**The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (GCDD) is proud to announce the posting of a Request for Proposals on June 9th, 2017. Funding will be awarded for projects which will support the following GCDD State Plan Goals, Objectives, Activities:**

**Goal 1:** People with developmental disabilities and their families will be active in advocacy activities that improve their lives, and the lives of others and the service system.
**Objective 1:** Each year of the five-year state plan, the Council will provide support to strengthen a statewide self-advocacy organization by increasing activity and participation by self-advocates in Arkansas.  **Activity 1:** The Council will provide funding to strengthen a statewide advocacy organization by creating an RFP that will provide funds to allow an organization to increase membership and participation of self-advocates.

**Goal 2:** People with developmental disabilities and their families will have increased access to community support and services. **Objective 1:** Each year of the five-year state plan the Council will provide support to community partners to strengthen access to information, training and education for Arkansans with developmental disabilities and their families about available programs and services in the State. **Activity 1:** Create an RFP that will support a community partner, in each of the state’s five (5) regions, in strengthening access to information and training.

**Goal 3:** The Council will collaborate with state agencies and community programs to improve competitive, integrated employment of Arkansans with developmental disabilities.
**Objective 2:** The Council will support the capacity of vocational service providers and employers to increase opportunities for competitive, integrated employment of people with developmental disabilities.  **Activity 2:** The Council will develop a request for proposal for a community partner to assist people with developmental disabilities with the shift from sheltered employment to competitive, integrated employment and increase access to employment services.

**Please click the link below to find out more and to apply for funding.**

<https://www.ddsuite.org/?nofa_id=1315>

***Applications for funding under this RFP are due by July 14, 2017.***

There will be a Technical Assistance Workshop provided for anyone interested in this funding on June 22, 2017. We will answer questions and provide information regarding the process. **Mark your calendars now. We will post more specifics on this workshop on Thursday, June 15th.** Please contact Council staff with questions at 501-682-2897.