

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

Applicant Organization Division of Developmental Disabilities

Address: 3800 E Hwy 34, c/o 500 E Capitol, Pierre SD 57501

Telephone: 605-773-3438 Federal ID Number: 46-6000364

Project Director Carrie Geppert

Address/Telephone Same as above

Email Address: carrie.geppert@state.sd.us

Type of Organization: State Government 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: SD Community of Practice for Supporting Families

Project Begins: April 1st, 2025 Project Ends: March 31st, 2026

Total Council Funds Requested \$ 23,362.50 Total Projected Budget: : **\$31,150.00**

Kevin Dunn

Authorizing Official (please type name)

Signature

Director of Division of Developmental Disabilities

Title and address, if different from Project Director listed above.

Abstract:

The Charting the LifeCourse (CtLC) framework is at the foundation of the National and state-specific Community of Practice efforts, the guiding principles of which provide the framework and the Core Belief that “All people have the right to live, love, work, play and pursue their life aspirations just as others do in their community.” All people live in the context of family. Families are the core unit in our society, serving as a source of support for all its members. **For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), the role of family is unique and often central in the support and care provided across the lifespan.** Family members play key roles in identifying and securing opportunities for their family members to participate within their community in meaningful ways and ensuring access to self-determined lives. Parents and other family members of people with I/DD often provide medical, behavioral, financial, and other daily supports beyond what most families provide, yet, **the vital role of families is not fully recognized and supported in disability policy and practice.**

Since 2014, the South Dakota Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) has been actively engaged in efforts to provide comprehensive information and education to self-advocates and family members about the available services/supports to raise expectations for the future. In 2016, the SD Council on Developmental Disabilities supported and partnered with DDD to engage in the National Community of Practice for Supports to Families and create a South Dakota Supporting Families Community of Practice (CoP). Over the past five years, the SD CoP has worked to engage families across the state by hosting listening sessions, informational sessions, and opportunities for self-advocates and families to learn about the CtLC framework and how to apply it to their own lives and increase their advocacy skills.

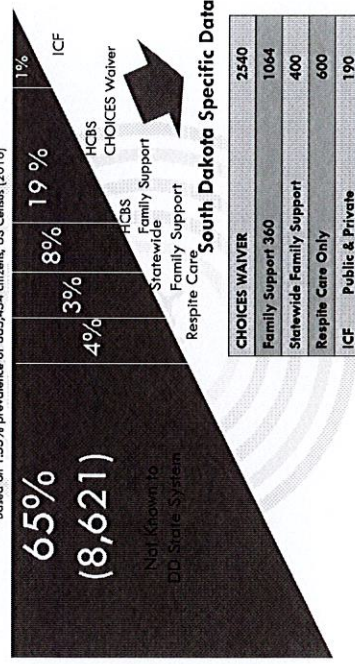
Statement of Need:

Today, there are more than 4.7 million American citizens with an intellectual or developmental disability (ID/DD). Approximately 75% of these individuals live in their communities without any formal disability services, relying on their families for varying levels of support to have the lives they want to have. Of the 25% who are receiving services, over half live with their families, and in some states, that number is as high as 80%. South Dakota specific data is presented below. (*Data based on U.S. Census, 2016)

South Dakotans with DD

13,415 estimated South Dakotans with Developmental Disabilities*

*Based on 1.55% prevalence of 865,454 citizens, US Census (2016)



South Dakota Specific Data Source: SD Division of Developmental Disabilities (2017)

SD's membership in the National CoP for Supporting Families has provided a solid foundation for the structure of the State Team and increased SD's capacity to understand and apply the Charting the LifeCourse framework across the life span as well as in multiple disciplines, such as in schools, adult services, and most importantly, within the family unit.

What is the South Dakota Community of Practice:

The **SD Supporting Families Community of Practice State Team**- is a statewide collaborative workgroup that meets regionally (with a virtual option to attend) 1-2 times a year, and once a year in-person (in Pierre) with the National CoP team on-site. The SD CoP **creates initiatives** to better support individuals and families through the Charting the LifeCourse framework and philosophy, across the state. The SD CoP State Team is comprised of Family members, Self-Advocates, Ambassadors, State agencies, Community Partners, CSPs and Case Management agencies.

Who are Ambassadors:

SD Ambassadors- are a group of individuals that received specialized training in the Charting the LifeCourse framework and philosophy. SD Ambassadors utilize the framework in their own lives, and to help others navigate integrated supports in their communities. Ambassadors meet bi-monthly to share how they are using Charting the LifeCourse, plan educational outreach and trainings, and **create activities** that will move forward the initiatives of the SD CoP State Team.

