



July 2019

National Disability Voter Registration Week July 15-19th



Join BPDD as we celebrate National Disability Voter Registration Week from July 15-19th! The Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition (DVC) is currently having two events for voter registration assistance and education on accessible voting. There is a third event being planned for Madison but it hasn't been finalized yet so check in on DVC and BPDD's Facebook pages for more information. Below are the flyers with details to the Milwaukee and Eau Claire voter registration events.

[Milwaukee Event - July 15th](#)

[Eau Claire Event - July 17th](#)

Don't forget to REVUP - Register! Educate! Vote! Use your Power!



Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

"What's the Word?"



Each month BPDD features a different leader in Wisconsin living with a disability. "What's the Word?" is an opportunity to hear directly from self-advocates about what's important to them. This month's column comes from BPDD board member Robert Kuhr who has been a lifelong advocate for the rights of people with disabilities.

[What's the Word?](#)

If you or somebody you know would like to be featured in "What's the Word" contact Jeremy at jeremy.gundlach@wisconsin.gov.



Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

Self-Determination Conference 2019: Registration is Open



Back to the Future: Self-Determination Powered by Innovation
Register to attend the Self-Determination Conference today!

The Wisconsin Self-Determination Conference empowers people with disabilities in Wisconsin to have more control over their lives. Technology is constantly evolving and so is the Self-Determination Conference. Join us as we learn ways to live healthier, happier and more productive lives.

To register download registration forms at <https://wi-bpdd.org/index.php/wisconsin-self-determination-conference/>

Registration deadline is September 27, 2019.

BPDD is currently accepting applications to be an Exhibitor/Micro-enterprise vendor at the Self-Determination Conference. Tables will be available on Tuesday October 15th and Wednesday October 16th. Space is limited and only applications from exhibitors that directly support self-determination and self-direction in WI will be accepted and the individual artist must be present. You can download an application by following the link below.

<https://wi-bpdd.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/SDC-Exhibitor-Form-2019-printable.pdf>

Want to Sponsor Wisconsin's Self-Determination Conference?

The Self-Determination Conference is one of Wisconsin's biggest events for people with disabilities and the people who support them. Last year over 650 people attended the conference. Your support will help us provide even more scholarships to self-advocates and their families. Please help us continue to empower self-advocacy and self-direction in Wisconsin.

You can download the Sponsorship form by following this link: <http://wi-bpdd.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/2019-SDC-Conference-Sponsorship.docx>

NOTE: Ads must be submitted by August 30, 2019 to be in the program. Late submission cannot be guaranteed.

If you have questions about sponsorship, contact Fil Clissa at fil.clissa@wisconsin.gov or 608-266-5395.



Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

Partners in Policymaking 2019-2020: Applications Available



Wisconsin Partners in Policymaking is a six-session advocacy and systems change training program designed to develop a group of future leaders across the state who are able to work with legislators and communities on policies and initiatives that will support the full participation and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in all aspects of life.

Download the application by following this link: <http://wi-bpdd.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/201920-Partners-Application.docx>

Applications are due at noon on September 1, 2019.

If you have questions or would like more information about the Partners in Policymaking program, please contact Jenny Neugart at jennifer.neugart@wisconsin.gov or (608) 266-7707.

Who can participate?

Adults with developmental disabilities

- Adult siblings of individuals with developmental disabilities
- Parents/primary caregivers of children and youth with developmental disabilities ages birth to 21.



Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

Employment First Partner Grants: Available Now



Apply for an Employment First Partner Grant!

The Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities (WI BPDD) is seeking up to eight (8) organizations to engage in community outreach activities that lead to increased community integrated employment for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Anyone committed to expanding integrated employment in their community can apply, including people with disabilities, family members, service providers, and schools.

Possible activities include hosting a community conversation about employment, presenting to employer groups such as the chamber of commerce, or connecting families new to community-based employment with families who are committed to it to share experiences and alleviate concerns. Each grantee will receive up to \$2,000 plus coaching and presentation materials to engage in outreach activities.

To learn more and apply, see the [Employment First Partner grant application](#). **Applications are due by 5:00 pm on August 16, 2019.**

Please contact Molly Cooney at 608-266-0266 or molly.cooney@wisconsin.gov with any questions.



Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

SPARKS Grants: Applications Available Now



What are SPARKS Grants?

The purpose of SPARKS Grants is to organize local grassroots groups to make changes in their communities that result in a positive impact on the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), including individuals with diverse identities and/or individuals that are under-served.

Grassroots community organizing means groups that are led by individuals with disabilities together with their allies, who are working for positive community change for individuals with I/DD on issues that are important to them.

This year's Sparks grants will be for **\$5,000** up from the usual \$500 - \$3,000 so if you've been looking for a way to make a change in your community for people with disabilities this is the perfect time to get it started!

Priority activities for 2019-20 SPARKS Grants are:

1. Increasing transportation options for people with I/DD (e.g. plan a ride along with your legislator and/or local elected officials to show transportation challenges, develop a work group with your county transportation board, etc.) Please note that you cannot purchase a vehicle or vouchers to pay for transportation. The project must show that it can be sustained beyond the one year of funding.
2. Increasing the number of people with I/DD voting (e.g. Get Out the Vote activities, informational videos, outreach to underserved populations, etc.)

You can download an application by following this link: <http://wi-bpdd.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2019-20-SPARKS-Application.docx>

Application materials can be submitted via email, fax, or regular mail.

- To submit via email, email your application materials to jennifer.neugart@wisconsin.gov
- To submit via fax, fax your application materials to (608) 267-3906.
- To submit via regular mail, mail your application materials to:

Sparks Grants

c/o WI-BPDD

101 East Wilson St, Rm 219

Madison, WI 53703

Apply by August 30, 2019