

# Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities

## Executive Committee

Date: 4/02/13

Review of Proposed Activities & Budget

ITEM: A

Grantee: Educational Programs Inspiring Communities

Year: 2 of 5

Project Title: Enabling Technology

Project Location: Houston, TX

**TCDD RFP Intent:**

The project intent is to assist Texans with developmental disabilities in attaining competitive employment opportunities. Grantees will develop and implement a plan to demonstrate to employers, people with developmental disabilities, and/or family members ways in which available assistive technology can enhance job performance and increase employment options. TCDD has approved funding up to \$225,000 per year for up to five years.

**Project Goals and Accomplishments for Year 1:**

**Goal:** The goal of this project is to design, develop, deploy, and evaluate an interactive customized mobile tablet solution that will increase the employability of low-income adults with developmental disabilities in the H.E.A.R.T. Program by December 31, 2012 or within a 12-month period.

*Accomplishments per goal:* PAC was formed and tablets were acquired. Recruited 12 program participants to test the application. Administered survey to program participants to gauge technology proficiency. Signed contract between software developer and H.E.A.R.T. program. Defined and designed modules including scheduling, requisitions, shopping, inventory management, and vending runs. Completed one module (coded and deployed). The completed module was installed and staff and participants have been trained on this module. Prepared an evaluation to solicit feedback from program participants.

**Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 2:**

**Goal 1:** The goal of the HEART Inventory Tracking System (HITS) project is to design, develop, deploy, and evaluate an interactive customized iPad app that will increase the employability of low-income adults with developmental disabilities in the H.E.A.R.T. Program by March 31, 2013.

**Objective:** Develop, deploy, and test the “shopping” and “requisition” flow of HITS by 8/31/13. Develop, deploy, and test the “vending run” and “return from run” flow by 12/31/13. Complete the report management phase of HITS and perform testing by 3/31/2014. Evaluate the customized application within H.E.A.R.T and provide evaluation to TCDD by 5/31/14.

**Council Considerations:** Public Policy Considerations: Qualitative data from the technology developers regarding the benefits, the future opportunities, considerations and/or challenges associated with including people with developmental disabilities in the design, testing, and evaluation phases of the project could be used to promote inclusive technology development policies beyond this project. Specific quantitative information about how the development of the app improved wages or provided employment opportunities for persons with more significant disabilities than might otherwise have been considered for the position would also support the tenets of the state’s Employment First initiative. No staff concerns; Council to consider continuation of funding for this project.

| <b>Continuation Budget Detail Summary</b>  |           |          |           |
|--|-----------|----------|-----------|
|  | Federal   | Match    | Totals    |
| Amount expended in year 1 (Based on 10 months)<br>(\$175,000 consultants) Award amount - \$225,000 | \$133,100 | \$40,708 | \$173,808 |
| <b>Amount requested for next year budget:</b>  |           |          |           |
| <b>I. Personnel Services</b>   | 39,224    | 0        | 39,224    |
| <b>II. Travel</b>  | 0         | 0        | 0         |
| <b>III. Purchased Services</b> (\$175,000 consultants)   | 177,000   | 85,000   | 262,000   |
| <b>IV. Equipment/Supplies</b>  | 845       | 0        | 845       |
| <b>V. Rental/Leasing</b>   | 660       | 0        | 660       |
| <b>VI. Utilities</b>   | 7271      | 0        | 7271      |
| <b>VII. Other</b>  | 0         | 0        | 0         |
| Budget period totals   | \$225,000 | \$85,000 | \$310,000 |

# Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities

## Executive Committee

Date: 4/02/13

Review of Proposed Activities & Budget

ITEM: B

Grantee: Strategic Education Solutions

Year: 2 of 5

Project Title: Enabling Technology

Project Location: Austin, TX

**TCDD RFP Intent:**

The project intent is to assist Texans with developmental disabilities in attaining competitive employment opportunities. Grantees will develop and implement a plan to demonstrate to employers, people with developmental disabilities, and/or family members ways in which available assistive technology can enhance job performance and increase employment options. TCDD has approved funding up to \$225,000 per year for up to five years.

**Project Goals and Accomplishments for Year 1:**

**Goal:** To provide adults with Cognitive Disabilities and their caretakers a comprehensive, accessible, and low-cost instructional resource that supports them through their career planning, job search, and employment journey.

