



Vol. 3, No. 1  
OCTOBER 1995

Federal, State, and Private Grant Notices for Rural Communities  
A Publication of Community Research Services at Illinois State University  
with Support from the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs

## Education and Workforce Development

The businesses, schools, organizations, churches, individuals, and families that make up rural communities in Illinois recognize the need for workforce preparation and development of both today's and future workers. Workforce issues are as important in rural communities as they are in cities. Thus, rural communities must plan for and invest in the education and training of its citizens.

The quantity and quality of education for daily living and workforce preparation, as well as workplace training, are important determinants of job attainment, retention, and pay. Several issues make education and training particularly relevant today:

- Many workers are being forced to shift from the manufacturing to the service industry because of downsizing and plant closures. Since the average service job pays less than the average factory job, both young people and adult workers must get the training to qualify them for jobs supporting the lifestyles they want.
- Not only are industries changing, jobs themselves are changing. Today's workplace requires different skills than the workplace of the past. For instance, organizations increasingly emphasize teamwork which requires interpersonal and collaborative problem solving skills. Also, new technology demands flexibility in thinking and a willingness to learn new things. Thus, all workers must embrace lifelong learning to adapt to the changing needs of employers.
- To remain competitive in the global arena, U.S. policy makers and employers must change their attitudes about and invest in education and training. Learning translates into productivity which benefits all--the individual, company, community, and nation.<sup>1</sup>

Viability of the individual and the community relies on accessible, high quality education and training. To achieve this goal, businesses, schools, organizations, and individuals must:

- Become aware of local educational and training needs.
- Plan for programs and develop the financial and human structures needed to establish or strengthen programs in the community.
- Work collaboratively.

This Grant News focuses on programs supporting education and training for the disabled, court personnel, and youth. Both national and state policies currently support innovative programs to ease the transition from school to work and encourage lifelong learning. The grant and technical support programs discussed below support these policies.

<sup>1</sup>Central Illinois Workforce Issues: Labor Market Research Report," Community Research Services, Illinois State University, 1995.

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# U.S. Department of Education: Programs and Demonstrations

## Vocational Rehabilitation Services Projects for Migratory Agricultural and Seasonal Farmworkers with Disabilities (CFDA 84.128G)

**Objective:** To provide grants for vocational rehabilitation services.

**Estimated award range/number of awards:** \$150,000-\$175,000/3

**Eligibility:** State vocational rehabilitation agencies (SVRAs); nonprofit or other local agencies working with or under SVRAs; and SVRAs collaborating to provide vocational services.

**Deadline:** Jan. 29, 1996

**For applications or information contact:**

Fred Ibister  
U.S. Department of Education  
600 Independence Avenue, SW  
Room 3330, Switzer Building  
Washington, DC 20202-2740  
202/ 205-9297



## Projects for Initiating Recreation Programs for Individuals with Disabilities (CFDA 84.128J)

**Objective:** To initiate recreation and related programs that will aid persons with disabilities in their employment, mobility, socialization, independence, and community integration.

**Estimated award range/number of awards:** \$110,000-\$140,000/15

**Eligibility:** States; other public agencies; and nonprofit private organizations.

**Deadline:** Jan. 29, 1996

**For applications or information contact:**

Fred Ibister (see above notice)



## Coordinated Service Projects

**Objective:** To link public and private agencies with schools to improve access to health and social services.

**Eligibility:** Local educational agencies (LEA), or if no LEA exists, individual schools or groups of schools may apply.

**Available funds:** Opportunity to use up to five percent of Elementary and Secondary Education Act funds.

**Deadline:** Aug. 1998

**For applications or information contact:**

Jeanne Jehl  
U.S. Department of Education  
600 Independence Avenue, SW  
Room 604, Portals Building  
Washington, DC 20202-6123  
202/ 260-1854

## (1) Projects Providing Transitional Rehabilitation Services to Youth with Disabilities (CFDA 84.235V) and (2) Projects Providing Vocational Rehabilitation Services to Persons with Disabilities (CFDA 84.235U)

**Objectives:** (1) To provide job training to prepare youth with disabilities for entry into the workforce. (2) To expand or improve vocational rehabilitation and other services for persons with disabilities.

