**Strategic Initiatives Grant**

The Strategic Initiatives Grants (SIGs) are intended to assist in the advancement of IDEC’s mission. The SIGs do not fall under the purview of the Grants and Awards Board. All aspects of the SIG are handled by the Board of Directors with the assistance of the Collaborative Coordinators. The Strategic Plan will be announced by the board following the Board of Directors meeting at the annual conference. The amount of funding each year is determined by the Board of Directors at the summer meeting in conjunction with the planning of the annual budget. While a formal timeline is presented in the interest of efficiency, the Board may, at its discretion, utilize these funds for other strategic initiatives that do not follow the Strategic Initiatives Grant process, after the SIGs have been awarded and assuming funds remain.

**Criteria:**
- Submissions are evaluated based on their ability to advance the Strategic Plan of IDEC. Submissions that address the specific initiatives noted in the Strategic Plan will be given priority. Quality of written proposal. Description of the project, purpose, rationale, background, and outcomes are clearly presented.
- The budget is appropriate to accomplish the outcomes.
- Adherence to budget restrictions.
- The method is appropriate to achieve the desired outcome.
- The timeline is realistic.
- The investigator shows evidence of the ability to conduct the project. Letters of reference are included where appropriate.

**Timeline:** See Master Calendar.