

APPLICATION REPORT

Project Name: B.R.I.D.G.E. (Bridging Services into Diverse Groups Everywhere)

Applicant Organization: A Better Life Together, Inc.

Awarded Amount: \$222,650

Funding Announcement Name: Promoting Service Access and Equity Grant



PROJECT SUMMARY

The B.R.I.D.G.E project will provide independent facilitation to individuals and families who are qualified to receive services from the San Diego Regional Center and host 6 webinars for providers, SDRC staff and families on topics related to disability and culture. ABLT will collaborate with the cultural committee of SDRC and meet quarterly to discuss barriers to services and develop strategies to over come them.

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
Applicant Eligibility		
Applicant Information		
1. Project Title	Applicant Response	
What is the Project Title?	B. R.I.D.G.E. (Bridging Resources into Diverse Groups Everywhere)	
2. Awarded Amount	Applicant Response	
	\$222,650	
3. Organization Type	Applicant Response	
Please check the box that describes your organization	Community Based Organization, non-501(c)(3) EIN	
4. Description of Organization/Group	Applicant Response	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
Provide a brief description of the organization/group (organization type, group mission, etc.). Explain what experience your organization has managing a program similar to the proposal and state the outcomes of that program.	A Better Life Together, Inc.(ABLT) was established in 2005 to support adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities who live and work in the community. ABLT provides supported living services, independent living services, customized tailored day services, community based adult day services and employments services. As a collaborative partner of the San Diego Regional Center, ABLT has worked to decrease the disparities to ensure equal access to services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In 2018, ABLT received a disparity grant (18-C43) B.R.I.D.G.E. (Bridging Resources into Diverse Groups) to provide outreach and education to African American, Hispanic, and the refugee community of the East Region of San Diego County. ABLT contacted 80 agencies; attended community events involving 11,635, gave out 3340 informative brochures and provided 20 outreach sessions. In 2019, ABLT was awarded another disparity grant (19-C43) to expand the outreach efforts for all of San Diego County and contact consumers of the San Diego Regional Center who had qualified for services but were not using them. We received Purchase of Service data and contacted over 713, reached over 200 families and individuals of varied ethnicities who qualified for services but were not receiving any services to see if they needed information about services or assistance accessing them. The calling began at the beginning of the pandemic and majority of the families contacted were reluctant to speak with us but eventually grew to appreciate our contact as they were concerned about the pandemic and the changes in some of the services they were receiving. ABLT created accounts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter to reach individuals and families who may not be aware of Regional Center services.	
5. Applicant in Good Standing	Applicant Response	
Is the applicant in good standing with the California Secretary of State, California Franchise Tax Board, and California Department of Tax and Fee Administration?	Yes	
6. Subcontractors in Good Standing	Applicant Response	
Are the applicant's subcontractors in good standing with the California Secretary of State, California Franchise Tax Board, and California Department of Tax and Fee Administration?	Not Applicable	
Grant Reapplication Information		
Grant Reapplications Only		
1. Grant Number	Applicant Response	
(Reapplications Only) What is the Grant Number of previously awarded project? If not applicable select Not Applicable.	19-C43	
2. Project Title	Applicant Response	
(Reapplications Only) What is the Project Title of previously awarded project? If not applicable select Not Applicable.	B.R.I.D.G.E. (Bridging Resources into Diverse Groups Everywhere)	
3. Project Start & End Dates	Applicant Response	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
(Reapplications Only) What are the Start & End Dates of the previously awarded project? If not applicable select Not Applicable.	Start Date: 03/01/2020, End Date: 02/21/2021	
4. Project Duration	Applicant Response	
(Reapplications Only) What is the Total Project Duration (in months) of the previously awarded project? If not applicable select Not Applicable.	12	
5. 2016/2017 Award	Applicant Response	
(Reapplications Only) Enter the amount of funding that was awarded in FY 2016/2017. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	Not Applicable	
6. 2016/2017 Expenses	Applicant Response	
(Reapplicants only) Enter the amount of funding that was expended in FY 2016/2017. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	Not Applicable	
7. 2016/2017 Remaining	Applicant Response	
