



#ExpectationsMatter Small Grants

Sunflower Bakery, Howard County Autism Society, Spring Dell Center, Towson University

Location: Statewide

Funding: \$20,000 | \$10,017 match

GOAL

Raise expectations about people with developmental disabilities in their schools, homes, workplaces, and communities. This will lead to people feeling more respected, welcomed, and supported.

SUMMARY

Expectations are what we think people can do. If we have high expectations of people, we are more likely to support them to try new things, take risks, and learn and grow. When we have high expectations that people with and without disabilities can live, learn, work, and play together, it is more likely to happen. That's why expectations matter.

The Council has developed resources to help people have high expectations of people with developmental disabilities. They can be found at md-council.org/resources. The #ExpectationsMatter small grants will continue this important work.

ACTIVITIES

Four community organizations will increase the number of people who understand and share the #ExpectationsMatter message.

- Sunflower Bakery will make a video that tells the story of 3 people with developmental disabilities who graduated from their Pastry Arts program. They are now employed in the community. Sunflower Bakery will share the video on social media and by email.
- Howard County Autism Society will make a video that focuses on education, employment, and housing for people with developmental disabilities. They will share

the video with schools, community organizations, employers, and people that develop housing.

- Spring Dell Center will make a video about increasing expectations about people with developmental disabilities at school, home, work, and in the community. They will share the video on social media and their website.
- Towson University will highlight the strengths and abilities of people with autism by developing and sharing stories in videos and in print. Students, faculty, staff, and community members with autism will tell the stories. The project is called #ExpectAbilityTU.

OUTCOMES

- People across Maryland increase their knowledge, understanding, and expectations of people with developmental disabilities. This includes family members, service providers, teachers, students, employers, and others in the community.
- People with developmental disabilities are respected, welcomed, and supported.