

Background:

Executive Summaries for seven (7) current grant projects that are eligible for continuation funding are enclosed for consideration by the Committee. Grants monitoring strategies are noted under staff recommendations which follow the grants risk assessment report.

- A. **Educational Programs Inspiring Communities** — Enabling Technology
- B. **Strategic Solutions** — Enabling Technology
- C. **Imagine Enterprises** — Self-Advocates as Speakers
- D. **VSA Texas** — Self-Advocates as Speakers
- E. **Epilepsy Foundation Texas** — Health & Fitness
- F. **Region 17 Education Service Center** — Family Involvement in Schools
- G. **Texas Advocates** — Self-Advocates Grassroots Community Organizing

At the August meeting, staff expect to bring four (4) projects to be considered for continuation funding:

- **Community Healthcare** — Building Community Capacity through Collaboration
- **Volar Center for Independent Living** — Building Community Capacity through Collaboration
- **Texas Tech University** — Support for Project SEARCH
- **Light and Salt Association** — Culturally Appropriate Family Supports

Grants Risk Assessment Report (Tab 3) — the Grants Risk Assessment Report enclosed summarizes the risk assessment matrix for consideration of grant awards and provides more detail about monitoring activities for all TCDD funded projects.

Important Terms:

Continuation Grant Awards: For each grant project funded by TCDD, the Council authorizes the number of years of funding available (usually 3–5 years), but projects must reapply and be approved for funding each year.

Executive Committee — Agenda Item 8**Expected Action:**

The Executive Committee will review the information provided and consider approving funding for each continuation award.

Council — Agenda Item 9. A.**Expected Action:**

The Council will receive a report on the Executive Committee decisions.

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

ITEM: A

Date: 5/4/16

Grantee: Educational Programs Inspiring Communities

Year: 5 of 5

Project Title: Enabling Technology

Project Location: Houston

Website: www.heartprogram.org

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.

Authorized Funding: TCDD has approved up to \$225,000 per year for up to three years with an option of funding years four and five.

Expected Results: Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) will have access to technology that will enable them to complete job tasks more efficiently and independently. This technology will be shared with other organizations to promote the hiring and support of people with IDD.

Project Goals for Year 1–4:

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.

Project Accomplishments for Year 1–4:

Year 1: A survey was administered to program participants to gauge technology proficiency from which modules for the app were defined and designed. An evaluation was developed to solicit feedback from pilot participants.

Year 2: The project partner fully coded and deployed all aspects of the app. The app was tested and de-bugged first by project staff. Participants were provided with training on how to use the iPads per needs assessment. Testing of the entire application by pilot participants began in the last quarter of year two.

Year 3: New modules were designed, coded and added to the app. Testing continued and the app was fine-tuned. The app was deployed to program participants to begin using in HEART's in-house inventory environment and with HEART's vending machine job training and employment program. By conducting pre and post assessments, the grantee has determined that the participants have increased their familiarity with the iPads.

Year 4: There was an expansion on the HITS design which resulted in templates or modules that can be used by other businesses and companies outside of HEART while at the same time providing updates to the current successful HITS app so that it can continue to be utilized fully within HEART.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 5:

Goal: Same as above

Objectives: Support the HITS app by designing and implementing change requests to current system; Maintain the HITS app by conducting system updates and deploying change requests to the HITS app; and, Create a stand-alone inventory module for use outside of The HEART Program.

Council Considerations:

Public Policy Considerations: The public policy obstacles identified by the grantee should be revisited now that all Medicaid waiver programs expressly offer both employment assistance and supported employment services. It should be noted that the HCS program does not prohibit job training programs (“It is not allowable under the day-hab rules for the consumer to participate in any job training activities”). The underlying public policy is that a provider cannot charge for the provision of two services at the same time (day habilitation and habilitation training) or charge for day habilitation when the service being delivered is habilitation training. PP staff recommend that proceeds of goods or services produced in training should accrue to the individual, not the training provider. At this stage in the grantee’s product development, it would be helpful to develop measures of how its technology helps workers with disabilities perform competitively in integrated environments.

Grant Management Considerations: No concerns; high risk monitoring (awards within awards).

Staff Recommendation: TCDD staff recommends Council consideration of continuation funding.

