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DIDD Begins Accepting Applications for Adult Changing Table Funding
Grant program provides for businesses and others to receive \$5,000 to buy and install tables

NASHVILLE—The Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities is making available grant funding for up to 200 adult changing tables.

The grants will provide funds for facilities open to the public, such as parks, recreation centers, malls, and restaurants. Private and municipal entities can use the funds to purchase and install powered, height-adjustable, adult-sized changing tables for single occupancy family restrooms. Applicants may submit requests for funding up to \$5,000 per table.

"We want people with disabilities to be able to participate fully in their communities and having safe, accessible toileting options is an important consideration for families as they plan outings," said DIDD Commissioner Brad Turner. "I know this firsthand as a father, and I'm pleased that we can help overcome this barrier to inclusion by offering these grants."

Those wishing to apply must be either private or municipal entities within the state of Tennessee, and the funding must be used for facilities that are open to the public within the state.

The Tennessee General Assembly approved \$1 million in funding for adult changing tables after hearing about this important need from members of the Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities.

"We want to come shop at your stores, we want to come visit your places," says Chrissy Hood, the Council member who led this issue. "Apply for those grants. It's money that's there to help you. And in turn, I believe it will help your business."

The grant application can be found here:

https://stateoftennessee.formstack.com/forms/didd_adult_changing_table_grant_opportunity

You can learn more about adult-changing table best practices at:

<https://www.tn.gov/didd/for-consumers/adult-size-changing-tables.html>

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About the Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

The Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (DIDD) is the state agency responsible for oversight of services and support to Tennesseans with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Every day, the department strives to support approximately 12,000 people to live rewarding and fulfilling lives through Medicaid waiver Home and Community Based Services (HCBS), state operated ICF/IIDs, and the Family Support Program. DIDD also provides services to children ages birth up to age three with disabilities or developmental delays through the Tennessee Early Intervention System (TEIS), and children under the age of 18 with disabilities or complex medical needs through the Katie Beckett Program. The department supports all Tennesseans with intellectual and developmental disabilities live the lives they envision for themselves by ensuring people are free to exercise rights, engage with their broader communities and experience optimal health. DIDD is the first state service delivery system in the nation to receive Person-Centered Excellence Accreditation from the Council on Quality and Leadership. It has also been recognized as a national leader in its efforts to increase competitive, community-based employment outcomes for people with disabilities and its commitment to enhancing independence through Enabling Technology.
