

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 Self-Advocates as Speakers 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 16
- 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 6

Project Development Committee**Agenda Item 6.****Expected Action:**

Information items only; no action is anticipated.

Council**Agenda Item 16. A.****Expected Action:**

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

Grant Project Highlights

Leadership and Advocacy Skills Training

State Plan Goal(s) and Objective(s)

Goal 6: Work with others to double the number of identified leadership development and advocacy training programs that are able to provide culturally appropriate training for people with developmental disabilities without ongoing grant funding from TCDD, by 9/30/2016.

Leadership Development and Advocacy Skills Training

Arc of Texas – Through Project MOVE, the Arc of Texas is partnering with local Arc chapters and other groups to provide training and ongoing support to Mobilize and Organization self-advocates, families and allies to use their Voices to Empower communities and create meaningful change.

- 603 self-advocates, families and allies trained
- Recruiting and training took place in Austin, San Antonio, Lubbock, El Paso, San Angelo and Richmond and the Rio Grande Valley
- The project coordinator has presented at several conferences

The project will focus on Austin, San Antonio, the Rio Grande Valley and the Amarillo/Central Plains Region.

Project Period: March 2012 – February 2015

Award amount: Up to \$75,000 per year, for up to three (3) years.

Promoting Self Advocates as Speakers

VSA Art of Texas – VSA Opening Minds, Opening Doors project will train at least 50 self-advocates on narrative storytelling, presentation techniques, and how to use slideshows, video and other technology.

- 95 self-advocates trained
- Self-advocates write compelling autobiographical story and craft into a short speech for a live audience. Presentations range from five to fifteen minutes in length and explore many issues that people with disabilities face including education, independent living, group homes, aging, marriage, and children.
- The project has expanded to El Paso and will hold a training in August 2014

The project will focus on Hays, Travis and Williamson counties the first year and then expand into Bexar, El Paso and Harris counties the following years.

Project Period: May 2013 – April 2017

Award amount: Up to \$125,000 per year, for up to five (5) years.