Continuation Budget Detail Summary

Year	Federal Amount Expended	Match Amount Expended	Expended Total Amounts
Expended Year 1 (Consultant: \$175,000)	\$225,000/\$225,000	\$75,000/\$100,456	\$300,000/\$325,456
Expended Year 2 (Consultant: \$175,000)	\$225,000/\$225,000	\$85,000/\$136,613	\$310,000/\$361,613
Expended Year 3 (Consultant: \$175,000)	\$225,000/\$225,000	\$90,000/\$98,967	\$315,000/\$323,967
Expended Year 4 (7 months) (Consultants: \$175,000)	\$225,000/\$130,878	\$95,000/\$58,720	\$320,000/\$189,598

Amounts Requested for Year Four Budget

Expense Item	Federal Amount Requested	Match Amount Requested	Total Amount Requested
1. Personnel Services	\$40,018	\$0	\$40,018
2. Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0
3. Purchased Services (Consultants: \$175,000)	\$177,000	\$100,000	\$277,000
4. Property/Materials	\$1823	\$0	\$1823
5. Rental/Leasing	\$859	\$40	\$859
6. Utilities	\$5300	\$0	\$5300
7. Other (Indirect Costs)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Budget period totals	\$225,000	\$100,000	\$325,000

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

ITEM: B

Date: 5/4/16

Grantee: Strategic Education Solutions

Project Title: Enabling Technology

Project Location: Houston

Year: 5 of 5 Website: www.strategicedolutions.com

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.

Authorized Funding: TCDD has approved up to \$225,000 per year for up to three years with an option of funding years four and five.

Expected Results: Adults with cognitive disabilities will have access to a low-cost instructional resource that will assist them with career planning, the job search, and sustaining competitive employment.

Project Goals for Year 1-4:

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

Project Accomplishments for Year 1-4:

Year 1: The grantee developed content for 30 modules in the area of job search skills. 15 pilot participants of diverse autism diagnosis, gender, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds were recruited. The website was launched and the grantee deployed 10 modules for participant testing.

Year 2: The Virtual Job Coach (VJC) team developed 20 additional user modules. The grantee recruited one teacher and 10 students from a mixed high school transition class which had been used as the training site since September, 2013. The project partner responsible for technology deployment developed a feature that enables support staff to create “classes” of users, assign content on a customized schedule, and monitor users’ progress.

Year 3: The project focused on forming partnerships with new organizations to establish new pilot groups. The grantee will support a new pilot in a Project SEARCH site in Fort Bend, TX. Several pilot testers have gained meaningful employment. The project director has met with local agency staff (DARS, TEA, WorkForce) to discuss statewide implementation of the VJC.

Year 4 (to date): In years 1-4, pilots served a diverse group of 46 users (ages 16-43). The project staff is in the process of developing a RFQ to enable re-negotiation of the technology license agreement to minimize per-user cost or identify a new technology system to disseminate contact. The project is in the process of uploading additional content in the area of Career Planning. A RFP will be sent to Texas MHMR’s and Regional Education Service Centers in an effort to identify organizations that serve rural and/or poverty counties to complete a pilot program. The project continues to pilot the program with project SEARCH in Fort Bend ISD and Social Motion will implement a pilot in Houston during the last four months of the budget period.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 5:

Goal: Same as above

Objectives: Update technology in support of the sustainability plan; update the content in support of the sustainability; refine branding/positioning/messaging in support of the sustainability plan; pilot the testing expansion; and, update the program evaluation.

Staff Recommendations:

Public Policy Considerations: Finding competitive integrated employment for people with disabilities requires a person-centered approach when working with both the individual and the potential employer. Regarding both the individual and the employer as clients substantially improved rates of employment using customized employment and internships, relying on tools such as professional and personal profiles to augment interviews. PP staff hope that the app soon will be widely available to people with disabilities and that we may start promoting it.

Grant Management Considerations: No concerns; high risk monitoring (awards within awards)

Staff Recommendation: TCDD staff recommends Council consideration of continuation funding for project.