Facilitator Team:

SD Facilitator Team- is the leadership team of the SD Supporting Families Community of Practice State Team. It is comprised of Family members, DDD staff, DD Council Staff, and Community Partners. The SD Facilitator Team co-hosts regional CoP meetings (virtual or in person) 1-2 times per year and attends the in-person SD CoP meeting (hosted by the National CoP Team) in Pierre once a year. The team also **attends monthly technical assistance calls** with the National Community of Practice Team and learns about how other states are supporting families in unique ways using the Charting the LifeCourse framework.

Current Facilitator Team Members:

Bridget Leiseth- Family Consultant for DDD, Member of the SD CoP State Team

Bridget is a parent of two children – both have diagnosis of autism and cognitive disabilities. Bridget has previous experience working as a support coordinator for people with disabilities before raising her two sons. She is a year 26 Partners in Policymaking graduate and a former member of the Family Support Council.

Tina Kenser- Family Consultant for DDD, Member of the SD CoP State Team

Tina is a parent of an individual with an IDD. She is a Year 25 graduate of Partners in Policymaking and a Certified Charting the LifeCourse Ambassador. She served for 6 years on the Family Support Council and is employed as an Outreach Specialist by a nonprofit organization that serves as South Dakota's Parent Training & Information Center, and the Family-to-Family Health Information Center.

Carrie Geppert – Family Advocacy Coordinator, Division of Developmental Disabilities

Carrie is a parent, with 17 years of lived experience with individuals with IDD. She is a Year 23 graduate of Partners in Policymaking, Certified Charting the LifeCourse Ambassador, Safety-Care Specialist, PEERS Social Skills Trainer, and Community Advocate. Carrie has been a member of the SD Supporting Families Community of Practice since 2018 in the role of parent/professional.

Kayla Blomme- Intervention and Support Specialist, Division of Developmental Disabilities

Kayla has been with the Division of Developmental Disabilities for 4 years and has 14 years of experience working with individuals with IDD and mental health. She is a Certified Charting the LifeCourse Ambassador, PEERS Social Skills Trainer and 2023 NASDDDS Capacity Building Institute graduate. Kayla has been a member of the SD Supporting Families Community of Practice since 2020.

Julie Hand - Administrator, Division of Developmental Disabilities

Julie has 17 years of experience as a professional in the developmental disabilities field as well as life-long experience as a family member of a person with IDD. Julie is a certified Person-Centered Thinking (PCT) Trainer, Charting the LifeCourse (CtlC) Ambassador, and Certified Quality Analyst. She has led the facilitation of the SD Supporting Families CoP for almost 6 years and has been at the forefront of efforts to sustain knowledge and skills in both PCT and CtlC since 2008.

National Supporting Families Community of Practice Team:

National Supporting Families Community of Practice Team- is comprised of a staff member of the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) and a staff member of the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS). UMKC, and NASDDDS host monthly technical assistance calls with the SD Facilitator Team. Information is shared about what the SD CoP State Team has been working on, and the National CoP Team provides guidance and insight on what other states are doing in the same areas of activity.

Vision for the South Dakota Community of Practice for Supporting Families:

Ensuring that families and self-advocates **lead** the discussion about how to support families in South Dakota, and partner with the community and policymakers to develop integrated supports that meet individual/family's needs.

Goals, Objectives, and Action Plan:

Goal 1: Support Family and Self- Advocate Leadership

1. Professionalize the role of family members and self-advocates to ensure meaningful leadership from people and families with lived experience.
 - a. Self-Advocate Leadership Retreat
 - b. Family members and self-advocates receive Ambassador training and certification
 - c. Co-host booths and events with family members and self-advocates
2. Invite & provide financial support to self-advocates and family members to participate in:
 - a. SD Supporting Families CoP meetings & events, and activities
 - b. CoP Leadership Series
 - c. National CoP for Supporting Families Annual Meeting
 - d. Annual Charting the LifeCourse Showcase
3. Partner with Disability Rights South Dakota to:
 - a. Coordinate with Partners in Policymaking graduates to host community-wide Charting the LifeCourse events throughout SD
 - b. Ensure all graduates of Partners in Policymaking are familiar with Charting the LifeCourse and how it may be used to advocate on an individual level and on a systems level as a member of the Supporting Families CoP
 - c. Offer opportunities for graduates of Partners in Policymaking to join the SD Supporting Families CoP
 - d. Meet regularly with SD Advocates for Change and other self-advocate/family advocacy groups in South Dakota to share information with and receive input to inform policy decisions

Goal 2: Communication & Education to Stakeholders (Charting the LifeCourse)