**Estimated award range/number of awards (for each):** \$180,000-\$220,000/15

**Eligibility:** State agencies; other public agencies and organizations; and nonprofit agencies and organizations.

**Deadline (for both):** Dec. 5, 1995

**For applications or information contact:**

Pamela Martin  
U.S. Department of Education  
600 Independence Avenue, SW  
Room 3414, Switzer Building  
Washington, DC 20202-2650  
202/ 205-8494



## Projects with Industry (CFDA 84.234M)

**Objectives:** (1) Develop partnerships with industry to create, expand, and identify job opportunities for persons with disabilities; (2) identify skills needed to perform jobs; (3) create settings for job preparation programs; and (4) provide job placements and career development.

**Estimated award range/number of awards:** \$200,000-\$250,000/80

**Eligibility:** Designated state units; labor unions; employers; community rehabilitation program providers; trade associations; Indian tribes or tribal organizations; and other appropriate organizations.

**Deadline:** Jan. 2, 1996

**For applications or general information contact:**

Constance Pledger  
U.S. Department of Education  
600 Independence Avenue, SW  
Room 3318, Switzer Building  
Washington, DC 20202-2741  
202/ 205-9343



**Source:** Notices were taken from the Federal Register on Aug. 10 and Sept. 12, 1995.

**For information about programs requiring state review under Executive Order 12372, contact:**

Barb Beard  
Illinois State Clearinghouse, DCCA  
620 E. Adams  
Springfield, IL 62701  
217/ 782-1671

# Justice: Training and Research Grants

## State Justice Institute (SJI) Training and Education Scholarships for Court Personnel



**Objective:** To help court personnel attend out-of-state training offered by national and state providers.

**Estimated award:** Costs of tuition and travel up to \$1,500 per scholarship.

**Eligibility:** Full-time judges of state or local trial and appellate courts; professional state or local court employees with management responsibilities; and supervisory and management probation personnel in judicial branch probation offices.

**Application procedures:** Submit the SJI Judicial Education Scholarship form with the written agreement of the chief justice of the appropriate state Supreme Court. Court managers must submit letters of recommendation from their supervisors.

**Criteria:** Applications will be reviewed for training need; potential benefits to the court; applicant's plan to disseminate training information; and program quality.

**Deadlines:** Nov. 1, 1995 for programs beginning between Jan.12 and April 12, 1996. Feb. 1, 1996 for training beginning between April 13 and July 12, 1996. April 15 for programs beginning between July 13 and Sept. 30, 1996.

**For Information contact:**

David Tevelin, Executive Director  
or Richard Van Duizen  
State Justice Institute  
1650 King, Suite 600  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703/ 684-6100

**Source:** Local/State Funding Report, Sept. 11, 1995

**Note:** The State Justice Institute is being scaled back. It is hoped that the Senate will appropriate 5 million dollars for FY 96 programs. If so, FY 96 project grant guidelines will appear in the Federal Register.



## National Institute of Justice (NIJ)

**Objective:** To develop knowledge that will help meet policy in six areas: reducing violent crime; lowering drug- and alcohol-related crime; diminishing the consequences of crime; improving crime prevention programs; boosting the effectiveness of law enforcement and the criminal justice system; and developing new technology for crime control.

**Funding available:** \$27 million

**Eligibility:** Educational institutions, nonprofits, private and public agencies, and individuals.

**Deadline:** Dec. 15, 1995

**For information about these program areas, contact:**

Reducing Violent Crime, Bernard Auchter, 202/ 307-0154; Reducing Drug- and Alcohol-Related Crime, Laurie Bright, 202/ 616-3624; Reducing the Consequences of Crime, Richard Titus, 202/ 307-0695; Improving Crime Prevention Programs, Rosemary Murphy, 202/ 307-2959; Improving Law Enforcement and the Criminal Justice System, Lois Mock, 202/307-0693 or Winifred Reed, 202/307-2952; and Developing New Technology for Law Enforcement and the Criminal Justice System, Richard Rau, 202/ 307-0648 or Raymond Downs, 202/ 307-0646

**Source:** Local/State Funding Report, April 17, 1995  
*(public funding cont'd on page 6)*

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• **Correction . . .**  
• **In August's Grant News, the telephone number**  
• **for Carle Center for Rural Health and Farm**  
• **Safety was listed incorrectly. The correct**  
• **number is 217/ 383-3206.**  
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## Private Foundations: Grants, Technical Assistance & Product Donations

The application process for private foundations tends to be less rigorous than that for state or federal grants. Frequently, a letter describing the proposed project is all that is required and grantees are generally allowed more flexibility once an award is made. While private foundations may have strict requirements about the geographic location or nonprofit status of applicants, they tend to be more flexible about the type of projects funded. Anyone seeking private funds should not overlook local firms that may have a formal giving program.

