’s Home Society), who are serving individuals with ASD across the age

spectrum, continue to experience increased requests for appropriate evaluation, identification, and programming at all age levels. During the past year, conversations with various adult service providers have indicated the increased needs for staff to have additional training in ASD. These service providers express grave concerns about the impact of ASDs for individuals and their families and the need to address the community as well as educators. Appropriate training for pre-K to post-secondary educators, adult service providers, medical providers, employers, first responders, and community members continues to be a concern. Key areas of concern include: behavioral management, social thinking, early intervention, person centered thinking, transition services to post-secondary or other vocational experiences, and vocational and employment opportunities.

Autism is a complex neurobiological disorder that lasts throughout a person's lifetime. It occurs in all racial, ethnic, and social groups and is four times more likely to impact boys than girls. Autism affects a person's ability to communicate and relate to others. The demands for evaluation and training in South Dakota are increasing and collaborative efforts are needed from the standpoint of human and financial resources. The *Lighting the Way: Autism Spectrum Disorders in Our Community* Conference brings together the various facets of the community and provides the opportunity to learn together and develop collaborative strategies for meeting the diverse needs of individuals with ASD and their families.

Believing that awareness and education are important tools in serving individuals and their families, the sponsors are committed to bringing nationally recognized presenters to South Dakota. It is important to note that the keynote speakers are professionals who either have an ASD and/or are internationally recognized leaders in the field.

PRESENTERS:

During the conference, we will feature sessions in the following major strands: Supporting Families, Best Practices in Education, Health and Wellness, and Transitions across the Lifespan. Using a roadmap as our visual, keynote presenters will provide information on Transitions Across the Lifespan. We also plan to have a drama team present. Specific topics will include disability rights, , panel discussions from self-advocates, parents and families, IEP process, supportive technologies, wellness, strategies to enhance learning, vocational opportunities, ASD and medications, mindfulness, strategies to promote learning, art therapies, supporting parents in the home with alternate communication, visual tools and resources, transitions and social emotional behavior. Additional sessions could include understanding the home/school dynamic, ISFP to IEP, Department of Labor and Vocational Rehabilitation session.

Augustana University and conference partners are seeking grants to supplement speaker fees and expenses such as advertising and technology production costs. The conference is being marketed to educators, service/health care providers, parents, support staff, adult service providers, and communities in the region, particularly within South Dakota, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Iowa. The target goal for participation is 300 over the two-day conference. Marketing includes direct and mass mailing to individuals, school districts and agencies, placing information in various newsletters,

media, multiple email lists from the collaborators, social media and a website. Expenses associated with a conference of this depth require cooperation and collaboration of time and resources. The co-sponsors have given generously of staff time to attend planning meetings, contact presenters, and serve as conference presenters. The project is requesting \$5,000.00 from the SD Council on Developmental Disabilities to help with the costs of convening this unique virtual conference. The fees and expenses for all presenters are estimated to be \$8,000.00

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE:

The ultimate goal of the *Lighting the Way* conference is both retention of attendees from previous years and attracting new conference participants, thus the goals are threefold.

The first goal is to raise awareness in the community of autism and autism spectrum disorders (ASD). "Community" is used in the broadest sense to include local, state, and regional communities. Expected registration is 300 participants. It is difficult to measure the impact that participants will bring to their workplace whether that workplace is in a school, job site, or at home. As a result of the conference, educators, service providers, and families will have a better understanding of ASD and learn new strategies to support individuals with ASD. Improved communication and services across the life span will only serve to strengthen the community.

The second goal is to provide training for educators, families, support personnel, adult service providers, first responders, and community members. The training will assist professionals to develop more effective strategies and programs to meet the needs of individuals with ASD. Adult services providers will gain additional information and strategies to deal with the increasing number of individuals entering the adult system who will be part of our work and educational force.

The third goal is to continue collaboration among the various entities serving individuals with ASD and their families. Within sixty days following the conference, the co-sponsors and other interested providers will meet to review the evaluations of the conference and determine next steps for further collaboration. This multi organization partnership is helping to connect all stakeholders with experts in the field and useful resources for ongoing support of individuals impacted by ASD.

ACTION PLAN:

The conference coordinators first met in July to begin planning the 2023 conference. At that meeting, evaluations from the 2022 conference were analyzed and participant likes/dislikes, needs, and wishes were all considered as the coordinators began planning for the 2023 conference. In early October and again in December, the committee brain stormed and narrowed down the possible options for the conference and selected a face-to-face format. The conference coordinators have met, and will continue to meet. Carla Miller from SD Parent Connection will lead the meetings. An agenda is sent out to all coordinators. By the end of January 2023, topics and presentations will be confirmed. The *Lighting the Way* website is currently active. All conference coordinators will be responsible for their contribution to the information and presentations.

