

Heldrich Center - Rutgers University - New Brunswick, NJ \$36,262.-

A Parent's Handbook on the Future World of Work

One Year Project

The Heldrich Center proposes to develop and design a guide titled A Parent's Handbook on the Future World of Work. The workbook would be available in a variety of formats and disseminated through the Council.

The proposed handbook is expected to build on previous research about the impact of expectations on employment outcomes for people with developmental disabilities that the Council has commissioned including *Higher Expectations: A Review of the Literature and Evidence on the Connection between Employment Success and Expectations of People with Disabilities and Expecting Success: Views on Employment Expectations from Workers with Disabilities and Parents of Children with Disabilities*.

The handbook will have three main goals:

- (1) serve as a source of encouragement and inspiration for parents about the wealth of opportunities that exist for children with developmental disabilities;
- (2) educate parents about the benefits of working, including emphasizing an improved standard of living made possible through earned income versus public assistance and the potential for accumulating assets; and
- (3) outline specific steps parents can take to encourage work and independence through learning.