1. SD Ambassadors will share practical application of principles of Charting the LifeCourse during DDD's Family & Self-Advocate Conversation sessions.
2. Provide information and materials to assist families in planning for their vision of a good life, including life stage booklets, Supporting Real Lives folders, and other anticipatory guidance materials.
 - a. Use of social media, email campaigns and other outreach strategies to inform people with IDD and their families of learning opportunities, events, and other resources to strengthen families in South Dakota. (Listserv, Facebook, newsletters, print materials, etc.)
 - b. Provide learning and coaching opportunities for Family Support Coordinators, CHOICES Case Managers, and those providing direct supports to use the Charting the LifeCourse Framework in their day-to-day work
 - c. Collaboration with other entities supporting advocacy efforts, such as SD Parent Connection, Center for Disabilities, DD Council, Disability Rights of South Dakota, and the Family Support Council to engage with families across South Dakota
 - d. Provide education & information to state and local partners with whom people with ID/DD and their families commonly interact such as early intervention, education & transition services, long term care, mental health, local career centers, community action programs, healthcare provider associations, economic assistance, family planning centers, etc.
 - e. Provide training and ongoing education to professionals to better understand family systems and their needs

Evaluation & Consumer Satisfaction Information

Goal	SD Council on Developmental Disabilities Performance Measure(s)
Support Family and Self- Advocate Leadership	IFA 1.1 – Number of people with DD who participated in Council/Grant supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect their lives, the lives of others, and/or systems
	IFA 1.2 – The number of family members who participated in Council/Grant supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect the family, the lives of others and/or systems
	SC 1.1 – Number of policy and/or procedures created or changed
	SC 1.2 – The number of statute and/or regulations created or changed
	SC 1.5 – The number of Council/Grant supported systems change activities with organizations actively involved.
Communication & Education to Stakeholders	SC 2.1.2 - The number of policies, procedure, statute or regulation changes implemented.
	IFA 3.1 – The percentage of people with DD who are satisfied with a project activity
	IFA 3.2 The percentage of family members satisfied with a project activity
	SC 1.3 – The number of promising practices and/or best practices supported
	SC 1.4 – The number of people trained or educated through Council/Grant systemic change initiatives

BUDGET SHEET & NARRATIVE

Personnel: There are no grant dollars budgeted for personnel costs.

Travel:

Regional SD CoP State Team Meetings and Events- meeting rooms and travel:

The CoP hosts regional meetings 4 times a year (Aberdeen, Pierre, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls). The budget includes event space and travel reimbursements (at the state per diem, hotel, meal and mileage rates) for family members and self-advocates to attend.

Budgeted is a total of \$2,000. DDD will provide \$500 in matching funds and requests \$1500 in DD Council funding.

Related Goals & Objectives:

- Goal 1, IFA 1.1 and IFA 1.2

CoP Annual Meeting & Charting the LifeCourse Showcase:

The National CoP Annual Meeting is held in Kansas City, MO and is a forum for all CoP member states to convene and network with one another as well as receive pertinent information and updates regarding upcoming activities, CoP structure, and evaluation by the Administration on Community Living, a primary source of funding for the National Community of Practice. The Charting the LifeCourse Showcase is an opportunity to learn about specific CoP state strategies in various innovation areas such as Support Coordination, Employment, and Family & Self-Advocate Engagement. The proposed budget is to support 5 family member/self-advocates to attend.

Budgeted is a total of \$8,000. DDD will provide \$2,000 in matching funds and requests \$6,000 in DD Council funding.

Related Goals & Objectives:

- Goal 1, 2, IFA 1.2 and SC 1.4

Self-Advocate Leadership Retreat and Family Respite Event:

In FY24, the Supporting Families CoP partnered with Disability Rights of SD and the DD Council to host a Self-Advocate Leadership Retreat. The retreat was very successful in growing Self-Advocate leadership skills. At the regional CoP meetings, attendees requested that this retreat continue in FY25. SD CoP State Team members also requested that we use the opportunity to host a Family Respite Event during the S/A Leadership Retreat. The FY25 budget includes travel costs (at the state per diem, hotel, meal and mileage rates), event space and materials.

Budgeted is a total of \$12,000. DDD will provide \$3,000 in matching funds and requests \$9,000 in DD Council funding.

Related Goals & Objectives:

- Goal 1, IFA 3.1 and IFA 3.2

SD Ambassador Outreach and Education:

As the SD CoP efforts gain momentum, there is an increased dependence on certified LifeCourse Ambassadors to share information about the SD CoP State Team at conferences, meetings and other community events. The FY25 budget reflects meeting space and travel costs for Ambassadors annual planning meeting.

