

**Board of Vocational Rehabilitation (BVR)  
Organizational Application for Funding**

Agency/Organization Name: East Dakota Educational Coop d/b/a Teachwell Solutions

Organizational Contact Person: Lisa Bjorneberg, Human Resources Manager

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Preferred Method of Contact:    \_\_\_ phone number    x email    \_\_\_ mail

Check one of the following:

X            Public agency, which provides vocational rehabilitation services for individuals with disabilities.

\_\_\_\_\_    Disability related organization, which provides technical information or other assistance for individuals with disabilities.

\_\_\_\_\_    Other, please identify: \_\_\_\_\_

This project/event falls under which of the following appropriate uses of available funds:

\_\_\_\_\_ Marketing and outreach

\_\_\_\_\_ Sponsorship of an event

\_\_\_\_\_ Studies and analysis

X \_\_\_\_\_ Emerging project training

Title of Project/Event: Project SEARCH 12<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference

Date of Event: July 30-Aug 3, 2018 Location: Savannah, GA

How your project/event will promote vocational rehabilitation opportunities for individuals with disabilities in South Dakota? (Response limited to two full pages)

Please explain the purpose of the project or activity:

East Dakota Educational Cooperative (EDEC) d/b/a Teachwell Solutions is a cooperative formed by Brandon Valley, Lennox and West Central school districts. Teachwell Project SEARCH is one of the programs under the Teachwell Solutions umbrella. The SEARCH program serves developmentally disabled young adults by providing them with transition skills training in the classroom and job skills training in the workplace. Project SEARCH is part of an international organization that holds a combined training once per year. This is the only opportunity for our SEARCH staff to receive such in-depth transition program specific training. Our programs continue to grow to meet higher demand. Accordingly, we would like to send representatives from our SEARCH staff, along with an administrator to the training this year in order to gain knowledge that will help us with future growth and provision of services.

Please specify how funds will be utilized (i.e., speaker fees/mileage; meeting room costs); or identify the specific activities for which the funds are requested:

Funding will be utilized for hotel accommodations for three attendees.

Who is the target audience, including the number of people involved or impacted?

Our future Transitions and SEARCH clients will benefit from future enhancement of our programs. We will serve approximately 30 students in the coming year.

Please provide a brief description of the expected benefits to the attendees:

Staff will have the opportunity to attend training focused specifically on assisting developmentally disabled young adults through the provision of transition services and job skills training. They will have the opportunity to network with and learn from other agencies providing such services across the country. Our clients will continue to benefit from a program designed to assist them reach the goals of living independently and being economically self-sufficient. The Teachwell Transitions and

Project SEARCH programs fall directly within the Board of Vocational Rehabilitations goals of helping students “enter their adult lives capable of self-advocacy with sufficient experience to make choices about work and career, and being appropriately supported and living as independently as possible.”

Amount you are requesting? \$2,000

Have you received assistance from the BVR before?  Yes  No

If yes, when did you last receive assistance? August 2017

Amount received \$2,000

By signing below, I verify that the information provided is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of authorized person/contact of agency or organization:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_