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

Existing regional center vendors may receive funding to make changes to service settings and/or programs to help them come into compliance with the HCBS rules. To be considered for funding, vendors must complete and submit this form and the Provider Compliance Evaluation form by October 1, 2016, to the regional center with which it has primary vendorization.

This form may not exceed three pages and must be kept in Arial 12-point font. The narrative should link to the federal requirement that is not being met. The Provider Compliance Evaluation should guide the narrative. The results of the Evaluation should be clearly laid out in the narrative. Additionally, the narrative should describe how the funding would achieve compliance. Concept proposals should be developed with a person-centered approach, with proposed changes/activities focused on the needs and preferences of those who receive services. The estimated budget and timeline need not be detailed at this point but must include all major costs and benchmarks.

More information on the HCBS rules and this form can be found at: http://www.dds.ca.gov/HCBS/

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Vendor and vendor number	Partnerships With Industry 904 685 838 747
Primary regional center	San Diego Regional Center
Service type and code	Work Activity Program: HQ0395, HQ0397, HQ0399, HQ0401
Number of consumers currently serving	282 currently enrolled in PWI's Work Activity Program
Barriers to compliance with the HCBS rules and/or project implementation	Partnerships with Industry (PWI) meets all the Federal Requirements with the exception of requirement #1. The individuals served by PWI's Work Activity Program currently work in a congregate work setting which limits their access to the community. These individuals are informed of their options, however, the nature of the program limits their access to these options.
Narrative/description of the project. Identify which HCBS federal requirements are currently out of compliance; include justification for funding request	Following the Provider Compliance Evaluation, Partnerships with Industry meets requirements # 2,3,4,5 &10 and, as it does not provide residential services, requirements # 6,7,8 & 9 are not applicable. The only requirement not met is #1 due to the nature of the program and individual's access to community, integrated employment. The following issues exist in our four facilities impeding compliance: The work settings are congregate work environments with many individuals with disabilities working together with the support of non-disabled staff. Individuals with disabilities served in these congregate work settings have limited access to the general community during the day. The facilities are open to the public; however,

- community access is limited for or security reasons.
- Individuals who are in the congregate work settings chose these programs and are comfortable with the nature of the program in terms of safety, activities, trainings, socialization and income levels.
- Individuals served by PWI and their families often have concerns about how their benefits might be affected if they are in competitive, integrated employment.
- Lastly, individuals along with their families, often express concerns over their safety and welfare in the community.

PWI provides job opportunities to individuals with disabilities through community-based employment as well as production and assembly at our facilities in congregate work settings.

The following remediation plan addresses the programmatic changes needed in order to be in compliance with requirement # 1, and focuses on developing career path programming that will facilitate the movement from individuals currently in the congregate work settings to competitive, integrated employment. This will necessitate transitioning our congregate work setting programs from production-based environments to pre-vocational training programs.

Remediation Plan:

- PWI will create and/or rewrite policies, procedures, program designs and plans with goals and objectives of providing quality programs and services for competitive, integrated employment.
- A new position, Program Liaison, will be created to ensure PWI's compliance of the new laws and/or rules, funding regulations, as well as program outcomes, program oversight and ensure consistency at every level of service at each of the four PWI locations.
- PWI will provide expanded career path services to facilitate movement on individualized career plans, transitioning individuals from the congregate work settings to communitybased employment and providing education and support on benefit issues to the individuals and their families, through two new positions; Supported Employment Navigator and Career Plan Coordinator. This new focus on career planning will provide additional opportunities for job exploration, job development, internships and trial work experiences, ensuring choices of opportunities always being available.
- PWI will seek licensing to provide certificated workshop trainings in a variety of vocational trades such as painting, carpentry, hospitality, agriculture, food handling, and others.

	Our Vocational Trainers/Vocational Assessment Specialist team will be certified as master trainers providing workshop trainings at PWI facilities. This will tremendously expand our competitive, integrated employment opportunities. PWI will begin providing transportation service that will ensure reliable, on-time employees at the community-based work sites, and in addition will allow for: safe, dependable transportation, which will create new opportunities at businesses that are off the public transportation routes; opportunities for evening and weekend shifts; and ensure family the safety features for their family member. A Transportation Coordinator will manage the fleet of vehicles and be a backup driver. PWI will expand trainings at our existing Computer Resource Centers, enhance Job Clubs and create job boards with weekly postings of community-based employment opportunities. These postings will be reviewed at quarterly meetings with the individuals served. Goals: Within three years, 50% or more of PWI's Work Activity Program participants will be transitioned to competitive, integrated employment, at minimum wage or higher. Within 6 months from date of funding, implementation of certificated vocational trainings, internships program, enhanced job development and pre-employment transitional services will occur. Funding: Funding is required for above-mentioned vehicles and the necessary personnel to implement the new enhanced services. The funds will greatly assist in reaching these goals without overburdening our current staff. PWI is not able to incur these costs without the additional funding, and must ensure that "we leave no client behind".
Estimated budget; identify all major costs and benchmarks— attachments are acceptable	See attached budget
Requested funding for 2016-17	\$460,400 (for all four PWI locations) Average of \$115,100 per location
Estimated timeline for the project	The timeline is one year from funding to develop programmatic components and within 3 years be fully functional to meet all benchmarks at all four PWI locations.