



# CHRISTOPHER & DANA REEVE FOUNDATION

TODAY'S CARE. TOMORROW'S CURE.®

[ChristopherReeve.org](http://ChristopherReeve.org)

[@ReeveFoundation](#)



# Rural Unserved & Underserved Populations Grants Program

APRIL Annual Conference  
October 11, 2022

# Session Overview

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

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“

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

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## **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

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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.

“  
Once you  
choose hope,  
anything’s  
possible.”

— CHRISTOPHER REEVE

## National Paralysis Resource Center

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.

# Snapshot of Impact

**Information Specialists**  
117,000+ families have received one-on-one assistance in 170 languages



**Quality of Life Grants**  
\$37 million+ awarded to over 3,550 non-profit programs in all 50 states

**Reeve Summit:  
Where Care, Cure and Community Connect**  
Annual summit with a spectrum of care and cure topics designed for the community and professionals



**Paralysis Resource Guide**  
225,000+ copies distributed to the Reeve Foundation's community

**Virtual Community**  
3M+ users visit ChristopherReeve.org and social media channels annually



**1st** call made when loved one is diagnosed with paralysis



**Health-Related Materials**  
250,000+ pageviews, video views and downloads of educational content annually

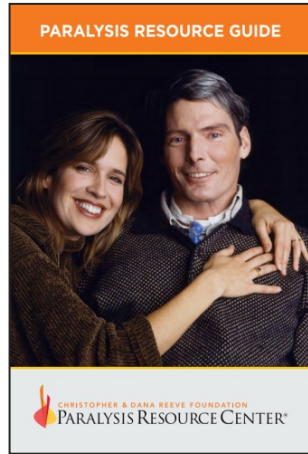
**Military and Veterans Program**  
Supports the unique needs of **service men and women** regardless of when they served or how they were injured



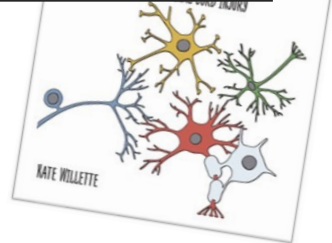
**Peer & Family Support Program**  
20,000+ people have received support from 500+ certified peer mentors who are also living with paralysis



# Free Materials & Resources



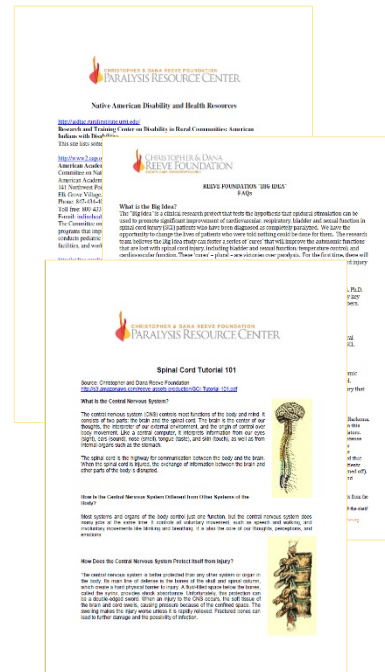
CHRISTOPHER & DANA REEVE FOUNDATION  
PARALYSIS RESOURCE CENTER



Books



Wallet Cards



Fact Sheets



Publications

# Rural Disability Resources



## Rural Disability Resources

People with disabilities who live in rural areas often face an additional array of challenges to getting the care and supports they need such as transportation issues, less access to specialists, and lack of employment opportunities.

### **AgrAbility or National AgrAbility Project**

<http://www.agrability.org/>

Breaking New Ground Resource Center

Purdue University

ABE Bldg., 225 South University Street

West Lafayette IN 47907-2093

Phone: 800-825-4264

Email: [agrability@agrability.org](mailto:agrability@agrability.org)

AgrAbility provides resources for farmers, agricultural workers and others who live in rural areas. They also conduct onsite assessments to identify barriers both in the agricultural workplace and the home. They recommend appropriate assistive technology, modified work practices and other solutions. They arrange for peer support opportunities that connect clients with others who have successfully accommodated their disabilities.

See their Toolbox (Assistive Technology Database) at [www.agrability.org/toolbox](http://www.agrability.org/toolbox)

### **Arizona Center for Rural Health**

<http://crh.arizona.edu/>

Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

1295 N. Martin Ave. - P.O. Box 245163

Tucson, Arizona 85724

Phone: 520-626-5823

### **Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL)**

<http://www.april-rural.org/>

11324 Arcade Drive, Suite 9

Little Rock, AR 72212

Phone: 501-753-3400

APRIL is a national membership organization dedicated to advancing the rights and responsibilities of people with disabilities in rural America.

# Native American Disability Resources



## Native American Disability and Health Resources



**American Academy of Pediatrics: Native American Child Health**

<http://www2.aap.org/nach/>

Committee on Native American Child Health

American Academy of Pediatrics

345 Park Blvd.

Itasca, IL 60143

Phone: 847-434-4000

Toll-free: 800-433-9016

E-mail: [indianhealth@aap.org](mailto:indianhealth@aap.org)

The Committee on Native American Child Health (CONACH) develops policies and programs that improve the health of Native American children. The CONACH also conducts pediatric consultation visits to Indian Health Service (IHS) and tribal health facilities and works to strengthen ties with tribes throughout the United States.

**American Indian Library Association (AILA)**

# Undocument Immigrant Resources



## Undocumented Immigrant Resources

There were 10.7 million unauthorized immigrants living in the U.S. in 2016. For decades, the United States has struggled to deal with the health care needs of its undocumented immigrants mainly through emergency room care and community health centers.

Despite the success of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) millions remain uninsured. Undocumented immigrants were excluded from ACA provisions and comprise the largest segment of this group. This factsheet will connect you with some health, legal, and educational resources and services that are available to undocumented individuals with disabilities living in the U.S.

