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## **TASH Awarded Disability Communications Grant** *TASH awarded grant by the Disability Communications Fund*

WASHINGTON, DC – Earlier this month, TASH, in partnership with its California state chapter (Cal-TASH), was awarded a grant from the Disability Communications Fund (DCF) to provide training to increase the capacity of educators, speech-language pathologists, and adult service providers, to meet the communication needs of the individuals with disabilities and to increase communication competence for individuals who use augmentative and alternative communication.

"TASH believes that everyone should have the opportunity to express their needs and desires," says Ruthie-Marie Beckwith, TASH's executive director. "However, for some individuals, this only comes about with the commitment of well-trained supporters who presume competence and work to make opportunities happen."

The Disability Communications Fund is the grant-making operation within the California Communications Access Foundation (CCAF). The DCF's mission is to serve as an educator, convener, and resource that works collaboratively to ensure communications access to people with disabilities in the state of California. DCF announced [20 grantees](#) for the 2017 grant cycle.

The DCF grant will support four communication access training sessions at the [Cal-TASH Conference](#), March 3-4, 2017, in San Diego, California.

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*A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, TASH is an international grassroots leader in advancing inclusive communities through research, education and advocacy. Founded in 1975, we are a volunteer-driven organization that advocates for human rights and inclusion for people with the most significant disabilities and support needs – those most vulnerable to segregation, abuse, neglect and institutionalization. The inclusive practices we validate through research have been shown to improve outcomes for all people. More information about TASH can be found at [www.tash.org](http://www.tash.org).*