**To:** Affiliate Executive Directors

**cc:** Bellows Subcommittee

 Affiliate Board Presidents

**From:** Armando Contreras/Mark Boles/ Anita Porco

**Date:** February 7, 2018

**Re:** FiscalYear 2018 UCP Affiliate Allocations for the Elsie S. Bellows Program

The FiscalYear 2018 affiliate allocations for the Elsie S. Bellows program are now available. Each year, the precise allocation for each dues-based tier depends on two factors – the number of affiliates eligible to participate at the onset of the fiscal year, and the amount of “earned income” on the Bellows Fund that we are approved to spend on grants. All fiscal year 2017 allocations are restricted for use under Bellows program guidelines and must be used before the end of fiscal year 2018. Following is a schedule of allocations for fiscal year 2018:

**Annual Allocation Affiliate Size Category**

**$12,500 Affiliates with dues of $7500-$14,999.00**

**$15,500 Affiliates with dues from $15,000-$24,999.00**

**$20,100 Affiliates with dues above $25,000(max dues)**

**State Affiliates paying $1000.00 in dues will receive an allocation of $3000.00.**

As you can see the allocations for 2018 are significantly higher than previous years and we are excited to be able to provide these funds for individuals that you serve in your communities. For affiliates this is an opportunity to assist many individuals and provide larger items for those that need them. We encourage you to utilize your allocation and let your community know of the work that you are doing to provide assistive technology to empower individuals with disabilities.

We look forward to receiving your applications for Bellows awards at any time. When the application is submitted the affiliate must be in “good standing”. Applications are available online in the “For Affiliates “section of the UCP website (www.ucp.org) and may be submitted for up to the amount of your allocation throughout the fiscal year. Also available on the website are Bellows Guidelines and Frequently Asked Questions. Once approved by the committee finance will process a check to the affiliate. You may submit your application electronically to the following address: bellows@ucp.org