Budgeted is a total of \$1,500. DDD will provide \$375 in matching funds and requests \$1,125 in DD Council funding.

Related Goals & Objectives:

- Goal 2, SC 1.3 and SC 1.4

Operating Expenses:

Charting the LifeCourse Ambassador Series:

The Charting the LifeCourse Ambassador series is facilitated with a cohort of people across the nation. Ambassador series are offered several times each year. The series includes online learning and interactive coaching calls to build confidence and capacity of participants to implement the CtLC framework in their personal life and professional role, better positioning SD CoP State Team members, as well as public and local stakeholders to apply the CtLC framework at home and at work and consider changes to policy and practice through the lens of the framework. Cost is \$650 per participant. The FY25 budget reflects 5 family member/self-advocates participation in the series.

Budgeted is a total of \$3,250. DDD will provide \$812.50 in matching funds and requests \$2,437.50 in DD Council funding.

Related Goals & Objectives:

- Goal 2, IFA 1.1 and SC 1.3

Discovery & Information:

Booth fees and meeting supplies:

The Supporting Families CoP hosts booths at professional conferences and community events. The booth fee varies from \$50-\$100. Educational materials and meeting supplies are provided during these outreach events and trainings.

Budgeted is a total of \$500. DD Council funds in the amount of \$375 are requested. DDD will provide the required 25% match in the amount \$125.

Related Goals & Objectives:

- Goal 2, IFA 1.1 and SC 1.4

Printing costs for CoP & CtLC informational materials:

Charting the LifeCourse educational and informational materials are provided to Stakeholders across the state for distribution.

Budgeted is a total of \$2500. DD Council funds in the amount of \$1,875 are requested. DDD will provide the required 25% match in the amount \$625.

Related Goals & Objectives:

- Goal 2, SC 1.3 and 1.4

Succession Planning Workshop:

During Let's Talk LifeCourse sessions, and regional meetings, families shared their concerns with lack of information and knowledge regarding succession planning for their loved one. The Supporting Families CoP will host a free one-day workshop where families can attend and listen to guest speakers, meet with Stakeholders, and create a trajectory on a succession plan for their loved one. The FY25 budget includes meeting space and educational materials.

Budgeted is a total of \$800. DD Council funds in the amount of \$600 are requested. DDD will provide \$200 in matching funds.

Related Goals & Objectives:

- Goal 1, IFA 1.1 and 1.2

Technology Workshop:

As resources become more accessible through technology, families and self-advocates are needing additional training on how to use technology. During FY25, the Supporting Families CoP will host a free one-day Technology Workshop. The workshop will include a session for Self-Advocates and a separate session for Family members. The FY25 budget reflects meeting space and educational materials.

Budgeted is a total of \$600. DD Council funds in the amount of \$450 are requested. DDD will provide \$150 in matching funds.

Related Goals & Objectives:

- Goal 1, IFA 1.1 and 1.2

Attachments:

- Letters of Support
- Registration Demographics
- Post-Event Survey

2025-2026 Supporting Families CoP Activities Budget

Description	(A) Requested DD Council Funds	(B) Allowable Match from Applicant **	(C) Allowable Match from Other Agencies **	(D) Total Contract Grant Budget (A + B + C)	(E) Un-allowable Match from Applicant & Other Agencies	(F) Total Project Budget (D + E)
PERSONNEL						
None						
TRAVEL						\$23,500.00
Regional SD CoP State Team Meetings and Events	\$1500.00	\$500.00				\$2,000.00
CoP Annual Meeting & Charting the LifeCourse Showcase	\$6,000.00	\$2,000.00				\$8,000.00
Self-Advocate Leadership Retreat and Family Respite Event:	\$9,000.00	\$3,000.00				\$12,000.00
SD Ambassador Outreach and Education	\$1,125.00	\$375.00				\$1,500.00
OPERATING EXPENSES						\$7,650.00

Charting the LifeCourse Ambassador Series	\$2,437.50	\$812.50				\$3,250.00
Discovery & Information	\$375.00	\$125.00				\$500.00
Printing costs for CoP & CtLC	\$1875.00	\$625.00				\$2,500.00
Succession Planning Workshop	\$600.00	\$200.00				\$800.00
Technology Workshop	\$450.00	\$150.00				\$600.00
OTHER						
GRAND TOTAL	\$23,362.50	\$7,787.50				\$31,150.00

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 re-apply 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

Date

Kevin Dunn, Director, Division of Developmental Disabilities

Typed Name and Title

Hillsvew Plaza – E. Hwy 34, c/o 500 E. Capitol, Pierre, SD 57501

Address

(605)773-3438

Telephone Number