

Grant Award Staff Report

DATE: NOVEMBER 26, 2024
TO: DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
THROUGH: DOUGLAS J. DEBORD, COUNTY MANAGER
FROM: TERENCE T. QUINN, AICP, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT *He for TQ*
CC: JENNIFER A. D'AMBROSIO, COMMUNITY PROGRAMS COORDINATOR
ALLISON CUTTING, COMMUNITY SERVICES SUPERVISOR
JENNIFER L. EBY, AICP, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF THE 2024 DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES MILL LEVY GRANT
AWARDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$543,813**

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING: December 10, 2024 @ 1:30 p.m.

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A total of 28 organizations submitted 38 grant applications for the Developmental Disabilities Mill Levy (DDML) competitive grant program. Applications included requests for a variety of services, programs, and activities to serve residents with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities (IDD). The DDML Advisory Council evaluated all applications and has prepared funding recommendations for the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) totaling \$543,813.

II. REQUEST

Approval of the 2024 DDML grant awards in the amount of \$543,813.

III. BACKGROUND

In November of 2001, the citizens of Douglas County approved a one mill property tax to be used for the benefit of citizens with developmental disabilities and their families. The County is the designated collection and disbursement agent for all property taxes within Douglas County, including the DDML. The County has historically distributed 93% of the mill levy funds to Developmental Pathways and 1.5% is used for Treasurer's fees. The remaining 5.5% is retained to distribute through the competitive grant process.

A seven-member Advisory Council and County staff established review criteria and developed a weighted evaluation tool as an objective rubric to guide discussion and make

funding recommendations. The review criteria considers if a project meets a BCC core priority, the number of Douglas County residents each organization plans to assist, and the overall impact of the proposed project. The completeness and quality of the applications, organizational budgets, community partners, and leveraging data are also evaluated through this review process.

IV. DISCUSSION

On July 15, 2024, 38 grant applications were received from 28 organizations, totaling \$1,274,346 in requests. The 2024 competitive grant program award budget is \$543,813. The Advisory Council reviewed all applications received and prepared funding recommendations based on the evaluation scores.

The Advisory Council recommendations include awarding funds for adult day care, water safety, vocational training, therapeutic horse riding, housing, and transportation services. A list of the organizations containing a brief description of their proposals, the amount requested, and the funding recommended is attached.

V. RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends approval of the 2024 DDML grant awards in the amount of \$543,813 as it complies with all County approval standards and policies.

ATTACHMENTS	PAGE
2024 Developmental Disabilities Mill Levy Grant Award Recommendations	3

2024 Developmental Disabilities Mill Levy Grant Awards

Organization and Project Description	2023 Award	2024 Request	2024 Award
Adam's Camp - Growing Independence & Leadership in Youth & Adults with IDD Non-profit offers 5-day summer camp to IDD individuals aged 9+, as well as Falcon Leadership Program, where experienced campers take next steps in their development.	New Request	\$54,830	\$44,357
Affinity Ranch - Scholarships for Adaptive Horsemanship Non-profit provides an Adaptive Horsemanship Program for individuals with IDD so they can experience the therapeutic benefits of working with equine partners.	New Request	\$60,000	\$24,600
Broken Tree Community Center - Camp Program Faith-based organization offers a 5-day confidence building summer and winter camp experience for members and provides respite for their caregivers.	\$5,627	\$43,250	\$0
Broken Tree Community Center - Transportation Faith-based organization provides transportation to gatherings, camps and to assist individuals with IDD.	\$0	\$50,000	\$0
Carmel Community Living Corporation - Overture Day Program A for-profit organization offers support to IDD individuals so they may participate in day activities in Douglas County and surrounding communities.	New Request	\$27,610	\$11,320
CentrePoint Support Living - Host Home Development in Douglas County A for-profit PASA-Health First Colorado Medicaid provider seeks to secure 10 host homes for individuals with IDD through advertising and outreach meetings.	\$0	\$20,000	\$8,200
Colorado Special Needs Resource Center - Statewide Information Blitz Non-profit seeks to spread awareness about their website, which lists available resources for children with special needs.	New Request	\$14,500	\$0
Continuum of Colorado - Agave PCA Basement Buildout Project would provide Personal Care Alternative (PCA) home with remodeled basement to support individuals with diverse needs in future.	\$2,000	\$84,810	\$0
DIRT- DIRT on the Road Funds will be used to train IDD workers, bring coffee truck to Douglas County events, providing IDD workforce representation and outreach to community.	\$3,000	\$40,000	\$24,400
Easter Seals - Discovery Club Program led by nursing students to support youth ages 6-18 participating in the Highlands Ranch Discovery Club one-Saturday a month during the school year, where they learn how to problem solve, navigate social situations and adjust to new environments.	\$6,400	\$10,000	\$6,100
Easter Seals - Yay! Camp Six-week summer day camp allows children ages 7-18 to engage in social, recreational and artistic activities, providing respite for caregivers.	\$16,000	\$20,000	\$12,200

