

**Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Rules  
CONCEPT PROPOSAL**

**Enclosure C**

Existing regional center vendors...More information on the HCBS rules and this form can be found at: <http://www.dds.ca.gov/HCBS/>

Vendor and vendor number	Blackwell Homes, Inc. H13589
Primary regional center	North Bay Regional Center
Service type and code	915
Number of consumers currently serving	5
Barriers to compliance with the HCBS rules and/or project implementation	<p>As a vendor of the regional center we receive a fixed income based upon the state budget. This income is not adequate to provide the needed levels of support for staff and residents. Because caregiving is an entry level position with low wages we see an extremely high amount of employee turnover.</p> <p>Our residents receive social security their income is fixed at a very low amount. On average our residents receive \$100.00 per month to spend on personal items and activities. Some examples of resident expenses: medications not covered by insurance, apparel, community outings, public transportation, personal preferred hygiene products, cell phones, etc.</p> <p>Because caregiving is an entry level position with low wages we see a high amount of staff turnover. Lack of funding for proper training of the person centered process leaves employees unaware of the importance of informed choice and community integration.</p> <p>This facility was vendorized in 1996 and as such has one shared bedroom. The inability of some residents to have their own private space makes it difficult for personal alone time and prevents a feeling of inclusion.</p> <p>We currently own a minivan which seats seven. We are a five bed facility. The facility vehicle does not safely seat all residents and staff at one time which prevents group outings.</p>
Narrative/description of the project. Identify which HCBS federal requirements are currently out of compliance; include justification for funding request	<p>Blackwell Homes would like to make changes to the facility and the activities offered to the residents in order to bring the facility into compliance. We have always tried to give our residents the opportunity to make informed choices in their lives but there are circumstances that limit their options. We will detail what federal requirements we wish to receive funding for in order to achieve compliance with HCBS rules and offer the best services to our residents.</p>

Federal Requirement #1: Due to limited funds the residents are largely unable to participate in the activities and experiences that they would like to. Residents receive approximately \$131.00 per month for personal and incidental needs. This makes it impossible for them to participate in their community the way they want to. If there was funding available to the vendors for providing these experiences residents would have more opportunities to make connections with members of their community. With funding the residents will be able to become members of the city recreation department, join the local YMCA, get a regional and state park pass, go to the movies a few times a quarter, and/or visit amusement parks. Oftentimes an individual is unable to access the community because they, and the service provider, simply cannot afford it.

Federal Requirement #3: Due to low wages and high employee turnover we often have staff that do not understand the person centered process and, believing to be helping, prevent the resident from making an informed choice. Most often employees have very little formal education and limited experience in the field of caregiving for intellectually disabled adults. We would like to hire consultants/trainers to educate and support staff on the person centered process and the Lanterman Act. Ongoing support and training of our employees is essential to the success of our residents.

Federal Requirement #4: Residents and staff often do not understand the ability of residents to participate in activities of their choosing nor do they know what options are available in the community. Blackwell Homes would like to employ an activity coordinator to work in the facility with the residents. This person would help craft socialization/community integration plans for the residents. He/she would organize activities/outings for the residents, daily and weekly, based on the choices and needs of the resident. There would be in-house activities as well as community based outings offered each day.

Federal Requirement #7: We have one shared bedroom in this facility. We would like to build an additional bedroom so that all of our residents will have their own bedroom. People are happier if they have their own space that they can decorate as they see fit.

Federal Requirement #8: Blackwell Homes currently owns a minivan for the facility that seats seven. Unfortunately, this does not seat all the residents and staff on shift if everyone wants to go on an outing. We would like to purchase a full size van that can accommodate all the residents and staff.

<p>Estimated budget; identify all major costs and benchmarks— attachments are acceptable</p>	<p>Memberships and permits: \$5985.00 per year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• YMCA \$710.00/year each resident</li> <li>• City Recreation Center Activities \$104.00/year each resident</li> <li>• Regional Park Pass \$69.00/year each resident</li> <li>• Six Flags Season Pass \$69.00/year each resident</li> <li>• California State Park Pass \$125.00/year each resident</li> <li>• Movie Passes \$120.00/year each resident</li> </ul> <p>Staff Training: \$12,000.00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$100.00/month for each employee for continuing education and trainings</li> </ul> <p>Activity Coordinator: \$36,000.00 per year</p> <p>Facility Remodel/Addition: \$25,000</p> <p>Full Size Van: \$40,000.00</p>
<p>Requested funding for 2016-17</p>	<p>\$118,985.00</p>
<p>Estimated timeline for the project</p>	<p>10/01/2016: Submit concept proposal          04/30/2017: Receive Funding          05/01/16: Purchase all Resident Memberships          06/01/2017: Begin Remodel, hire activity coordinator and trainers, purchase vehicle          12/31/2017: Achieve HCBS Compliance</p>