

Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation

Today's Care. Tomorrow's Cure.

ChristopherReeve.org

@ReeveFoundation

Rural Unserved & Underserved Populations Grants Program

APRIL Annual Conference

October 11, 2022

Session Overview

- Introduction to the Reeve Foundation's National Paralysis Resource Center
- Rural Unserved & Underserved Populations Grants Program
- Other Reeve Foundation Grant Opportunities
- Questions

Quote by Christopher Reeve

photo credit: Timothy Greenfield-Sanders

"A hero is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles." – Christopher Reeve

Introduction to the Reeve Foundation

Dual Mission: Today's Care. Tomorrow's Cure.

We are dedicated to curing spinal cord injury by advancing innovative research and improving quality of life for individuals and families impacted by paralysis.

Definition of Paralysis

The Reeve Foundation uses a functional definition of paralysis: Difficulty and/or inability to use arms and/or legs due to neurological conditions including (but not limited to) spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, stroke, cerebral palsy, spina bifida, ALS, post-polio syndrome, etc.

National Paralysis Resource Center

"Once you choose hope, anything's possible." — CHRISTOPHER REEVE

With partnership from the Administration for Community Living, the Paralysis Resource Center (PRC) provides much-needed free educational information, programs, emotional support, and individualized assistance to Americans living with paralysis, along with their caregivers, families and medical professionals.

*Cooperative Agreement Grant Number: 90PRRC0002

Snapshot of Impact

- 1st call made when loved one is diagnosed with paralysis
- Information Specialists 117,000+ families have received one-on-one assistance in 170 languages
- Reeve Summit: Where Care, Cure and Community Connect Annual summit with a spectrum of care and cure topics designed for the community and professionals
- Virtual Community 3M+ users visit ChristopherReeve.org and social media channels annually
- Military and Veterans Program Supports the unique needs of service men and women regardless of when they served or how they were injured
- Peer & Family Support Program 20,000+ people have received support from 500+ certified peer mentors who are also living with paralysis
- Health-Related Materials 250,000+ pageviews, video views and downloads of educational content annually
- Paralysis Resource Guide 225,000+ copies distributed to the Reeve Foundation's community Quality of Life Grants \$37 million+ awarded to over 3,550 non-profit programs in all 50 states

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Free Materials & Resources

- Books
- Wallet Cards
- Fact Sheets
- Publications

Rural Disability Resources

Native American Disability Resources

Undocumented Immigrant Resources

What We've Learned

- Rural Communities are **STRONG**
- Rural Communities are **RESILIENT**

- Rural Communities have the ability to gather around a purpose and solve problems

Rural Inequities

Rural Americas experiences many inequities compared to the nation as a whole:

- Housing
- Transportation
- Access to Healthcare
- Limited Healthy Food Options
- Lack of Access to Broadband and Other Technology
- Historical Trauma

Rural Communities and Environmental Challenges

- Hazardous materials often end up in remote areas where the land is cheap
- Environments impacts and dangers of rural industries (mining and farming)

Rural Communities and Health

- Chronic diseases
 - Heart disease
 - Obesity
 - Diabetes
- Health Insurance

The Intersection of Rural Communities and Disability

- Rural Americans represent a higher proportion of people with a disability
 - 17.1% of rural Americans report a disabling condition compared with 11.7% of urban-dwelling Americans
- Higher rates of disability persist across gender, race, impairment type, and all age groups
- Veterans and people in poverty living in rural areas report higher rates of disability than those in urban areas

Why We Created This Program

- Rural Communities are STRONG
- Rural Communities are RESILIENT
- Rural Communities have the ability to gather around a purpose and solve problems

Aim of the New Grants Program

- Fund projects that explicitly benefit people living with paralysis in unserved and underserved rural communities.
- Projects will focus on promoting accessibility and participation in rural communities.
- Grants are up to \$40,000
- 18-month project period

Potential Projects

- Transportation
 - Providing access to safe and affordable transportation options
 - Providing accessible driver's education/training programs
- Assistive Technology and Durable Medical Equipment
 - Short-term AT Equipment Loan Programs
 - Ramps
 - Broadband internet
 - AT Demonstration Centers

Potential Projects Continued

- Health
 - Rural Community Health Centers or Veterans Hospitals
 - Care Coordination
 - Telehealth
- Agriculture and access to healthy foods
- Employment and education
- Peer and Family Support Groups

Quality of Life Grants Program

The Quality of Life Grants Program impacts and empowers people living with paralysis, their families and caregivers by providing grants to nonprofit organizations whose projects and initiatives foster inclusion, involvement and community engagement, while promoting health and wellness for those affected by paralysis in all 50 states and U.S. territories.

