

Background:

Staff will provide updates to the Project Development Committee regarding public information activities, the status of new or recently approved projects, and projected available funds. Meeting materials include the following items for your review prior to the meeting:

- Grant Project Highlights – This report provides highlights of grantee accomplishments for a number of current TCDD funded projects. The Project Highlights for Region 17 Education Service Center – Families in Schools will be presented by grants staff at the Committee of the Whole
- Future Project Funding Priorities - This chart includes all projects that have previously been approved by the Council but have not yet been initiated. The Project Development Committee reviews the Priority List each quarter, adds new projects recommended for approval by the Council, and may revise the priority order as the Committee determines is appropriate.

Staff may also refer to the following printed materials, found behind other Tabs:

- Public Information Report - includes recent public information staff activities that create awareness and build connections. Tab 15
- TCDD Quarterly Financial Report –summarizes TCDD’s approved budget and year-to-date expenditures and is used in projecting funds available for additional projects in future years. Tab 7

Project Development Committee

Agenda Item 6.

Expected Action:

Information items only; no action is anticipated.

Council

Agenda Item 12. A.

Expected Action:

The Council will receive a report on key discussions of the Committee on these items. No action is anticipated.

TCDD Project Highlights May 2014

Families in Schools

RFP Intent: The intent of the Family Involvement in Schools proposal is for one project to recruit, engage, empower and support families of children with special needs attending schools in the Region 17 Educational Service Center (ESC 17) to become involved with their child's public school.

Grantee: Region 17 Education Service Center (ESC 17)

Project Title: Families in Schools

Year: 1 of 5

Project Location: Bailey, Lamb, Hale, Floyd, Motley, Cottle, Cochran, Hockley, Lubbock, Crosby, Dickens, King, Yoakum, Terry, Lynn, Garza, Kent Gaines, Dawson and Borden Counties.

TCDD Budgeted: \$300,000

The Family Involvement project will provide training, coaching, technical assistance and access to resources for families and schools within Region 17's geographical area. Partnerships with families, local community agencies and schools will be developed in order to identify to family participations in Admission, Review and Dismissal (ARD) meetings and school activities. Online and written parental surveys, as well as input from local community partners and schools will also be used to identify barriers. The goal will be to increase the number of family and school activities hosted by the school and increase the attendance of family members of children/students with disabilities at ARD meetings and school activities. Trainings will focus on effective communication, home/school collaboration and pertinent topics for parents that will foster engagement in their child's education.

Accomplishments:

- Four school districts (Slaton, Roosevelt, Wilson, and Southland ISD) from the South East Lubbock County (SELCO) Shared Service Arrangement (SSA) were recruited to participate in training and coaching for Cohort 1.
- Slaton ISD elementary campuses hosted a Conscious Discipline book study for parents.
- The Building Strong Families Conference, a collaboration of multiple community agencies, was held on October 24th at ESC 17.
- Wilson ISD hosted 2 parent activities that were well attended; a BLOCK Fest was held with 16 parents, 22 children and 5 staff in attendance – a huge feat for a school with a student population of 150!
- A large group from Slaton and Roosevelt ISD, including 4 parents and 6 administrators, attended the ARC of Texas Inclusion Works Conference.

Sustainability:

Project activities are parent/family focused; the community (school) climate has become more inclusive of individuals with disabilities. Individuals with disabilities benefitted from participation in afterschool activities/community activities in Slaton that will build social skills and increase leisure and fitness activities. Several parents have increased expectations for their individual children's potential in academic and social settings as well as for their future involvement in the world of work following graduation. Several teachers have noted in their evaluations of the Poverty Simulation that they now have insight into the difficulties that many families live with on a daily basis.

In part, by participating with the schools in events that they have planned instead of creating extra events as the ESC, it is expected that the districts will be able to sustain their efforts. The grant has provided high quality professionals as presenters/trainers to address the concerns (such as behavior) of both parents and districts and has supported districts' efforts to provide incentives for participation and attendance. ESC 17 has also utilized a coaching model that will enable districts to continue utilizing strategies acquired through the trainings and collaborations. A library of resources for parents is currently being developed for each participating campus and the SELCO office. Additional resources are being provided to participating campuses to support their efforts to facilitate parent engagement and collaboration.

TCDD Future Funding Activities Priority List

As of January 14, 2014

#	Organization/Activity	Possible Projects	Funding "Up To"	Council Approved	Expected RFP Post	Expected Start	Expected End
N/A	Outreach & Development Projects – 2.0 Projects for up to 18 months	5/yr	\$10,000/project	10/25/13	TBD	FY 14-16	Variable
N/A	Developmental Disability Policy Fellows Program Award up to 2 two-year Fellowships in each of Year 1 and Year 2 up to 3 yrs	1	Year 1 up to \$135k Year 2 up to \$270K Year 3 up to \$135K	8/09/13	2/21/14 1/16/15	7/1/14 7/1/15	5/31/16 5/31/17
1.	Self-Advocate Grassroots Community Organizing up to 3 yrs	1	\$100,000/yr	5/03/13	4/04/14	11/1/14	5/31/17
2.	Understanding Employment Options and Supports Conference up to 2 yrs	1	\$150,000/yr	10/25/13	6/06/14	12/1/14	11/30/16
3.	Culturally Competent Family Support up to 4 yrs	5	\$75,000/yr/project	5/03/13	6/06/14	12/1/14	11/30/18
4.	Partnership with African American Clergy to Support Families up to 5 yrs	1	\$75,000/yr	5/03/13	N/A	TBD	TBD
5.	Accessible Transportation Project Year 1 -3 funding up to \$150k; Year 4 up to \$125k; and Year 5 up to \$100k up to 5 yrs	1	\$150,000/yr	10/25/13	TBD	TBD	TBD
N/A	Accessible Parking Awareness Campaign Phase 2 – two proposals to be reviewed by TCDD in approximately 6 months	TBD	TBD	TBD	N/A	TBD	TBD
N/A	Support for Full Participation of Self-Advocates on Workgroups up to 1 yrs	1	*\$50,000/yr	8/09/13	N/A	9/1/13	8/31/14

*\$50k/yr budgeted for Public Policy Activities

Legend	Open RFP or Proposals received are under review at time of printing.
	Proposals have been approved, awarded or project is in process of beginning since last Council meeting.