



Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

August 2019

"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 David Pinno who is a policy wonk, in the best way possible. David is an outspoken advocate for people with disabilities and is a strong believer in Competitive Integrated Employment.

[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 and Die Hard Awards



Back to the Future: Self-Determination Powered by Innovation

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/>

You can register online by following this link: <https://web.cvent.com/event/75d573d7-3150-4293-8c2d-d65119c19f4d/regProcessStep1?RefId=Reg%20Link>

Registration deadline is September 27, 2019.

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE 2019 DIEHARD Awards

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond to improve community supports for individuals with disabilities? Do they support self-determination? Nominate them for a Diehard Award in one of the following two categories:

PROFESSIONAL ADVOCATE | SELF-ADVOCATE/GRASSROOTS ADVOCATE
(You may only submit a nomination for one individual per category.)

A Diehard is an individual who has made a significant contribution to the advocacy work here in Wisconsin. A diehard is someone with a steadfast commitment to the principles of community integration and self-determination. Diehards go above and beyond to make sure everyone is counted.

- Awards will be presented at the Self-Determination Conference on October 15th at the Kalahari Resort and Conference Center in the Wisconsin Dells.
- Nomination Forms must be in the BPDD office no later than 12 p.m. on Thursday, September 5, 2019.
- The Conference Planning Committee reserves the right to present none or multiple awards in any of the categories.

Download Nomination Form here: <http://wi-bpdd.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/2019-SDC-Diehard-nominee-form.docx>



Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

Please complete the nomination form and submit to:
BPDD/Awards, 101 E. Wilson St., Room 219
Madison, WI 53703
Or Fax to 608-267-3906
Or Email to: fil.clissa@wisconsin.gov



Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities

Living Well: Self-Advocate Leader Application



People First Wisconsin is seeking applications from eight (8) people with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) to become Self-Advocate Leaders for the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities' (BPDD) Model Approaches to Living Well grant project. Self-Advocate Leaders are needed in the following areas:

- Madison/Beaver Dam area
- Appleton/Fond du Lac area
- Janesville
- La Crosse
- Platteville
- West Allis/Milwaukee area
- Watertown

What will the Self-Advocate Leaders do?

The Self-Advocate Leaders will partner with the following Living Well pilot organizations in their area to provide self-advocacy, safety and abuse prevention instruction and facilitate peer groups over the next four years: LOV-Dane, Community Living Connections, SOAR Fox Cities, Aptiv, Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin, and Bethesda Lutheran Communities.

Self-Advocate Leaders will co-teach self-advocacy, safety, and abuse prevention classes using the Safe & Free curriculum developed by People First Wisconsin for the Living Well project. The training covers sensitive topics, including but not limited to identifying and reporting abuse and neglect, consent, dating and intimate relationships. Self-Advocate Leaders must be comfortable facilitating discussions with peers on these topics.

What is the BPDD's Model Approaches to Living Well grant project?

Model Approaches to Living Well (called 'Living Well' for short) is a five-year federal grant from the Administration on Community Living (ACL) to develop and test approaches for improving the safety, wellness, and community inclusion for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) who receive home and community-based services (HCBS). ACL considers this a Project of National Significance and Wisconsin is one of five states to receive the grant.

Follow the link below to download an application:

<http://wi-bpdd.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Living-Well-Self-Advocate-Leader-RFA.pdf>

If you have any questions or if you'd like more information you can contact Allison Kelly at 608-266-5038 or email at Allison.Kelly@wisconsin.gov



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.

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.

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.



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



SPARKS GRANTS

Ignited by BPDD

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