(Reapplicants only) Subtract the Total Expenses from the Total Award to determine the amount remaining from FY 2016/2017. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	Not Applicable	
8. 2017/2018 Award	Applicant Response	
(Reapplicants only) Enter the amount of funding that was awarded in FY 2017/2018. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	Not Applicable	
9. 2017/2018 Expenses	Applicant Response	
(Reapplicants) Enter the amount of funding that was expended in FY 2017/2018. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	Not Applicable	
10. 2017/2018 Remaining	Applicant Response	
(Reapplicants only) Subtract the Total Expenses from the Total Award to determine the amount remaining from FY 2017/2018. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	Not Applicable	
11. 2018/2019 Award	Applicant Response	
(Reapplicants only) Enter the amount of funding that was awarded in FY 2018/2019. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	\$140,990.00	
12. 2018/2019 Expenses	Applicant Response	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
(Reapplicants only) Enter the total amount of funding that was expended, or is anticipated to be expended, in FY 2018/2019. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	\$89,235.00	
13. 2018/2019 Remaining	Applicant Response	
(Reapplicants only) Subtract the Total Expenses from the Total Award to determine the amount remaining from FY 2018/2019. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	\$51,755.00	
14. 2019/2020 Award	Applicant Response	
(Reapplicants only) Enter the amount of funding that was awarded in FY 2019/2020. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	\$158,400.00	
15. 2019/2020 Expenses	Applicant Response	
(Reapplicants only) Enter the total amount of funding that was expended, or is anticipated to be expended, in FY 2019/2020. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	\$40,468.50	
16. 2019/2020 Remaining	Applicant Response	
(Reapplicants only) Subtract the Total Expenses from the Total Award to determine the amount remaining from FY 2019/2020. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	\$117,932.00	
17. Total Awarded	Applicant Response	
(Reapplicants only) Combine the amounts included in FY 2016/2017, FY 2017/2018, FY 2018/2019, and FY 2019/2020 for the total amount awarded for the project. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	\$299,390.00	
18. Initial Proposed Number of People Served	Applicant Response	
(Reapplications Only) Include the initial number of people projected to be served. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	2500	
19. Actual Number of People Served	Applicant Response	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
(Reapplications Only) Include the actual number of people served. Explain why this number is different from the projected impact number. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	The B.R.I.D.G.E. project impacted over 11,000 individuals of the African American, Hispanic, Asian, Chaldean, and African descent by participating in outreach activities in the 2018 grant. The project distributed over 3000 pieces of information about the San Diego Regional Center and conducted 20 in person informational sessions. ABLT has developed relationships with over 50 community and faith based organizations and share information for them to disseminate to the people they serve. For the current grant, 713 individuals who have qualified for regional center services but we not using them have been contacted. Of those 713, 222 have been served. Over 80,000 pieces of personal protection equipment donated by DDS was disbursed to community partners and families. ABLT created social media accounts to post educational information about services and other community resources.	
20. Regional Centers in Catchment Area	Applicant Response	
(Reapplications Only) List all Regional Centers in the project catchment areas that the project has served. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	The B.R.I.D.G.E. project serves catchment area of the San Diego Regional Center.	
21. Cities Served	Applicant Response	
(Reapplications Only) List the cities your project has served. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	San Diego, Poway, National City, Mira Mesa, Pacific Beach, Rancho Bernardo, Vista, San Marcos, El Cajon, Alpine, Lemon Grove, Campo, Spring Valley, La Mesa	
22. Counties Served	Applicant Response	
(Reapplications Only) List the counties your project has served. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	San Diego County	
23. City of Los Angeles	Applicant Response	
(Reapplications Only) If your project has served the City of Los Angeles, list the zip code(s) and/or community(ies) your project has served. If not applicable select Not Applicable.	Not Applicable	
24. Activities to Date	Applicant Response	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