### Hitachi Foundation: Youth Training Projects

**Background:** The Hitachi Foundation, a nonprofit, philanthropic organization was established in 1985. Its mission is to "promote social responsibility through effective participation in a global society" by funding projects in education, community development, and global citizenship.

**Objective:** To develop, implement, and/or strengthen collaborative efforts between community members and organizations, educational institutions, and employers to enhance the workplace preparation of youth underserved by existing academic and vocational programs.

**Eligibility:** Nonprofit, community organizations working on education and work preparation issues with underserved minority or low-income youth who are middle school through age 25.

**Estimated award range/number of awards:**  
\$100,000-\$300,000/4-6

**Deadline:** Nov. 10, 1995

**Application Procedures:** Proposals must include Hitachi's cover sheet, a 4-6 page description of the project, and attachments including a timeline, a budget, and staff qualifications. Contact Hitachi for the Request for Proposals which includes their cover sheet and describes the application process and selection criteria.

**Contact:** Jeannette Rogers, Program Assistant  
Partnerships for Education and Economic Opportunity

The Hitachi Foundation  
1509 22nd Street NW  
Washington, DC 20037-1073  
202/ 457-0588, ext. 509

**Fax on demand system:** 202/ 457-0588, ext. 551

### Small Business Advice from SCORE

The Service Corps of Retired Executives Association (SCORE), a partner of the Small Business Administration (SBA), is a national network of retired business management professionals. These volunteers provide business assistance (advice and expertise) to American independent small businesses. SCORE volunteers help business professionals identify management and business problems and review processes. To date, SCORE has helped clients start businesses and saved clients from starting businesses which would have failed. SCORE has created jobs through new businesses and increased gross revenues for existing businesses.

Counseling can take place at a SCORE or SBA office or at the client's business. (SCORE offices are located in all 50 states.) Individuals considering starting a business are also eligible and assistance requests are accepted throughout the year.

**Contact:** National SCORE Office, 800/ 634-0245.

### Gifts in Kind America: TAP into Product Donations

**Objective and product availability:** To make available over \$200 million in product donations.

Although monthly product lists vary, common items include computers, software, office equipment and supplies; personal and health care items; clothing; and construction materials and housewares. Products are distributed on a first come, first served basis. Some companies specify their products must go to the ill, youth, or needy; other donors will give to all 501(c)(3) organizations.

**Eligibility:** 501(c)(3) nonprofits; recognized Indian Reservations; Registered Charitable Canadian Organizations; and international 501(c)(3) nonprofits.

**Restrictions:** Product donations cannot be auctioned, raffled, sold, traded, or bartered, but must be used in line with the organization's mission.

**Application Procedures:** Send a self-addressed stamped envelope to receive application materials. Complete and return the application with the annual registration fee.

**1996 registration fee:** Budget under \$1 million--\$125; over \$1 million--\$250.

**Contact:** Gifts in Kind America, The Agency Program (TAP), 700 North Fairfax Street, Suite 300  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703/ 836-2121; FAX: 703/ 549-1481

## Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)

### Faith in Action

**Background:** The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the largest foundation in the U.S. devoted to health care, was established as a national philanthropy in 1972. See your August *Grant News* for more information about the Foundation's goals and the procedure for general letters of inquiry.

**Objective:** To develop community interfaith voluntary caregiving projects (IVCP) to serve persons with disabilities. Disabilities could include learning problems, substance abuse problems, chronic illness, or pregnancy. The homeless, persons living with AIDS, and persons restricted to home by infirmity or inadequate personal and social support may also receive attention through the IVCP. Although the list is not exhaustive, volunteers may provide help with transportation, shopping, respite care, light housekeeping, personal care, linking community services, financial management, and meal preparation.

**Award:** \$25,000 for project start-up.

**Eligibility:** Tax-exempt organizations described in Sections 501(c)(3), 170(c)(1), or 511(a)(2)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code may apply, but must provide documentation which ensures organizational status. Social service and health provider agencies (e.g., hospitals, ambulatory care clinics, agencies dedicated to special concerns) who want to start an IVCP may also apply.

**Deadlines:** Dec. 1, 1995; April 1, 1996; Aug. 1, 1996; and Dec. 2, 1996.

**Application procedures:** Request the project application and instructions. Complete the application and attach eligibility documentation. Technical assistance is available to applicants. Call the National Federation of Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers, Inc. at 914/ 331-1358 or 800/ 350-7438 for more information about technical assistance.