Continuation Budget Detail Summary

Year	Federal Amount Expended	Match Amount Expended	Expended Total Amounts
Expended Year 1 (Consultant: \$147,827)	\$224,967/\$224,967	\$27,617/\$29,995	\$252,584/\$254,962
Expended Year 2 (Consultant: \$156,180)	\$225,000/\$225,000	\$50,042/\$55,603	\$275,042/\$280,603
Expended Year 3 (Consultant: \$150,680)	\$225,000/\$225,000	\$90,000/\$73,335	\$315,000/\$298,335
Expended Year 4 (9 months) (Consultant: \$175,000)	\$225,000/\$112,708	\$95,000/\$62,488	\$315,000/\$175,196

Amounts Requested for Year Three Budget

Expense Item	Federal Amount Requested	Match Amount Requested	Total Amount Requested
1. Personnel Services	\$80,000	\$46,120	\$126,120
2. Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0
3. Purchased Services (\$141,705 consultants)	\$141,705	\$41,868	\$183,457
4. Property/Materials	\$0	\$490	\$490
5. Rental/Leasing	\$0	\$200	\$200
6. Utilities	\$0	\$550	\$550
7. Other (Indirect Costs)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Budget period totals:	\$224,465	\$90,260	\$314,725

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

ITEM: C

Grantee: Imagine Enterprises

Year: 4 of 4

Project Title: Self-Advocates as Speakers

Project Location: Statewide

Website: <http://www.imagineenterprises.org/>

TCDD RFP Intent: To develop a project that will support and promote a diverse pool of self-advocates who can present or serve as facilitators or mentors at in-state conferences or training events.

Authorized Funding: TCDD has approved up to \$125,000 per year for up to four years.

Expected Results: There will be an increase in the number of organizations that include self-advocates as speakers, facilitators, and mentors in conferences or trainings.

Project Goals for Year 1-3:

Goal: Project Sharing Personal Experiences and Knowledge (SPEAK) will recruit, train, and support at least 15 self-advocates per year from diverse backgrounds to present in local and state venues where their message will have an impact. At least 50 self-advocates will have been trained by the close of this project, 2017.

Project Accomplishments for Year 1-3:

Year 1: Project SPEAK coordinated efforts with three organizations to serve as training sites for participants and created an information sheet and application process. Project staff created a curriculum that is used to conduct both a three-day and one-day follow up training. There were 15 speakers recruited through Imagine Art, Family to Family and Dickinson ISD. There were presentations made to 10 local organizations, 5 regional organizational meetings and 1 to a statewide meeting.

Year 2: The grantee trained 20 speakers from Alvin ISD, Gulf Coast Self-Advocates and Texas Tech University. There were 19 presentations to local groups, 11 to regional meetings and 16 to state meetings. Curriculum and marketing materials were updated and translated into Spanish.

Year 3: The grantee partnered with Brazos Valley Center for Independent Living (BVCIL), Santa Fe ISD, and Costal Bend Center for Independent Living. There were 15 speakers trained in year 3 which will bring the total number of speakers to 50 by the end of the current budget period. To date, there has been 13 local presentations, 5 regional presentations and 6 state presentations for year 3.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 4:

Goal: Same as above

Objectives: Customize project SPEAK for use as both an educational program and a sanctioned extracurricular activity for school districts; develop a business plan to sustain project SPEAK beyond the end of the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities grant with possible fee-for-service training materials; augment project SPEAK promotional initiatives; and, nurture the continued development of project SPEAK graduates for presentations at 10 local organizations, 2 state conferences and the Texas legislature.

Staff Recommendations:

Public Policy Considerations: Changed policy at local level and is working on a state policy change. Locally, one student went to the school board and secured a policy change to allow individual choice in electives instead of pre-determined requirements. SPEAKers are asking to be included in the Texas Education Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) criteria. PP staff continue to request information from speakers on needed policy changes, as well as a list of speakers and their topics so that we may support their efforts, collaborate when appropriate, and recommend speakers for engagements.

Grant Management Considerations: No concerns; considerable risk monitoring (awards within awards; award amount)

Staff Recommendation: TCDD staff recommends Council consideration of continuation funding for this project.

Continuation Budget Detail Summary

Year	Federal Amount Expended	Match Amount Expended	Total Amounts Expended
Expended Year 1 (13 months) (Consultant: \$25,974)	\$124,999/\$111,493	\$41,767/\$27,633	\$166,766/\$139,126
Expended Year 2 (Consultant: \$23,844)	\$125,000/\$76,360	\$51,316/\$27,821	\$176,316/\$104,181
Expended Year 3 (8 months) (Consultant: \$22,194)	\$125,000/\$76,602	\$47,742/\$36,433	\$172,742/\$113,035