*Accomplishments per goal:* Recruited 9 PAC members from diverse stakeholder groups. Developed 5 needs assessment surveys including client, parent, and service provider in English and Spanish. Planned and implemented outreach campaign to over 60 organizations. Developed comprehensive content manual synthesizing best practice research and Needs Assessment data. Developed year 1 scope & sequence and content for 30 modules in the area of jobs search skills. Launched website in month 9. Recruited 15 participants of diverse autism diagnosis, gender, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Deployed 10 modules for participant testing. Collected post-pilot user/parent survey data in month 11 to inform product enhancement plan.

**Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 2:**

**Goal 1: Same as above**

**Objective:** Develop 20 additional instructional modules based on the most pressing needs of the target population. Identify, select, and train 10 additional pilot test participants and continue training and monitoring of existing participants (25 total). Develop product enhancement plan for year 3 to ensure that user need dictates content/functionality. Evaluate project activities and effectiveness. Recruit, convene, and monitor PAC.

**Council Considerations:** Public Policy Considerations: Focused on people with autism, the project states it will demonstrate how innovative, technology-based approaches can provide critical employment support services to facilitate both school-to-work transition and employment success for people with disabilities. If the project launches careers for students with developmental disabilities, the virtual job coach modules appear to be a highly cost-effective tool for providers of public services and could be highlighted as a model during the implementation of Texas' employment first policy. No staff concerns; Council to consider continuation of funding for this project.

### Continuation Budget Detail Summary

|  | Federal   | Match    | Totals    |
|--|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Amount expended in year 1 (Based on 10 months)<br>Consultant \$ 15,000<br>Award amount - \$224,967 | \$181,923 | \$22,333 | \$204,256 |
| <b>Amount requested for next year budget:</b>  |           |          |           |
| <b>I. Personnel Services</b>   | 66,500    | 28,587   | 95,087    |
| <b>II. Travel</b>  | 0         | 1262     | 1262      |
| <b>III. Purchased Services</b> (\$15,000 consultants)  | 156,820   | 17,061   | 173,881   |
| <b>IV. Equipment/Supplies</b>  | 1680      | 588      | 2268      |
| <b>V. Rental/Leasing</b>   | 0         | 2040     | 2040      |
| <b>VI. Utilities</b>   | 0         | 504      | 504       |
| <b>VII. Other</b>  | 0         | 0        | 0         |
| Budget period totals   | \$225,000 | \$50,042 | \$275,042 |

# Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities

## Executive Committee

Date: 4/02/13

Review of Proposed Activities & Budget

ITEM: C

Grantee: The Arc of Greater Tarrant County

Year: 2 of 3

Project Title: Inclusive Faith-Based Communities Symposium

Project Location: Fort Worth

**TCDD RFP Intent:**

The project intent is to collaborate with leaders of faith-based organizations in order to compare experiences and share resources so that formal and informal community supports available to people with developmental disabilities may be increased. TCDD has approved funding up to \$75,000 per year for up to three years.

**Project Goals and Accomplishments for Year 1:**

**Goal:** The faith-based and IDD Communities will collaborate to increase inclusive opportunities for individuals and their families with IDD to worship in a location and manner of their choosing.

*Accomplishments per goal:* Secured venue and speakers for the 1<sup>st</sup> Inclusive Faith-Based Communities Symposium scheduled for May 28, 30, 2013. Arranged accessible complimentary transportation for event attendees. Identified key topics for symposium, including transportation, People First Language (PFL), inclusiveness, bullying and respite. Educated planning leaders on PFL and helped staff develop PFL materials for distribution at symposium and beyond. Faith leaders in planning and advisory roles are committed to leading their communities in creating more welcoming, inclusive atmospheres in places of worship. A toolkit for faith organizations is being developed to serve as a resource manual for including and ministering to individuals with developmental disabilities. The toolkit will include information on PFL, communication/sensory differences, a guide to navigating services and local resources.

**Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 2:**

**Goal: Same as above**

**Objective:** Build a partnership between the faith-based and IDD communities. Hold a minimum of two symposia dedicated to educating and developing inclusion practices in the faith community. A minimum of ten faith-based community groups will initiate work plans with the goal to become inclusive to individuals and their families with IDD through the initiation of an activity. Increase number of area faith-based communities involved in project during year two. Conduct a 3-year research project measuring the success of this project through iCAP grant.