**For information and applications, contact:**

Kenneth G. Johnson, Director  
Faith in Action  
368 Broadway, Suite 105  
Kingston, NY 12401-0227  
914/ 331-0016; FAX: 914/ 331-4191

### Chronic Care Initiatives in HMOs

**Objective:** To improve access to and organization of services for persons with chronic conditions who are enrolled in organized prepaid delivery systems including health maintenance organizations (HMOs). Projects will strive to develop, implement, and/or evaluate initiatives such as the following:

- Coordination of services for people with problems requiring multiple resource involvement.
- New approaches for providing post-hospital care to reduce rehospitalization.
- Programs targeting and coordinating services to high-risk groups.
- Evaluation of ways to deliver primary care to patients with chronic conditions who live in the community or to HMO enrollees who are in nursing homes long-term.

**Eligibility:** Organizations with integrated financing and service delivery, prepaid financing, and a defined population of enrollees who need chronic care services.

**Limitations:** Funds may not be used for ongoing general operating expenses.

**Deadline:** Until funds are spent.

**Application procedures:** Mail (no faxes) four copies of a letter of intent on your organization's letterhead. The letter should be no longer than four typed, doublespaced pages and should include project objectives, a description of target population and research, evaluation or demonstration methodology/approach, estimated timetable and budget, staff qualifications, and the project liaison's name.

**For more information, contact:**

Ms. Teresa Fama, Deputy Director  
Chronic Care Initiatives in HMOs  
Group Health Foundation  
1129 20th Street, NW, Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20036-3403  
202/ 778-3284

*(RWJF cont'd on page 6)*

## Grant News

Community Research Services  
Illinois State University  
Campus Box 4950  
Normal, IL 61790-4950

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*(private funding cont'd from pages 4 and 5)*

### Helping Hearts: Match Grant Program for Semi-Automatic Defibrillators

The Prudential Insurance Company of America will make matching grants of up to \$2,500 to volunteer Emergency Medical Service (EMS) providers for half the cost of portable semi-automatic external defibrillators (SAED). Volunteer organizations must match at no less than 50 percent of the cost of an SAED. Prudential will provide Helping Hearts fundraising kits to those accepted into the program.

Eligible organizations include charitable nonprofit, 501(c)(3), or similarly designated organizations. See the application kit for further eligibility requirements.

**The deadline for applying is Nov. 30, 1995.**

Call Urbano Venero, Program Director at 201/ 802-2559 for information and applications.

*(public funding cont'd from page 3)*

### Brownfields Grants

**Objective:** To help communities clean up and redevelop contaminated lands.

**Estimated award/number of awards:** \$200,000/10 (first deadline)

**Eligibility:** Cities, counties, towns and Indian tribes.

**Deadlines:** Nov. 13, 1995; Mar. 4, 1996

**Application procedure:** Submit proposals including a cover page, project summary, and specific responses to the Environmental Protection Agency's evaluation criteria. (Program funded under the Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative of the EPA.)

**For information and application kits, call:** Superfund Hotline, 800/ 424-9346 or an EPA regional office.

### The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: Coming Home

**Objective:** To help rural communities meet the needs of elderly or chronically ill persons through the coordination of services such as health services and assisted-living housing.

**Award:** The National Cooperative Bank Development Corporation (NCBDC) will administer grants and loans for development activities and project implementation. NCBDC will also provide direction and technical assistance.

**Eligibility:** Community health centers, rural hospitals, social service providers, housing developers, or community development agencies. Applying agencies or organizations must be single nonprofit providers, cooperatives, networks, or consortia of providers. Request program description for other eligibility guidelines.

**Deadline:** This is not a general call for proposals. There is no specific deadline.

**For more information, call:**

David Nolan, Project Director, 415/ 834-6980

**Grant News is compiled by Community Research Services at Illinois State University for the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs at Western Illinois University. Its purpose is to provide administrators of rural Illinois counties and communities with information regarding grant opportunities at the federal, state, and private levels. For assistance in preparing grant applications, contact your Regional Planning Commission office.**

**Grant information was obtained from multiple sources including the Federal Register, the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance and various state agencies. Additional information about these grants may be obtained by contacting the appropriate federal or state agency directly, or by contacting:**

**Community Research Services  
Illinois State University  
(309) 438-7771**