Amounts Requested for Year Three Budget

Expense Item	Federal Amount Requested	Match Amount Requested	Total Amount Requested
1. Personnel Services	\$83,415	\$6983	\$90,398
2. Travel	\$3653	\$1472	\$5125
3. Purchased Services (Consultant: \$23,754)	\$37,854	\$29,338	\$67,192
4. Property/Materials	\$78	\$549	\$627
5. Rental/Leasing	\$0	\$0	\$0
6. Utilities	\$0	\$3324	\$3,324
7. Other (Indirect Costs)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Budget period totals:	\$125,000	\$41,666	\$166,666

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

ITEM: D

Date: 5/4/16

Grantee: VSA arts of Texas

Year: 4 of 4

Project Title: Opening Minds, Opening Doors: Promoting Self-Advocates as Speakers

Project Location: Travis, Hays, Williamson, El Paso, Bexar, and Harris Counties

Website: None

TCDD RFP Intent: The project intent is to recruit a diverse group of self-advocates who will become public speakers, facilitators or mentors in an effort to increase the number of organizations that include self-advocates as speakers, facilitators and mentors at in-state conferences or trainings.

Authorized Funding: TCDD has approved up to \$125,000 for up to 4 years.

Expected Results: Conferences and trainings will use self-advocates as speakers, facilitators, or mentors.

Project Goals for Year 1–3:

Goal: To increase the number of self-advocates who are speakers, facilitators and mentors at conferences held in Texas.

Project Accomplishments for Year 1–3:

Year 1: Completed two 6-week training course that focused on story-telling, interview practice and using a microphone was piloted with a group of nine self-advocates and held two 5-week writing classes in Austin for 11 continuing participants. A speaker showcase was held in which 45 people were in attendance. A database was created to interested self-advocates, disability professionals and conference providers to use as a tool to recruit potential participants.

Year 2: Recruited seven self-advocates to participate in the 6-week training class held in El Paso. These self-advocates participated at two conferences and provided the keynote address at the Children's Disabilities Information Coalition Symposium. Monthly classes were also held at Volar CIL.

Year 3: Self-advocates from Austin presented at two different webinars, one on resources and advice for parents of children with disabilities and the other on working with personal care attendants. Fourteen self-advocates from the Austin area presented at nine conferences and/or events. A 6-week class was started in Houston in which seven self-advocates participated. An additional eight class meetings were scheduled for continuing and new participants. A self-advocate from El Paso participated in the Our Lives Conference in El Paso along with the project coordinator and project facilitator.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 4:

Goal: Same as above.

Objectives: Update program documents and training curriculum, advertise program and recruit PAC members and self-advocates (from San Antonio); train self-advocates to become speakers, mentors and facilitators and provide ongoing support and technical assistance to these self-advocates; support self-advocates as speakers and presenters at conferences in Texas. VSA will also explore fee-for-service models to sustain the curriculum at the end of the project.

Staff Recommendations:

Public Policy Considerations: VSA Arts speaker’s grantee states an overarching public policy focus on the underlying institutional bias and reports 42 individuals have presented to various forums. Staff requested in the last continuation that we receive specific info about issues, biases and barriers addressed in presentations. This information is vital to informing policy work and promoting the work of this grant. Public Policy will also request a list of speakers so we may support their efforts, collaborate when appropriate, and recommend speakers in advocacy related to institutions and community living.

Grant Management Considerations: No concerns; considerable risk monitoring (award within awards).

Staff Recommendations: TCDD staff recommends the Council to consider continued funding.

Continuation Budget Detail Summary

Year	Federal Amount Expended	Match Amount Expended	Total Amounts Expended
Expended Year 1	\$125,000/\$125,000	\$41,666/\$41,666	\$166,666/\$166,666
Expended Year 2 (6 months) (Consultants: \$21,652)	\$125,000/\$52,323	\$41,000/\$14,444	\$166,000/\$66,767
Expended Year 3 (9 months) (Consultants: \$25,400)	\$125,000/79,205	\$41,666/19,965	\$166,000/\$99,170

Amount requested for Year 3 budget

Expense Item	Federal Amount Requested	Match Amount Requested	Total Amount Requested
1. Personnel Services	\$61,857	\$14,693	\$76,550
2. Travel	\$7362	\$828	\$8190
3. Purchased Services (Consultants: \$25,400)	\$41,838	\$18,774	\$60,612
4. Property/Materials	\$0	\$4389	\$4389
5. Rental/Leasing	\$12,788	\$2707	\$15,495
6. Utilities	\$1155	\$275	\$1430
7. Other (Indirect Costs)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Budget period totals:	\$125,000	\$41,666	\$166,666

