

Vendor name	AbilityFirst
Vendor number(s)	HX0200
Primary regional center	South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC)
Service type(s)	Rehab Work Activity Program
Service code(s)	#954
Number of consumers currently serving	77 (Vendoring Regional Centers: SCLARC 44, East Los Angeles 4, Lanterman 24); all with Service Code #954, Rehab Work Activity Program
Please describe your person-centered approach ¹ in the concept development process; how did you involve the individuals for whom you provide services?	Even before we began formally incorporating person-centered thinking and planning into our planning and program, we relied on feedback from participants and families/caregivers in developing and implementing programs. The actions we are taking to come into compliance with the HCBS Rules are consistent with responses to our most recent WAP participant surveys, in which 38% expressed interest in internships, 33% in pre-vocational assessment and training, 26% in job clubs, and 21% in community volunteering. Respondents to our most recent parent/caregiver survey requested more programs working in the community, better wages and benefits from community employment, and more job opportunities. This project reflects and directly addresses those concerns, and builds on our earlier efforts to prepare for and implement the HCBS Rules.
Does the concept address unmet service needs or service disparities? If so, how?	The project represents a bridge from the previously-funded person-centered planning training for staff, participants, and families, to fuller implementation of person-centered plans and greater community integration for participants. It addresses the need for continued engagement by a dedicated job coach to facilitate employment, and the need to identify more and varied community resources to fully implement participants' goals in their person-centered plans/ISPs.
Barriers to compliance with the HCBS rules and/or project implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program structure and design of work activity program is inherently restricted and limits options for personal choice; • Individual goals and outcomes must fit within overall work activity program framework; • Staffing ratios and funding are barriers to development and implementation of comprehensive person-centered plans; • Limited community employment and volunteer opportunities (and limited staff resources to identify, cultivate, and develop those opportunities) reduce options for participants to pursue their

¹ A person-centered approach emphasizes what is important to the individual who receives services and focuses on personal preferences, satisfaction, and choice of supports in accessing the full benefits of community living. For more information regarding person-centered practices, please visit <http://www.nasddds.org/resource-library/person-centered-practices/>

	<p>goals;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We also know, based on our experience to date with participants and their families/caregivers, that there is resistance to changing how the program operates, and that the process of developing person-centered plans and goals is extremely labor- and time-intensive.
<p>Narrative/description of the project. Identify which HCBS federal requirements are currently out of compliance; include justification for funding request</p>	<p>In 2016 we received HCBS compliance funding for: (1) training about the new rules and their impact on programs for participants, families/caregivers, and staff; (2) assessment of existing policies and processes, and recommendations for shifting our approach to person-centered thinking and planning; and (3) funding for a dedicated job developer to help participants transition successfully from the work activity program to community employment.</p> <p>This request will help to fund the implementation of the individual person-centered plans, and carry forward our progress toward compliance with the HCBS Requirements #1, 2, and 4. We are requesting funding for two staff positions: (1) renewed (Year 2) support for the job developer position; and (2) a community resource developer, to locate relevant generic resources and help secure placements in community-based volunteer opportunities and internship positions.</p>
<p>Estimated budget; identify all major costs and benchmarks — attachments are acceptable</p>	<p>1 FTE job developer (wages and benefits) - \$57,938 1 FTE community resource developer (wages and benefits) - \$53,352 Administrative cost (15% of \$111,290 wages and benefits) - \$16,694 = Total: \$127,984</p> <p>Goals by December 2019; 77 individuals (all of the WAP participants) will complete person-centered plans 45 work activity program participants will transition to a community-based, person-centered program/service 15 individuals will be placed into community-based, integrated services (employment, volunteer work or internship)</p>
<p>Requested funding for 2017-18</p>	<p>\$127,984</p>
<p>Estimated timeline for the project</p>	<p>July 2018 – December 2019</p>