

## **Grant Cycle 43 Excess Funds Project Proposal**

**Project:** Make descriptions of Regional Center Services available on a Web Platform

**Recommended Funding:** \$75,000

**Goal/Objective Area:** 6.1

### **Federally Mandated Objective Requirements:**

- Federal Partners (Collaborative) Project
  - Underserved Population (Disparity) Project
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### **Executive Summary Statement:**

The Council collaborated with its federal partners (UCD, USC, UCLA and DRC) to create a document that clearly identifies services that can be purchased through the regional center (RC) system. It is recommended that this document be uploaded onto a proposed platform which will be accessible and will assist people with I/DD, their families and team members to search for service options based on designated RC codes, client age or service category. This platform will initially provide information in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Chinese.

### **Background**

SCDD's current (2017–21) State Plan includes Objective 6.1:

Californians with I/DD and their families reflecting the diversity of the state will have increased information and supports to access community-based services available to the general population.

This objective meets two federally mandated requirements: 1) A collaborative project with the Council's federal partners (3 UCEDDs [UCD, USC & UCLA]) and its Protection & Advocacy agency (Disability Rights California [DRC]); and, 2) a disparity project, focused on (at least) one underserved population.

DDS maintains a website on which is listed regional center (RC) funded services that are available to support/serve PwI/DD and their families. Each of these services has a DDS-assigned 'designated code' (found on the DDS website) from which to choose, although the system can be hard to read and understand. This project (and its related deliverables) was designed by SCDD, in conjunction with its collaborative partners, to clearly identify and list those

services that may be purchased through California's RC system and make them available in one or more languages, to reach one or more linguistically underserved populations (e.g. Spanish-speaking, Vietnamese-speaking, etc.).

This project is not intended to provide an exhaustive list of services, and there may be some needed services (through the RC system) that are not identified in the document or listed in the questions, descriptions and/or examples for some of the service codes. The services on the list are, however, organized in a way that will help people with I/DD, their families and their team members learn about and identify services that may be useful in achieving a preferred future. RC service coordinators or regional SCDD staff can help if there are questions about the service list.

At the January 2020 SAAC meeting, SAAC members reviewed the State Plan Goal 6.1 deliverables and requested feedback regarding plain language descriptions of the material. The Committee provided feedback on the wording of the DRAFT Purchase-of-Service (POS) Descriptions, Preamble and the Purchase-of-Service codes. The service descriptions have also been reviewed by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA).

The final deliverables have now been completed in plain language and are in the process of being translated into Spanish, Vietnamese and Chinese. The final document (listing Purchase-of-Service codes) is extensive and is currently in a table format. In order to make the information more accessible and user-friendly, it is staff's recommendation that the final deliverable be uploaded onto a searchable, online web platform.

### **Project Details: 6.1 Web Platform**

- Create a user-friendly, searchable, online web platform (as a deliverable) to provide accessible information to family/self-advocates, professionals and members of the community about DDS/RC Purchase-of-Service codes
  - ✓ Mobile-friendly site
  - ✓ PDF-accessible, printable lists
- Allow multiple search options by:
  - ✓ Age
  - ✓ Category/Sub-Category
  - ✓ Question (FAQ)

## **Project Outputs and Outcomes:**

- Provide virtual training video(s) on website to explain/show how to use the platform
- Provide resources (initially) in the following languages:
  - ✓ English (Plain Language)
  - ✓ Spanish
  - ✓ Vietnamese
  - ✓ Chinese
  - ✓ Future development can include pictorial representation and other methods to reach individuals with low written-language literacy
- Achieve SCDD's 6.1 objective:  
| Californians with I/DD and their families reflecting the diversity of the |  
| state will have increased information and supports to access |  
| community-based services available to the general population. |

## **Other Recommendations:**

Any leftover funds from this project may be used for the Virtual Training Resource Center project, if needed.

## **Attachment:**

6.1 Purchase of Service (POS) Description sample page to show the type of information that needs to be made available