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

ITEM: E

Date: 5/4/2016

Grantee: Epilepsy Foundation of Texas (EFTX)

Year: 5 of 5

Project Title: Health & Fitness — Get FIT (Fitness, Integration, Training) Texas

Project Location: Statewide rural communities

Website: www.getfittexas.org

TCDD RFP Intent: The RFP intent is to demonstrate how appropriate supports may help people with developmental disabilities to participate in exercise and nutrition programs. Grantees are expected to demonstrate how to: 1) Provide “individualized,” inclusive recreational fitness programs to people with developmental disabilities to assist them to reach their goals in fitness, recreation, and overall wellness and 2) Provide training and/or technical assistance to enable service clubs and volunteer organizations to, if necessary, alter their culture and activities to support full and equal participation by people with developmental disabilities in a way that will promote participation in recreational programs based on interest and goals.

Authorized Funding: TCDD has approved up to \$250,000 for up to five years.

Expected Results: At least 2 sustainable programs will be created or modified to provide individualized community health and fitness programs/opportunities for people with developmental disabilities. Data will be collected on each project’s impact for at least 30 people per site.

Project Goals and Accomplishments for Years 1–4:

Goal 1: Implement a health and wellness curriculum and fitness program for individuals with developmental disabilities (DD) and epilepsy, as well as their caregivers.

Goal 2: The project will focus on the rural Texas communities and expand to West Texas, serve at least 300 individuals total (year 4).

Accomplishments per goal: A comprehensive, 12-week health and wellness program was created to improve the physical fitness, nutrition and healthy lifestyles of adults with DD and epilepsy and their caregivers. First year total enrollment was 88, which was expanded to 200 by the end of the second year, and 250 by the middle of the third year. The development of an individualized Get FIT plan of action with “at home activities” was created and applied. The program served rural areas surrounding major cities including Austin, Dallas, Plano, Houston, San Antonio, and Lubbock. The project started expanding into schools in the third year, with a small program in the CyFair schools district near Houston. Year four introduced preventative health testing including: blood lipids, glucose, and blood pressure. As of March 2016, the program has served 200 out of a targeted 300 participants and is on track to meet the year 4 goal.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 5: Goal: Same as above.

Objectives: 1) Establish project sustainability sources like becoming a Medicaid provider enabling our participants to bill through the state Medicaid, additional grants and sponsors; 2) Maintain our current partnerships and provide services to 361 individuals with developmental disabilities and their caregivers; 3) Incorporate program with new partners 4) Establish program in Austin area.

Council Considerations:

Public Policy Considerations: Get FIT is working with a professional firm to get approved as a state Medicaid provider. Preventable conditions account for 70% of our nation’s health care costs. If Get FIT is approved as a Medicaid provider it will be a policy win for people with DD and state and local government. The grantee also acknowledges the need for systems changes in transportation to improve access to health activities and resources such as Get FIT.

Grant Management Considerations: No concerns; extensive risk monitoring (amount, award-within-award).

Staff Recommendation: TCDD staff recommends Council to consider continued funding for this project.

Continuation Budget Detail Summary

Year	Federal Amount Expended	Match Amount Expended	Totals Amount Expended
Expended Year 1 (Consultant: \$35,000)	\$249,538/\$249,538	\$81,869/\$80,848	\$331,407/\$330,386
Expended Year 2 (Consultant: \$59,375)	\$249,750/\$249,750	\$95,341/\$83,624	\$345,091/\$333,375
Expended Year 3 (Consultant: \$62,550)	\$248,735/\$250,000	\$106,959/\$85,004	\$355,694/\$335,004
Expended Year 4 (7 months) (Consultant: \$62,550)	\$250,000/\$124,302	\$103,758/\$65,714	\$353,758/\$190,016

Amount Requested for Year Five budget

Expense Item	Federal Amount Requested	Match Amount Requested	Total Amount Requested
1. Personnel services	\$132,414	\$71,071	\$203,485
2. Travel	\$2,376	\$221	\$2,597
3. Purchased services (\$107,710 consultants)	\$109,210	\$10,822	\$120,032
4. Property/Materials	\$6,000	\$0	\$6,000
5. Rental/Leasing	\$0	\$8,567	\$8,567
6. Utilities	\$0	\$0	\$0
7. Other (Indirect Costs)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Budget period totals:	\$250,000	\$90,681	\$340,681

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

ITEM: F

Date: 05/4/2016

Grantee: Region 17 Education Service Center

Year: 4 of 5

Project Title: Family Involvement in Schools

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

Website: None

TCDD 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) to become involved with their child's public school.

