KESSLER FOUNDATION
2006 GRANT ALLOCATIONS

Signature Employment Grants – Total $2,100.00

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark (East Orange, NJ) – To improve the employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities through building renovation to expand job training, development and internship opportunities: $404,000. (Approx 200 indiv)

Community Options, Inc. (Princeton, NJ) – To develop Project SEARCH, a school-to-work transition program for students with disabilities in New Jersey. $150,000. (Approx. 20 students)

National Organization on Disability (Washington, DC) - To provide seed funding for a National Employability Center Project: $500,000. (Original target 50-100 indiv)

NJIT: Continuing Professional Education (Newark, NJ) – To recruit and train individuals for high demand information technology jobs and provide comprehensive job placement: $946,000. (Approx. 100 students)

The Veterans Corporation (Washington, DC) - To foster entrepreneurial opportunities for disabled Veterans in New Jersey by providing comprehensive online entrepreneurial education and resources to help them succeed in business ownership: $100,000. (Approx. 100 vets)

Community Employment Grants – Total $596,116

Artistic Realization Technologies (Belle Mead, NJ) - To expand career opportunities for those with severe multiple physical and/or neurological challenges into programs for sculpture, music and photography: $40,000. (Approx. 20 students)

Cerebral Palsy Association of Middlesex County (Edison, NJ) - To support the provision of a job sampling and marketing program for 30 individuals with physical disabilities to enhance their opportunities for job placement and retention: $43,000. (30 students)

Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey, Inc. (Trenton, NJ) - To provide training, knowledge, support, and resources to assist individuals with physical disabilities through the process of transitioning into the workplace: $56,682. (Approximately 10 indiv)

Cerebral Palsy of North Jersey (Maplewood, NJ) – To expand high school job training and life skills program: $20,000. (Approx. 68 students)

Cheshire Home, Inc. (Florham Park, NJ) - To provide training and educational opportunities to help physically disabled young adults achieve their highest employment or educational potential: $25,000. (Approximately 35 students)
Easter Seals New Jersey (East Brunswick, NJ) – To expand the existing temporary Millville Greenhouse into a permanent year-round heated structure: $30,000. (Approximately 18 individuals)

Employment Horizons, Inc. (Cedar Knolls, NJ) – To enhance job placement and retention services for people with physical disabilities through hiring an Employment Specialist: $60,000. (approx. 40 indiv)

JESPY House, Inc. (South Orange, NJ) - To fund year two of a specialized supported employment program for individuals with learning and physical disabilities: $36,434. (10-12 indiv)

Jewish Vocational Service of MetroWest (East Orange, NJ) - To develop employment opportunities for people with physical disabilities through placement at community based assessment and work training sites in preparation for long-term unsubsidized employment: $45,000. (Approx 58 indiv)

New Jersey Chamber of Commerce Foundation (Trenton, NJ) – To establish a statewide business-led advocacy and leadership effort aimed at influencing hiring practices and increasing employment for the disabled: $75,000. (outreach to about 12 corp)

Occupational Center of Union County, Inc. (Roselle, NJ) - To provide short-term cashier training to people with disabilities with the goal of successful placement in private sector community jobs: $65,000. (approx. 10 indiv)

Opportunity Project, Inc. (Millburn, NJ) - To fund work evaluation, adjustment training and supported employment: $50,000. (approx 10-12 indiv)

Pearl Transit Corp. (Alloway, NJ) - To fund planning and transportation services for individuals with disabilities residing in Salem and Cumberland Counties in New Jersey: $25,000. (higher percentage of trips for indivs)

Vetwork, A Program of Vetgroup, Inc. (Forked River, NJ) - To assist clients in eliminating barriers to to attain a better quality of life and achieve self sufficiency: $40,000. (approx 50 vets)

Special Initiative Grants – Total $167,100 (External-Does not include HHK programs)

County of Somerset (Somerville, NJ) - To build modular ramps for homebound and physically challenged residents of Somerset County: $20,000. (build 10-12 ramps)

The HSC Health Care Foundation (Washington, DC) –To sponsor a summit on Transition for Youth with Disabilities: $5,000. (40-50 attended)

Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund (Oceanside, CA) - To subsidize the cost of modified vehicles for Marines who have been disabled as a result of combat and training injuries: $36,000. (3 marines)
International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (Washington, DC) - To fund a Disability Rights Day program at their annual conference: $20,000. (100 people attended)

Montclair Rehabilitation Organization (Little Falls, NJ) - To subsidize the cost of a newly purchased van for medical transportation: $15,000.

National Spinal Cord Injury Association (Bethesda, MD) - To sponsor the 2nd Annual Spinal Cord Injury Summit and the Spinal Cord Injury Hall of Fame: $10,000. (200 people attended)

New Jersey Adaptive Sports Association, Inc. (West Orange, NJ) - To support 8 new recruits for a wheelchair basketball program, attendance at regional Tournaments and summer camp: $10,000. (8 indiv)

North Jersey Navigators, Inc. (Bayonne, NJ) - To defray expenses for participation in the 2006/2007 Annual Jr. National Wheelchair Championship Games: $20,000. (8 athletes)

Partnership in Philanthropy (Chatham, NJ) - To provide 2 one-day workshops for Kessler Foundation grantees on successfully using writing to raise money: $10,000. (for 30 grantees)

Wheelchair Sports USA (Kendall Park, NJ) - To support travel and living expenses for the top high school boys and to compete in Loucks Games: $6,100. (12 indiv)