**Council Considerations:** Public Policy Considerations: The project has identified goals of providing opportunity for religious leaders to understand and support their community of people with disabilities and eliminate physical and communication barriers. There also is a goal specific to individuals with cognitive disabilities having faith teaching in a manner that is understandable to them. A universal policy implication is awareness and policy change – as faith communities involved in the project learn the barriers to inclusion they will then need to plan for and implement physical, program and policy changes. Taking it a step further, setting the expectation that project participants will plant the seeds of change in additional houses of worship beyond those that participated will extend the project's reach to more persons with disabilities. No staff concerns; Council to consider continued funding for this project.

### Continuation Budget Detail Summary

|   | Federal  | Match    | Totals    |
|---|----------|----------|-----------|
| Amount expended in year 1 (\$19,530 consultants)<br>(based on 8 months) Award amount \$75,000 | \$20,000 | \$6,667  | \$26,667  |
| <b>Amount requested for next year budget:</b>   |          |          |           |
| <b>I. Personnel Services</b>  | 52,617   | 5475     | 58,092    |
| <b>II. Travel</b>   | 0        | 0        | 0         |
| <b>III. Purchased Services</b> (\$22,000 consultants)   | 18,000   | 31,000   | 49,000    |
| <b>IV. Equipment/Supplies</b>   | 4383     | 0        | 4383      |
| <b>V. Rental/Leasing</b>  | 0        | 0        | 0         |
| <b>VI. Utilities</b>  | 0        | 0        | 0         |
| <b>VII. Other</b>   | 0        | 0        | 0         |
| Budget period totals  | \$75,000 | \$36,475 | \$111,475 |

**Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities`  
Executive Committee**

**Date:** 4/02/13

**Review of Proposed Activities & Budget**

**ITEM: D**

**Grantee:** The Arc of San Angelo

**Year: 3 of 3**

**Project Title:** Alternatives to Guardianship: Volunteer-Supported Decision-Making

**Project Location:** Tom Green County

**TCDD RFP Intent:**

The project intent is to demonstrate how volunteers can provide appropriate supports to help individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities to make decisions concerning their own lives. In 2009, the Texas Legislature passed HB 1454 directing the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to develop and evaluate two Volunteer-Supported Decision-Making Advocate pilot programs that will provide supported decision-making services to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities and other cognitive disabilities. The Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) was directed by HHSC to develop and implement the pilot program and to provide the legislature with a report and recommendations. TCDD has partnered with DADS to implement the pilot. TCDD has approved funding of up to \$75,000 per year for up to three years.

**Project Goals and Accomplishments for Year(s) 1=2:**

**Goal:** To provide supported decision-making services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and other cognitive disabilities to increase their self-determination, power, and control of their own lives through recruiting, training, monitoring, and supporting volunteers.

*Accomplishments per goal:*

Diversion was established as the priority with education and execution of advanced directives identified as secondary activities. The project successfully diverted Court-initiated guardianships for 4 individuals. As of December 2012, 17 volunteers received training and participated in presentations. Barriers to the role of volunteers were identified and possible solutions explored, but the conclusion was volunteers are not adequate and effective for those needing substantial decision-making support. A Leadership Academy, consisting of a model similar to Partners in Policymaking (including People First Language, History of People with Disabilities, and the Self-Determination Movement) and involving problem-solving scenarios was held for 12 individuals.

**Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 3:**

**Goal: Same as above.**

**Objectives:** Leadership will be held across 5 consecutive days, 3 hours each day for 15 individuals. Groups will be formed to address problem-solving with real-life, complex scenarios. Participants will be trained on what constitutes Informed Consent, Best Interest, and Supported Decision Making. Training will include information on the risks of establishing a guardianship.