Source: Pew Research Center <https://www.pewhispanic.org/2018/11/27/u-s-unauthorized-immigrant-total-dips-to-lowest-level-in-a-decade/>

### *Health Resources:*

<http://www.undocumentedpatients.org/>

#### **Hastings Center's Undocumented Patients: Undocumented Immigrants and Access to Health Care**

21 Malcolm Gordon Rd.  
Garrison, NY 10524

Through this research project, The Hastings Center is exploring the consequences of excluding undocumented immigrants and migrants from obtaining health insurance under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 and the continuing exclusion of this population from Medicaid coverage and most other entitlement programs.

<http://kff.org/uninsured/report/resources-on-immigrants-and-health-care-coverage/>

#### **Kaiser Family Foundation: Resources on Immigrants and Health Care Coverage**

<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1306636>

#### **New England Journal of Medicine article "Stuck between Health and Immigration Reform—Care for Undocumented Immigrants". 7/24/13**

Gives an overview of which US health care services are available to undocumented immigrants.

# What We've Learned

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

# Rural Inequities

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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

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

# Rural Communities and Health

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



# The Intersection of Rural Communities and Disability

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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

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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)

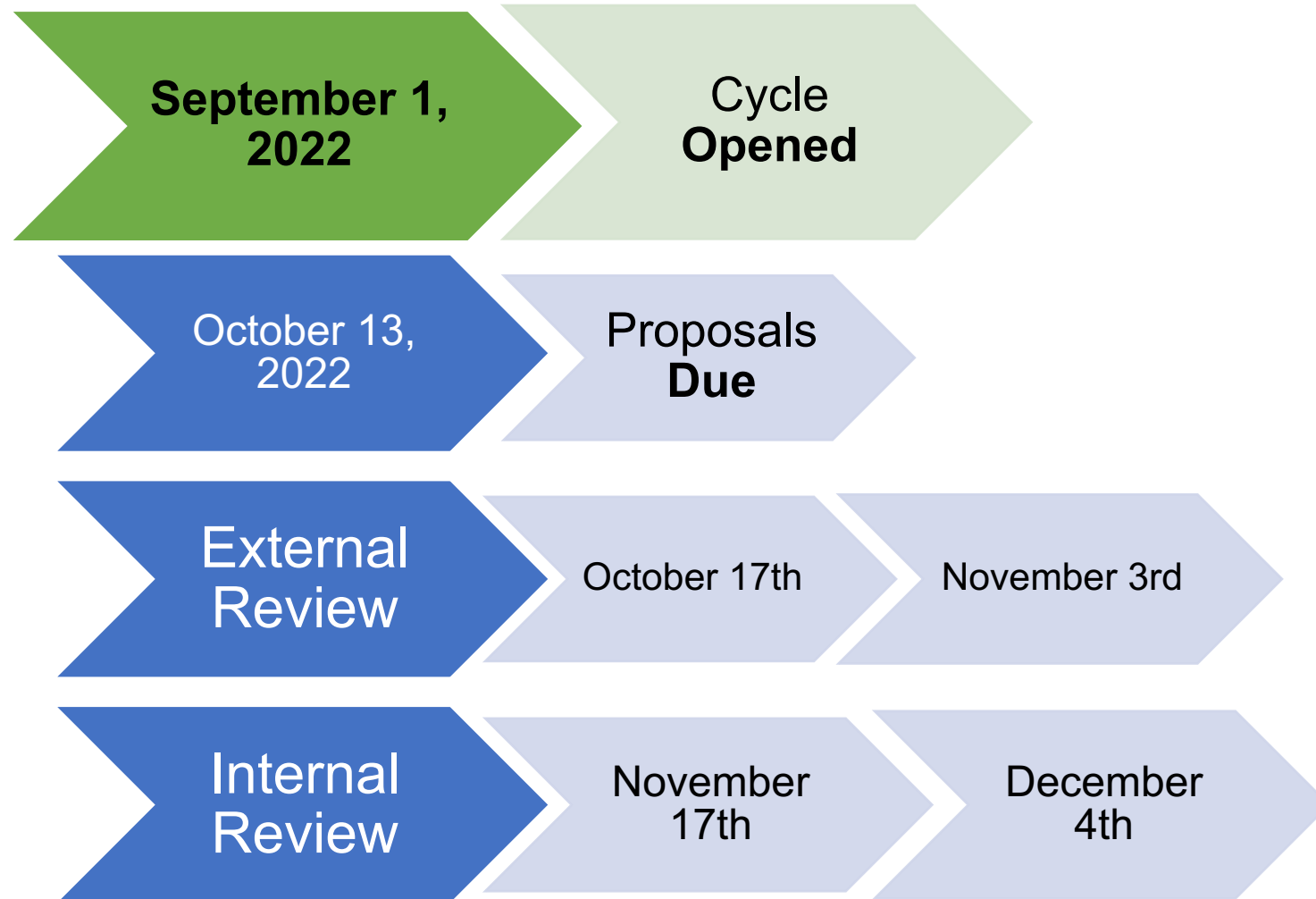
- **Tier 2- \$30,000 (must be completed within 12 months)**
- Respite/Caregiving
- Assistive Technology
- Covid-19 Addressing Social Isolation
- **Tier 3- \$40,000 (must be completed within 18 months)**
- Nursing Home Transition
- Racial Equity
- Rural Underserved and Unserved Populations
- **Tier 4-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

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# Direct Effect – Examples of Funded Projects

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**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

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- 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

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**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

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**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

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**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

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

- Employment

# Feedback

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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

Mark Bogosian  
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[www.ChristopherReeve.org](http://www.ChristopherReeve.org)