The evaluation plan includes participant post conference evaluations, the SD Council on Developmental Disabilities Consumer Satisfaction Survey, and the conference sponsors will provide a conference evaluation form as well. Evaluations will be shared with presenters and utilized in developing the conference for 2023. Participant evaluations will address awareness/knowledge, how goals of the conference were met, and how information from the conference will be used to improve services/lives of individuals with ASD and their families. Conference sponsors will conduct a follow-up review of the evaluations to design the 2024 conference and expand the list of conference cosponsors based on the feedback from the conference attendees in 2023. We are excited to offer the conference in a face to face format with distance options pending.

BUDGET SHEET & NARRATIVE

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NOTES:

- Registration fees have been set at an affordable rate to encourage participation and do not cover total costs.
- Scholarships are available for parents through Parent Connection.
- Scholarship availability may be increased if income exceeds budgeted amount.
- Individuals with ASD are encouraged to attend the conference and may apply for scholarships.
- Copying and printing covers Conference materials, such as presenter handouts, resource lists, programs, and provider information.

BUDGET NARRATIVE:

Personnel. Augustana University will cover Personnel costs for the conference. This includes conference planning by faculty (Becky Hatch Fiala, Jessica Lamb and Julie Ashworth), \$6,500.00 account management, continuing education processing, registration \$450.00 and employee fringe benefits. In addition, Becky Hatch Fiala will receive a \$1,000 stipend. Total personnel costs, including in-kind work and fringe benefits, totals

Contractual Fees, including Travel. N/A for 2023.

Operating Expenses. Operating Expenses include various costs, such as advertising, copying, printing, and postage. The total cost for Operating expenses will be covered by grant dollars.

Program Income. The conference receives incoming funds from the DD Council grant, \$5,000.00

Timeline. The timeline for completing all conference obligations is June 30, 2023.

Future Funding. Future funding will include a mix of registration fees, expanding the base of co-sponsors, and seeking grants from foundations and businesses in South Dakota.

ASSURANCES

1. The applicant assures that grant funds made available under the South Dakota Council on Developmental Disabilities will not be used to supplant state or local funds, but will be used to increase the amounts of such funds that would be made available for other similar activities.
2. The applicant assures that grant funds made available under the South Dakota Council on Developmental Disabilities will be used to complement and augment rather than duplicate or replace services for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families who are eligible for Federal assistance under other state programs.
3. The applicant assures that fund accounting, auditing, monitoring and such evaluation procedures as may be necessary to keep such records as the South Dakota Council on Developmental Disabilities shall prescribe will be provided to assure fiscal control, proper management, and efficient disbursement of funds received through the South Dakota Council on Developmental Disabilities.
4. A clear audit trail must be maintained for each source of funding. Receipts, expenditures and disbursements must be individually accounted for from each source of funds.
5. The applicant agrees to submit reports indicating activities undertaken, expenditures, match provided, program income and general progress of the project. Projects are required to submit a final report at the end of the grant funding period.
6. The applicant certifies that the program contained in its application meets all the requirements, that all the information is correct, that there has been appropriate coordination with affected agencies, and that the applicant will comply with all provisions of the South Dakota Council on Developmental Disabilities and all other applicable laws.
7. The applicant understands that although an effort will be made to continue the funding of projects of proven effectiveness or with a record of proven success, each project must stand on its own merit each year. No project will be guaranteed continued funding. NOTE: Projects/programs must reapply annually for funding.

8. This agreement depends upon the continued availability of federal funds and expenditure authority from the Legislature for this purpose. This agreement will be terminated by the State if the Legislature fails to appropriate funds or grant expenditure authority. Termination for this reason is not a default by the State nor does it give rise to a claim against the State.
9. The applicant also understands and agrees: 1) that funds received are to be expended only for the purpose and activities covered by the applicant's approved application and budget, and 2) that the grant may be terminated at any time by the South Dakota Council on Developmental Disabilities if the applicant fails to comply with the provisions of the South Dakota Council on Developmental Disabilities legislation or any of the certified assurances listed above and in the grant agreement.

CERTIFICATION - I certify that I have read and reviewed the above assurances and will comply with all provisions of the South Dakota Council on Developmental Disabilities legislation and all other applicable federal and state laws.


Signature of Authorizing Official

12.15.22
Date

Carol Spillum, Associate Vice President/Controller & AOR
Typed Name and Title

2001 S. Summit Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57197, (605) 274-4090
Address and Telephone Number