Authorized Funding: TCDD has approved up to \$300,000 for up to five years.

Expected Results: At least 2,220 parents or other family members (including fictive kin) who have children attending schools in the Region 17 ESC will be actively engaged in schools and other education-focused community collaborative efforts because they receive training and other necessary services to support that involvement.

Project Goals and Accomplishments for Years 1-3:

Goal: Build collaborations within ESC 17 to demonstrate ways to create measureable improvement in at least 2 identified indicators of educational success for students with developmental disabilities. The percentage of parents with a child receiving special education services who report that schools facilitated parent involvement will increase. The long-term goal is that 1 family member for every 4 students with disabilities will be actively engaged in schools.

Objectives: 1) Provide training and coaching to support active engagement by at least 1 family member for every 4 students who have developmental disabilities in ESC 17; 2) Increase the number of home and school activities that participating districts provide to families of students with disabilities within the school year; 3) increase the attendance of parents/family members at ARD meetings; 4) increase the attendance of parents/family members at training and events; and 5) increase parents' level of satisfaction with the school environment, communication between parents and school and ARD/IEP participation

Accomplishments per goal: A total of 4 school districts (Slaton, Roosevelt, Wilson and Southland ISD) were recruited to participate in training and coaching for Cohort 1. Cohort 2 consists of Brownfield ISD (6 campuses total) and 2 other campuses in Levelland ISD and Denver City ISD. ESC 17 has utilized a coaching model that will enable districts to continue utilizing strategies acquired through the trainings and collaborations. A library of resources is provided for parents and professionals to each campus. In year 3, the grantee continued to work with the Academic Beginnings Center in Levelland, the Kelley Dodson Elementary in Denver city and added the elementary campus in Floydada ISD and all campuses in Seminole ISD. So far in year 3, the project conducted a back to school conference in which numerous trainings were provided to more than 2,000 educators. A Hippotherapy (horses) experience was provided for 13 students and 7 parents. A BLOCKfest training was provided with more than 540 parents attending. A total of 54 parents attended the Building Strong Families event.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 4: Goal: Same as above.

Objectives: 1) Provide training and coaching to support active engagement by at least 1 family member for every 4 students who have developmental disabilities in ESC 17; 2) Increase the number of home and school activities that participating districts provide to families of students with disabilities within the school year; 3) increase the attendance of parents/family members at ARD meetings; 4) increase the attendance of parents/family members at training and events.

Council Considerations:

Public Policy Considerations: Measuring the effect that family involvement in schools has on the socialization and academic performance of students with disabilities will benefit students, families, and school personnel. PP staff continue to look forward to data quantifying the effect of increased parental involvement on overall success of students and parental satisfaction.

Grant Management Considerations: No concerns; extensive risk monitoring due to award amount and sub-awards.

Staff Recommendation: TCDD staff recommends continued funding for this project.

Continuation Budget Detail Summary

Year	Federal Amount Expended	Match Amount Expended	Totals Amount Expended
Expended Year 1 (Consultant: \$95,500)	\$300,000/\$300,000	\$35,715/\$33,333	\$335,175/\$333,333
Expended Year 2 (Consultant: \$97,912)	\$300,000/\$300,000	\$33,333/\$33,333	\$333,333/\$333,333
Expended Year 3 (6 months) (Consultant: \$80,000)	\$300,000/\$102,485	\$33,333/\$20,441	\$333,333/\$122,926

Amount Requested for Year Four Budget

Expense Item	Federal Amount Requested	Match Amount Requested	Total Amount Requested
1. Personnel services	\$162,087	\$0	\$162,087
2. Travel	\$12,000	\$0	\$12,000
3. Purchased services (\$70,000 consultants)	\$86,750	\$19,758	\$106,508
4. Property/Materials	\$9,755	\$0	\$9,755
5. Rental/Leasing	\$29,383	\$0	\$29,383
6. Utilities	\$25	\$0	\$25
7. Other (Indirect Costs)	\$0	\$13,575	\$13,575
Budget period totals:	\$300,000	\$33,333	\$333,333

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

ITEM: G

Date: 05/4/2016

Grantee: Texas Advocates

Year: 2 of 3

Project Title: Self-Advocate Grassroots Community Organizing

Project Location: Austin

Website: None

TCDD RFP Intent: The intent of the Self-Advocate Grassroots Community Organizing RFP is for one group of self-advocates to work with others to make changes so that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are included in their community. TCDD is awarding this grant to support self-advocates with intellectual and developmental disabilities to show others how they can build community capacity and improve system supports.