**Council Considerations:** Public Policy Considerations: In trying to implement supported decision-making, the project identified legal, procedural and cultural barriers preventing volunteers from supporting decision-making of individuals with developmental disabilities. In Texas, the individual with disabilities must have capacity to consent to the surrogate or support. The project found other states that promote alternatives to guardianship, not available in Texas policy and practice. Changes in practice and education on the project advisory committee from court and attorney fields inform future policy change to advance alternatives to guardianship and self-determination. No staff concerns; Council to consider continued funding for this project.

| <b>Continuation Budget Detail Summary</b>   |          |          |           |
|---|----------|----------|-----------|
|   | Federal  | Match    | Totals    |
| <b>Amount expended in Year 2</b> (\$0 consultants)<br>(based on 7 months) Award amount \$73,941 | \$35,304 | \$13,844 | \$49,148  |
| <b>Amount requested for Year 3 budget:</b>  |          |          |           |
| <b>I. Personnel Services</b>  | 70,854   | 12,219   | 83,073    |
| <b>II. Travel</b>   | 0        | 0        | 0         |
| <b>III. Purchased Services</b> (\$0 consultants)  | 1527     | 3890     | 5417      |
| <b>IV. Property/Materials</b>   | 0        | 950      | 950       |
| <b>V. Rental/Leasing</b>  | 0        | 14,550   | 14,550    |
| <b>VI. Utilities</b>  | 2619     | 1821     | 4440      |
| <b>VII. Other (Indirect Costs)</b>  | 0        | 0        | 0         |
| Budget period totals  | \$75,000 | \$33,430 | \$108,430 |

**Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities`**  
**Executive Committee**  
**Review of Proposed Activities & Budget**

Date: 4/02/13

ITEM: E  
Year: 2 of 3

Grantee: Texas Advocates

Project Title: New Leadership Development and Advocacy Skills Training

Project Location: Travis, Bexar, Atacosa, Guadalupe, Cameron, Willacy, Hidalgo, and Starr Counties

**TCDD RFP Intent:**

The intent of the new Leadership Development and Advocacy Skills Training Projects RFP is to create programs that provide leadership development and advocacy skills training for people with developmental disabilities, their families, and their allies. TCDD has approved funding up to \$75,000 for up to three years.

**Project Goals and Accomplishments for Year 1:**

**Goal:** Project SAVE (Self, Advocate Voices Engaged) will train and support State Supported Living Centers (SSLC) residents and community organizations so that **self advocate voices** are **engaged** to create change for themselves and their community.

*Accomplishments per goal:*

In Austin, Texas Advocates completed 2 community recruitment events, 7 presentations for local community groups, 4 trainings, and 2 train-the-trainer sessions. In San Antonio, the grantee conducted 3 presentations for local community groups, 2 trainings and 1 community event. In the Rio Grande Valley, 6 presentations for local community groups, 2 trainings and 1 community event were held. A community event on Healthy Relationships was conducted in Richmond. As of December 2012, a total of 4 trainings for 34 Austin SSLC participants and 1 training for 12 San Antonio SSLC participants had been conducted.

**Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 2:**

**Goal:** Same as above.

**Objectives:** 1) Select at least one new community for training (Richmond); 2) Continue work in current communities; 3) Provide training in at least 4 communities for at least 56 total new participants trained

**Council Considerations:** Public Policy Considerations: This grantee is teaching state supported living center residents and others to advocate for themselves in 2 of the same communities, Austin and San Antonio, as the current leadership and advocacy project as the Arc of Texas. This collective impact strategy is regarded as a powerful and realistic paradigm for social progress affecting policy change. No staff concerns; Council to consider continued funding for this project.

| <b>Continuation Budget Detail Summary</b>  |          |          |          |
|--|----------|----------|----------|
|  | Federal  | Match    | Totals   |
| <b>Amount expended in Year 1</b> (\$51,622 consultants)<br>(based on 9 months) Award amount \$75,000 | \$42,992 | \$11,882 | \$54,874 |
| <b>Amount requested for Year 2 budget:</b>   |          |          |          |
| <b>I. Personnel Services</b>   | 0        | 13,529   | 13,529   |
| <b>II. Travel</b>  | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| <b>III. Purchased Services</b> (\$50,822 consultants)  | 69,467   | 0        | 69,467   |
| <b>IV. Property/Materials</b>  | 3193     | 0        | 3193     |
| <b>V. Rental/Leasing</b>   | 300      | 1200     | 1500     |
| <b>VI. Utilities</b>   | 2040     | 0        | 2040     |
| <b>VII. Other (Indirect Costs)</b>   | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Budget period totals   | \$75,000 | \$14,729 | \$89,729 |