



## **MNDEC Mini-Grant**

The Minnesota Division for Early Childhood of the Council for Exceptional Children (MN DEC) uses its fundraiser revenue to annually fund two grants (up to \$750) for practitioners to engage in innovative practices. Applicants may be individuals or teams of practitioners working in a program that serves young children with disabilities and their families. **Each application must include at least one applicant who is a current member of DEC.** On completing the process, recipients share the results in a short article (describing the process and results) for the MNDEC newsletter.

### **Typical components of Action Research:**

1. Identifying the problem to be solved
2. Diagnosing the causes of the problem
3. Formulating an action hypothesis
4. Designing and implementing an action plan
5. Simple procedures for analysis of the resulting data or evidence

**Please complete all sections of this application and return by Feb. 14, 2020 to MN DEC at: [info@mndec.org](mailto:info@mndec.org)**

**Applicant Name(s)**

**DEC Member Number(s):**

1. What is the problem or issue (25 words or less):
2. What are the possible causes of the problem or roots of the issue?
3. Describe your hypothesis. What are the actions to be taken that may solve the problem?
4. Describe your action plan. What are the steps to be taken? Who will be responsible? By when will the steps be taken?
5. What data/evidence will you collect that will help you know whether your hypothesis was accurate? How will the data be analyzed?
6. Budget. Clearly describe how the grant funds will be used to answer your identified questions including cost of supplies/equipment, added compensation for time of researchers outside existing contractual hours, cost associated with visiting another program to conduct an observation, etc.

**Signature of DEC Member:**

**Signature of Immediate Supervisor:**