<p>(Reapplications Only) Provide a detailed explanation of project activities to date. Include what the project has accomplished to date. From the start of the project to the date of reapplication, what are the key accomplishments? Have all activities been completed? If no, why not? If not applicable select Not Applicable.</p>	<p>Project activities to date: B.R.I.D.G.E. project staff have contacted 713 individuals who have qualified for regional center services but have not utilized them. The ethnicities include: African American (185), Filipino (59), Hispanic (372), Multi ethnic (96), Other (1). Of those 713, 222 were served. From April 1-May 2nd, ABLT was acted by the San Diego Regional Center to halt calls due to concerns regarding the response to the pandemic. After guidance from DDS, staff contacted the regional center and discussed their concerns and resumed calling families and individuals. The families and individuals contacted expressed appreciation from hearing from "someone" and staff were able to provide valuable resources and emotional support. Due to some confusion with the San Diego Regional Center being "closed", families having communication with ABLT B.R.I.D.G.E project staff were able to receive support and guidance. Staff delivered 80,000 pieces personal protection equipment donated from DDS to community based organizations in the community and families that were contacted. Staff also provided resources for rental assistance, food banks and referrals for mental health support.</p> <p>Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the pandemic, it took longer than expected to hire the Project Coordinator and Outreach Worker. ABLT did assign staff from other programs to call families as it was apparent that families needed support. We deemed this work the "calling project" and initially was challenging as many families were not receptive to speaking with staff as they seemed overwhelmed with dealing with the pandemics. Although the "calling project" is listed as a challenge, it is also one of the grant's accomplishments. • Information sessions for community leaders has not occurred and staff are pivoting to begin providing these online. Many organizations including faith based organizations are not meeting in person and most of their services online. They have not been interested in allowing us to participate in one of their online services. We will host training and invite them to our sessions and advertise them through our social media tools. <p>Key accomplishments: The calls that staff made to individuals and families have been one of the key accomplishments of the grant. Staff provided emotional support, contacted families with their service coordinators, provided referrals for rental assistance, food and other needs outside of the regional center. Also, staff provided education to families on the role of the regional center and encouraged families to reach out to their service coordinators.</p>	
<p>25. Project Impact & Outcome</p> <p>(Reapplications Only) Provide a detailed explanation of project impacts and outcomes to date. Attach data (summary of pre-tests and post-tests), participant success stories to demonstrate project outcomes and impacts. Provide outcomes of your project's impact in serving the target communities. Using your attached data, provide a brief statement of key findings. If not applicable select Not Applicable.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>Project impact and outcomes to date: B.R.I.D.G.E project staff has contact 713 individuals who have qualified for services but not are not receiving them and 222 were served. Staff has been able to connect many individuals to their service coordinators, hear the challenges they have with getting the support needed, and provided education on services they can request based on their needs. Staff have also been instrumental in providing resources for rental assistance, food banks and mental health services options for several families. Staff also disseminated 80,000 pieces of personal protection equipment to community and faith based organizations and individual families contacted.</p> <p>Success stories of the work being done in the community:</p>	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
	<p>As staff are making calls a lot of people just want to talk or vent about what is going on with them and their families during this unprecedented time. Most people are very happy staff are calling to check in on them. Many clients feel informed about SD Regional Center services and are in regular contact with their Service Coordinators. Many people were getting the supports they need through the SD Regional Center or other sources, but they needed COVID-related resources like food assistance, emergency housing assistance or mental health resources. Staff found that providing families with community resources for non-disability related issues was definitely a silver lining. Staff contacted a father of a 13-year-old young man that wasn't sure how the SDRC system works. The father told staff that his son just recently became part of SDRC and they haven't gone through the process yet. The son is receiving all services through the school (IEP with speech and ABA therapy). The father indicated that he would like to know how to apply for SSI and IHSS for his son. Staff was able to explain how the SDRC system works and that he should contact the son's Service Coordinator to begin creating an IPP. Staff explained what the IPP is and that it is a living document that can help identify needed supports now and into the future. Staff outlined some points about SSI and IHSS and how they are through Social Security and the County of San Diego, respectively. Staff sent Dad the Service Coordinator name and contact information along with where to find information on the SDRC website. Staff also emailed him information about how to apply for SSI and IHSS. At the end of the call Dad indicated that he felt much more informed and felt prepared to discuss services and supports with his son and their SDRC Service Coordinator.