Quality of Life Tiered Grants Structure

Direct Effect (Tier 1)

- Tier 1- Up to \$25,000 (must be completed within 12 months)
- Open-Focus
- Examples of previously funded programs:

- Sports wheelchairs for wheelchair basketball team; adapted glider in a community playground; kayak for a rowing program; hydraulic lift at a pool; electronic door openers at a community pool; workshop education on sex and sexuality with a spinal injury; wheelchair accessible picnic table at a county fairground; camp programs; support groups, etc.

Priority Impact (Tiers 2, 3, & 4)

- Tier 2- \$30,000 (must be completed within 12 months)
 - Respite/Caregiving
 - Assistive Technology
 - Covid-19 Addressing Social Isolation
- Tier 3- \$40,000 (must be completed within 18 months)
 - Nursing Home Transition
 - Racial Equity
 - Rural Underserved and Unserved Populations
- Tier 4- \$50,000 (must be completed within 24 months)
 - Employment

Expanded Impact (Tier 5)

- Tier 5- Grants of \$100,000 (must be completed within 24 months)
- For previously awarded Quality of Life grantees whose programs and/or projects have achieved demonstrable, successful impact.

The Grant Cycle

September 1, 2022 Cycle Opened

October 13, 2022 Proposals Due

External Review October 17th November 3rd

Internal Review November 17th December 4th

Direct Effect – Examples of Funded Projects

- Accessibility Modifications
- Adaptive Sports Accessible Playground/Ball Field
- Accessible Trail/Tree House/Beach
- Assistive Technology
- Advocacy
- Arts
- Camp
- Caregiving
- Consumer Education
- Durable Medical Equipment (see funding restrictions)
- Education

- Employment
- Facility Accessibility Modifications
- Fitness and Wellness
- Healthcare
- Media Development
- Medical Professional Education
- Peer Mentoring and Support
- Service Animal Program
- Therapeutic Horseback Riding
- Transportation: Transition from Institution to Home

Types of Direct Effect (Tier 1) Projects Funded

- Sports wheelchairs for a wheelchair basketball team
- Adapted glider in a community playground
- Kayak for a rowing program
- Accessible gym equipment
- Hydraulic lift at a pool
- Electronic door openers at a community center
- Workshop education series on sex and sexuality with a spinal cord injury
- Wheelchair accessible picnic table at a county fairground
- Program for preventing abuse in adaptive sports
- Camp programs
- Subsidized lessons for therapeutic riding
- Transportation costs for an inclusive afterschool program
- Support groups

Priority Impact Tiers 2-4

The Priority Impact Grant Tiers (Tiers 2, 3, & 4) offer three increasing levels of grant funding. Priority Impact grants fund priority issues for individuals living with paralysis. Grantee organizations will demonstrate capacity to implement the grant without intensive technical assistance and capacity building, as well as demonstrate capacity for program development, evaluation and sustainability.

Priority Impact Tier 2

- Tier 2 – Grants of up to \$30,000. (Grants must be completed within 12 months.)
Respite/Caregiving
- Assistive Technology
- COVID-19: Addressing Social Isolation

Priority Impact Tier 3

Tier 3 – Grants of up to \$40,000. (Grants must be completed within 18 months)

- Nursing Home Transition
- Racial Equity
- Rural Underserved and Unserved Populations

Priority Impact Tier 4

Tier 4 – Grants of up to \$50,000. (Grants must be completed within 24 months)

- Employment

Feedback

In adherence with federal OMB requirements, we are unable to comment on denied applications or provide programmatic direction to organizations applying for Quality of Life grants, as giving feedback/direction would be providing unfair advantage over other applicants.

Thank You

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www.ChristopherReeve.org