Feel the Beat, Corp.- Inclusive Dance and Music Instruction Provide inclusive dance programming to engage individuals of all abilities through use of vibrotactile flooring and specialized programming for the IDD population.	\$12,800	\$20,000	\$12,200
Highlands Ranch Community Association - Therapeutic Recreation Program Scholarships for an inclusive community-based program at 4 recreation centers for Highlands Ranch residents 3-years of age through adulthood.	\$31,080	\$40,000	\$32,360
HighPointe Services - Vehicle Purchase of a wheelchair accessible transit van will allow non-profit organization to offer more outing opportunities for non-ambulatory clients with IDD.	\$0	\$50,000	\$30,500
Jewish Family Service of Colorado, Inc. - JFS Integrated Adaptive Bicycling Program Participant Scholarships Scholarships will provide IDD riders with safety education, individualized bicycle riding instruction and all of the necessary supports.	\$19,268	\$19,287	\$11,765
Lone Tree Arts Center- Sensory Inclusive Programming Funds support sensory friendly programming through locally based performances.	\$10,500	\$12,500	\$10,242
Lone Tree Arts Center- Sensory Inclusive Usher Training and Job Resource Fair Funds will be used for employment initiatives, support and curriculum development for usher trainees, workshops, and job fair coordination.	\$6,300	\$7,500	\$4,575
Progressive Home Health Services - Vehicle For-profit organization will use funds to purchase an SUV to transport persons with IDD to support community connections through education, employment, leisure and recreation.	New Request	\$29,250	\$0
Progressive Home Health Services - Host Home Housing Project For-profit organization seeks to purchase and ready a Douglas County property to house and support individuals with IDD.	New Request	\$30,000	\$0
Sky Cliff Center - Vehicle Purchase Grant funds would be used to purchase a 15 passenger van with a wheelchair lift to transport program participants from home to adult day care center.	\$0	\$68,000	\$0
South Suburban Parks & Recreation - STAR Club Program support to offer community trips, recreation, cultural events and leisure programming two mornings a week during the summer to facilitate independence and socialization skills.	\$6,962	\$17,088	\$7,006
South Suburban Parks & Recreation - STAR DC Friday Fun The program will provide respite care for families with children ages 13 and up on the six Fridays during school year when no classes are scheduled.	\$4,538	\$7,052	\$4,302

Special Olympics Colorado - School & Community Programs Year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic sports to encourage health, life and common and recreation and leisure for children ages 2-18 years of age.	\$12,600	\$15,000	\$12,135
Tall Tales Coffee Company - Coffee Company Truck Funds will be used to purchase a truck to haul the coffee trailer, safely transport ambassador employees and supplies to various locations.	\$0	\$10,000	\$6,100
Tall Tales Ranch - Housing Development and Community Hub Funds will be used to pay for rough grading structural excavation, backfill and blueprints for a neurodiverse living community and inclusivity hub for people with IDD.	\$71,400	\$78,634	\$63,615
The al-Naas Civic and Cultural Foundation - IDD Asylum Assistance Organization combines diagnostic support and comprehensive asylum application assistance to refugees with IDD.	\$0	\$20,000	\$0
The Hive - Creative Fun for Everyone For-profit organization offers a variety of classes, activities and creative camps for children and adults with IDD, giving respite to caregivers	New Request	\$74,700	\$45,567
The Hive - Creative Employment Solutions For-profit organization offers job clubs and employment skill development opportunities to individuals with IDD.	New Request	\$76,740	\$46,811
The Mane Mission - Mane Mission Director / Ranch Hand Organization provides day programs for local community IDD groups. Funds will be used to hire and support a part-time ranch hand needed due to demand.	\$12,800	\$46,800	\$19,188
The Traveling Gnomes - Wheelchair Accessible Van Funds would be used to purchase a wheelchair accessible van to transport participants on inclusive and accessible day and overnight trips	\$0	\$55,000	\$0
Therapies for Hope- Therapy Intensives Programs Therapy Intensives programs to serve five Douglas County IDD children ages six months to 18 years and their siblings.	\$11,200	\$17,500	\$7,175
Town of Castle Rock - Adaptive Swim Lessons Scholarships provide adaptive 1:1 swim lessons to IDD participants, teaching lifesaving skills.	\$0	\$8,000	\$4,880
Town of Castle Rock - Therapeutic Recreation Program Scholarships Individual and program scholarships would include athletics and movement, camps, community opportunities, cultural arts, social programming and special events for residents with IDD.	\$0	\$25,000	\$15,250
Town of Parker - Adaptive Water Safety & Swim Lessons Funds would be used for scholarships to provide instruction to teach lifesaving skills in and around water and also to pay for qualified instructors and necessary equipment.	\$8,960	\$14,000	\$8,540

Town of Parker - Therapeutic Recreation Funds will be used to offer individual, family and group scholarships for programs that promote personal development, independence and fitness, as well as to purchase equipment and supplement wages for support staff.	\$20,580	\$25,000	\$20,225
Treeline Pass - Equipping Staff for Community Immersion Expansion Grant to fund training for three new Behavior Technicians to support more clients in transit to vocational training, employment, medical appointments, exercise and community-based instruction.	\$0	\$15,795	\$9,635
Treeline Pass - Transportation to Support Community Immersion Expansion Funds would be used to purchase a wheelchair accessible van to expand services to meet demand and to deliver Meals on Wheels.	\$0	\$30,000	\$18,300
Wellspring Community - Independent Living Program Funds would allow four residents of Unity on Park to receive 10 hours of independent life skills per week over a six-month period, allowing for more independence and community engagement.	\$54,400	\$36,500	\$22,265
		\$1,274,346	\$543,813