

NACC Clearinghouse on ICF – November 2004 Messages

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1. NIDRR SETS JAN. 18 APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR \$3.75 MILLION IN AWARDS FOR 25 FIELD INITIATED PROJECTS

The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) is inviting applications for new awards for FY 2005. Their target is 25 new awards @ \$150,000 per year, with a 36 month project period maximum. January 18, 2005 is the submission deadline. There are no invitational priorities, except that the activity must either develop methods, procedures, and rehabilitation technology which maximizes the full inclusion into society, employment, independent living, family support, and economic and self-sufficiency of individuals with severe disabilities, or improve the effectiveness of services under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. This Federal Register announcement asserts support for the New Freedom Initiative (NFI) ([http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/newfreedom/.](http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/newfreedom/)) and desires projects in line with NIDRR's Long Rang Plan (<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/nidrr/policy.html>). The Federal Register link for the \$3.75 million in awards is:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/06jun20041800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2004/pdf/E4-3203.pdf>.

2. GIANNINI "NEW ERA" SPEECH TO AOTA HIGHLIGHTS ICF

Margaret Giannini, MD, Director, Office on Disability, Department of Health and Human Services delivered the opening remarks to the International Conference on Evidence-Based Occupational Therapy Practice sponsored by the American Occupational Therapy Foundation and the American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. on July 11, 2004 at the Bolger Conference Center in Potomac, Maryland. Her speech was entitled "A New Era for Occupational Therapy Across the

Globe". Some excerpts: "It is, in fact, critical that we begin identifying 'what IS evidence for practice.' And the time is NOW. The time is also appropriate because increasing worldwide attention is being focused on occupational therapy's area of unparalleled expertise: increasing function and participation of persons with disabilities within the context of their environment. ICD codes, which as you know, identify what's "wrong" with a person, were complemented when the World Health Organization stepped up to the plate with the ICF codes, which as you know provides another method of identifying and classifying – not by what's wrong, but by how a disease impacts the person...The UN has defined the Rules on Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities. The World Health Organization has adopted the ICF codes, which define a common language about body structure and function, activities, and what's happening in the environment. ...OT is not a new profession – but it is a new era. The profession began with an emphasis on performing activities; then shifted to a more medical treatment approach. The pendulum has now swung back to an emphasis on "performing activities." The profession can and must develop environmental supports to help persons with disabilities achieve their fullest potential, their goals, and their dreams....In light of the New Freedom Initiative, the adoption of the ICF, and the U.N. Standards, the role and the responsibility of the occupational therapy is unique and significant in the promotion of functional abilities of persons with disabilities. Your work here is fundamental to a global partnership for occupational therapy around criteria for review, knowledge transfer, and practitioner education of evidence for practice. Recommendations from this conference in these key areas will inform the larger picture of evidence-based practice in occupational therapy. Your expertise, your thoughts, and your recommendations will assist global leaders of OT to work collaboratively to identify ways to clearly document the evidence in OT practice, to develop plans to educate future students, and to build a solid support for evidence-based practice and research. I challenge you to identify ways to reach out to other members of the profession, to consumers, policy makers, and others to share the benefits of evidence-based occupational therapy services." For the full speech, contact: Margaret Giannini, M.D., F.A.A.P., Director, Office on Disability, Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20201, 202-205-1016 Direct, 202-260-3053 Fax, 202-205-8280 TTY

3. PAUL PLACEK TO RETIRE AFTER 30+ YEARS WITH NCHS

After 30 years and four months of Federal service with the National Center for Health Statistics, Paul plans to retire in a few weeks. His last day in the office will be December 30, 2004. "I have not had a month off for 35 years", says Paul. "I hope to do ICF consulting and take an easier pace, with more time for my nine year old son Vincent, antique car hobby, and Chesapeake Bay boating." More information on Paul's ICF career will be in the December Clearinghouse message. Until December 24, congratulatory messages can be sent directly to Paul at PJP2@CDC.GOV. Some of them may be included in the last Clearinghouse message of his Federal career, the

December 2004 message. Bear in mind that the NACC intends to continue the Clearinghouse on ICF in 2005.

4. SEND ICF INFORMATION FOR CLEARINGHOUSE TO MARJORIE GREENBERG

In the future, send your ICF information for these Clearinghouse messages to Paul's supervisor:

Marjorie S. Greenberg

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Classifications for North America

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Marjorie can not promise a January 2005 issue, but she is seeking ways to keep the Clearinghouse alive.

5. SPOTLIGHT ON SCOTT CAMPBELL BROWN

Scott Campbell Brown is an Education Research Analyst with the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, Office of Special Education Programs. Scott has had a major interest in promoting the use of ICF, going way back to its ICIDH days. While a Research Scientist at Gallaudet University, he worked with Mary Chamie to develop the first version of the United Nations Disability Statistics Data Base (DISTAT), which was the first data source to incorporate ICIDH codes in its design. In 1987, he designed a conference at Gallaudet called Recent Trends in the Demography of Disability. This conference, which included Phillip Wood (the architect of the original ICIDH), served to roll out DISTAT and introduce ICIDH to the United States disability statistics community. In 1991, he served as a consultant in disability statistics for the International Labour Organization and worked to implement ICIDH in the Ethiopian Rehabilitation Agency's data system. From 1991 to 1993, Scott served as Co-Chair of the Interagency Subcommittee on Disability Statistics (ISDS). In this capacity, he supported the participation by the United States in the ICIDH revision process. Since the late 1990s, Scott has served as a consultant to the United Nations on disability policy. In this capacity, he has urged use of the ICF, as well as techniques to systematically address the concept of accessibility. During the 2000-2001 year, he served as Chair of the American Public Health Association's Disability Forum. Aside from ICF-related publications, his most recent accomplishment is production of the Department of Education's Early Intervention Data Handbook. The Handbook recommends use of ICD and ICF and presents several ICF D codes for professionals to consider using. This is one of the first federal government publications to actually

include and urge the use of ICF codes. Many ICF meeting participants have met both him and his wife Pat at NACC meetings. Pat has a Masters in Education and has served on the Stafford County Special Education Advisory Committee. Scott's education includes a Ph. D. in Demography from the University of Pennsylvania. In their spare time, Scott and Pat go to duplicate Bridge tournaments. Scott recently became a Life Master at Bridge and both are now working for Pat to duplicate the feat. The two met in a class on improvisational comedy and ran a comedy show for two years in the early 1990s. For now, their comedy occurs mainly at the Bridge table. For more information, contact: Scott Campbell Brown, PhD, Research to Practice Division, Office of Special Education Programs, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, United States Department of Education, Potomac Center Plaza, U.S. Mail: 400 Maryland Avenue Southwest, FedEx: 550 12th Street Northwest, Room 4076, Washington, D. C. 20202-2641, tel: 202 245-7282, fax: 202 245-7619, email: Scott.Brown@ed.gov.