

Kessler Foundation 2010 Complete Grant Listing

Signature Employment Grants

AHEDD (Camp Hill, PA) - To collaborate with schools in Southeast PA region to establish work incentive counseling as a standard practice among young adults receiving SSA benefits: \$473,394.

Epilepsy Association of Greater Rochester, Inc. (Rochester, NY) – To create a collaborative of five agencies that provides a state-wide employment program for teens and adults with epilepsy, traumatic brain injury and neurological disorders ages 18-65 who need assistance with transitioning from school to work, a career change, or other barriers to employment: \$455,000.

Jewish Employment and Vocational Service (Philadelphia, PA) – To develop an innovative partnership between two vocational service agencies and a new volunteer-operated veterans' organization to provide the supports needed by veterans with a range of physical injuries and permanent disabilities to successfully return to employment: \$400,000.

National Organization on Disability (New York, NY) – To demonstrate effective employment practices of companies seeking to hire and retain more people with disabilities through its Bridges to Business program, working in partnership with Lowe's distribution centers: \$250,000.

Community Employment Grants

Arts Unbound, Inc. (Orange, NJ) - To provide a year-long professional instruction and internship program to emerging artists with physical disabilities, resulting in educational achievement and income opportunities in the visual arts: \$45,800.

Brain Injury Association of New Jersey, Inc. (North Brunswick, NJ) - To provide consultation to DVRS counselors about vocational planning for individuals with brain injury on how to incorporate new training techniques into existing training curriculum and revise manuals: \$50,000.

Career Opportunity Development, Inc. (Egg Harbor City, NJ) - To expand auto detailing business through the purchase of a mobile automotive detailing system, allowing consumers to provide on-sight detailing to local companies' automobiles: \$35,000.

Cerebral Palsy League, Inc. (Cranford, NJ) - To hire a vocational director who also serves as transition coordinator for the Adult Vocational Center's expansion, which provides job opportunities and training to persons with severe multiple disabilities: \$50,000.

Easter Seals New Jersey (East Brunswick, NJ) - To purchase document imaging equipment and ancillary services for expansion of existing document imaging business to provide increased computer-based employment opportunities to individuals with physical disabilities: \$45,000.

Family Resource Network, (Trenton, NJ) - To expand programming that places people with physical and mobility disabilities in employment by assisting with all support needs and providing 90 days follow up to ensure retention: \$50,000.

Jespy House, Inc., (South Orange, NJ) - To develop and implement a specialized supported employment program at a variety of accessible worksites for individuals with learning disabilities who are physically handicapped with the goal of competitive employment: \$38,562.

Jewish Vocational Service of Metrowest (East Orange, NJ) - To provide a 2-week career camp, with vocational evaluation, exploration and transition summer program for students aged 14 to 21, with mobility and/or cognitive impairments primarily from neurological disorders: \$42,000.

National Multiple Sclerosis Society-GDV Chapter (Philadelphia, PA) - To provide the necessary tools to find, gain, and maintain employment for individuals with multiple sclerosis in addressing their unique employment needs through a conference event, online job-readiness training, and professional networking groups: \$42,000.

New Jersey Chamber of Commerce Foundation (Trenton, NJ) - To promote Disabilities-At-Work, a program that rewards businesses that support people with disabilities, by developing two additional communication components: Live Internet Talk Radio and a widely distributed e-Newsletter with advice for job seekers: \$40,000.

Newark Alliance (Newark, NJ) - To participate in a collaborative to fund sustainable workforce development for training of low-skilled workers for in-demand jobs in key growth sectors in Northern New Jersey and overcome barriers to employment for people with disabilities: \$25,000.

Pathways for Exceptional Children (Montville, NJ) - To provide expansion of a community youth mentoring program and training in job readiness, technology, customer service, and business skills in a variety of careers including video production for children with disabilities ages 12-21: \$25,000.

Queens Chamber of Commerce, (Jackson Heights, NY) – To facilitate job placement as a liaison between community agencies that serve with disabilities and the business community: \$50,000.

United Cerebral Palsy of Northern, Central and Southern New Jersey, Inc. (Chester, NJ) - To support a community mentors program that provides with disabilities individualized social and life skill development in an integrated community setting, laying the foundation for independence and sustainable employment: \$30,000.

The Washington Center for Internships & Academic Seminars (Washington, DC) - To defray the cost of helping students with disabilities from New Jersey universities to participate in the Public Service Internship Program for College Students with Disabilities: \$50,000.

Special Initiative Grants

Camden City Independent Living Center, Inc. (Newark, NJ) – To provide ramps or home modifications to increase accessibility for people with mobility limitations living the greater Camden area: \$20,000.

Children’s Specialized Hospital Foundation, Inc. (Mountainside, NJ) - To provide scholarships for students to Camp Chatterbox, an overnight, week-long camp for kids with augmentative and alternative communication needs: \$1,500.

City Without Walls (Newark, NJ) TO provide a community based program for at-risk Newark youth with physical disabilities to produce a large-scale mural with a master artist-mentor that will be permanently installed in a highly visible public space: \$20,000.

County of Bergen (Hackensack, NJ) - To support The Post Stroke & Disabled Adult Support Groups, which provide an opportunity for socialization, recreation, rehabilitative instruction and restorative exercises to stroke survivors: \$10,000.

Disability Funder’s Network, Inc. (Midlothian, VA) - To provide a series of funders briefings featuring experts in the topic of Inclusion and Disability to facilitate strategic discussions on the topic of Inclusion and Disability in grantmaking: \$15,000.

Kean University Foundation, Inc. (Union, NJ) - To support The Institute for Adults Living with Communication Disabilities, which provides innovative therapy and support services for clients and their caregivers: \$12,800.

Magee Rehabilitation Hospital (Philadelphia, PA) – To fund a four-part series of educational videos that demonstrate daily community living for newly injured individuals living with spinal cord injury: \$13,000.

New Jersey Fencing Alliance (Newark, NJ) – To implement a NJ Fencing Alliance Wheelchair Program, an initiative dedicated to providing training and competitive opportunities to youth with disabilities in the art of fencing: \$20,000.

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey (New Brunswick, NJ) -To fund the first disabilities awareness conference at Rutgers for educators, disability professionals, parents, students, and returning veterans to engage all participants in productive dialogue and improve a collective understanding of disabilities in the classroom and the workplace: \$1,000.

Services for Children with Hidden Intelligence, Inc. (Lakewood, NJ) - To purchase a LiteGait Mobility Device to provide mobility services to multiply-disabled students to improve gait, balance, posture, and endurance: \$20,000.

The Township of Hillsborough (Hillsborough, NJ) – To fund an accessible playground for children with physical and mobility disabilities: \$15,000.