Authorized Funding: TCDD has approved up to \$100,000 for up to three years.

Expected Results: TCDD expects that this project will help self-advocates with disabilities: 1) learn advanced leadership skills; 2) work together with a trained community organizer and other experts to identify and change a program, policy or practice so that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are included in their community; and 3) keep working together to make the community better after this project is over.

Project Goals and Accomplishments for Year 1:

Goal: Texas Advocates will speak out for ourselves and organize a powerful group of self-advocates in Greater Austin to create change in their community at their direction, so people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are included in their community.

Objectives: 1) Texas Advocates will recruit and engage self-advocates to participate in at least 40 individual one-on-one meetings to determine their interests and invite them to join the self-advocacy community organizing group; 2) Texas Advocates will invite self-advocates and conduct one initial large community organizing meeting to organize the self-advocate group, select leaders and identify issues the self-advocates want to learn about; 3) Texas Advocates will support the group to conduct monthly meetings to provide training and expert advice at the direction of the group on topics such as community organizing, developing leaders, building relationships, how to run a meeting, getting people involved, how to create change, negotiation and disability and community issues; 4) Texas Advocates will support the group to use a proven method of strategic planning (PATH/Midwest Academy Strategies) to identify and select the group's short, intermediate, and long term goals and develop a plan to reach their goals.

Accomplishments per goal: A total of 54 one-on-one interviews were completed with self-advocates to learn about their lives, goals, and issues in the community. A total of 29 individuals participated in the initial community organizing meetings and identified issues to address such as housing transportation, activities, jobs, and access. Grant activities were suspended in October 2015 due to staff resignations and per the request of Texas Advocates. The grantee worked through November 2015 to January 2016 to establish the terms of a working relationship with the Arc of Texas while retaining its independence. In February 2016, the grantee submitted a plan to move forward for the remainder of the budget year as well as request for a change of budget period to allow time to complete workplan goals and objectives. TCDD reviewed and approved both documents. Texas Advocates then hired 2 grant staff members and resumed project activities in March 2016.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 2:

Goal: Same as above.

Objectives: 1) Texas Advocates will continue to recruit, engage, and support self-advocates and their allies to organize in their own communities; 2) Texas Advocates will continue to assist the self-advocate community organizing group to develop, update, implement, and evaluate their strategic plan; 3) Texas Advocates will support the local self-advocates organizing group to conduct monthly meetings to provide training, identify and learn about the issues, and organize to create systems change in local and state issues, including collaboration with self-advocate groups across the state; and 4) Build the organizational infrastructure to ensure sustainability and long-term community organizing activities for self-advocates.

Council Considerations:

Public Policy Considerations: The Self-Advocate Grassroots Community Organizing project seems eager to succeed in increasing public policy voices with organized and skilled groups acting together. Staff recommended, instead of focusing on strategic planning, that they conduct activities 4 through 7 of the RFP (identify group leaders; invite experts to provide training; and develop a plan to reach the goal) and conduct twice monthly meetings with the individuals already at the table and let them lead and decide — to build durable power.

Grant Management Considerations: No concerns; Risk Assessment: Considerable.

Staff Recommendation: TCDD staff recommends continued funding for this project.

Continuation Budget Detail Summary

Year	Federal Amount Expended	Match Amount Expended	Total Amount Expended
Expended Year 1 (Consultant: \$18,621)	\$100,000/\$57,120	\$33,691/\$18,664	\$133,691/\$75,784

Amount Requested for Year Two Budget

Expense Item	Federal Amount Requested	Match Amount Requested	Total Amount Requested
1. Personnel services	\$81,585	\$0	\$81,585
2. Travel	\$2,881	\$0	\$2,881
3. Purchased services (\$5,880 consultants)	\$10,043	\$22,310	\$32,353
4. Property/Materials	\$3,091	\$0	\$3,091
5. Rental/Leasing	\$0	\$11,250	\$11,250
6. Utilities	\$2,400	\$0	\$2,400
7. Other (Indirect Costs)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Budget period totals:	\$100,000	\$33,560	\$133,560