</p> <p>Staff contacted a mother of an older SDRC client (57 years old) and she not only answered the questions staff had on ABLT's outreach script, but went into detail about this son, her other son and the 13-year-old grandson that lives with her. The mother has her own challenges with walking and other medical issues. She said that COVID has really made things harder for their household. Staff felt that Mom needed someone to listen more so than offering support services at this time. The mother said that she was utilizing IHSS, but that the people they sent were "sketchy" and she didn't really trust them. She said her son (the one that is an SDRC client) likes to volunteer at the clubhouse and likes to be out and about with a bus pass, so it has been extra hard on him not to be able to go out. Staff initially had asked to speak to the son directly, but Mom indicated that he didn't really like to talk, especially not on the telephone. Staff provided contact information and encouraged her to have her son call me if he needs extra support. Staff also expressed that she could call if she has questions or just wanted to talk or vent. The mother said that she was very happy that she was contacted as "it made her feel less alone". The mother assured staff that she would have her son call if he had questions or wanted some alternative services.</p> <p>Staff poked to a 22-year old young man that felt like he was doing okay at the moment, but wanted to talk with someone about his "Life Plan." He just finished a transitional program with school and is currently working. Staff was able to explain that his SDRC Service Coordinator could update his IPP to reflect his new stage in life and his new goals. This young man was under the impression that he needed to wait for his Service Coordinator to call him. Staff let him know that he can reach out to the Service Coordinator and gave him the name and contact information. He was very pleased and sounded excited that he could call and update his Individual Program Plan. He said he would maybe like to go on to college or a trade school.</p>	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
	<p>Community and faith based organization who received the 80,000 pieces of personal protection equipment were able to provide share those with their constituents in communities of color.</p>	
<p>26. Project Objectives</p> <p>(Reapplications Only) What are the projects objectives in addressing disparities and what remains to be addressed/completed? Explain why these objectives have not been completed during the current grant period. Provide a brief description of the key lessons learned from your current project, if any. What were some of the challenges that prevented your project from meeting your objectives/measures? What are some strategies your organization plans to implement to address challenges, if any? If not applicable select Not Applicable.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>ABLT'S B.R.I.D.G.E. project has to complete 9 outreach sessions that remain. At the time of writing the objectives for this grant we were coming off the heels of a great success in the previous year's grant. The project had created a momentum with community leaders and were working on expanding. We had to pivot our efforts due to change in options for community outreach. In the month of September, we began development of our strategy to reach the community via social media. Staff are revamping outlets and using the platforms to not only promote the "B.R.I.D.G.E. Project", but also to provide resources for food banks, free testing, webinars and other resources that are useful in this current world. Staff are looking forward to creating these sessions on new platforms. Staff will continue to call to educate on an individual basis and use social media to increase our reach and catchment abilities.</p> <p>The project has had some success with peer support in the African American community, however has not had much success in other ethnicities and are brainstorming ways to reach peers who can support families in need. Staff has reached out to existing community partners who work with our targeted ethnic communities and are hoping to strengthen our partnerships with the hope that those contacted will identify peers.</p>	
<p>27. Project Transition</p> <p>(Reapplications Only) If awarded, how will your current project transition into the 2020/21 proposed project? How does your proposed project complement your current project? Does your proposed project expand or continue your current project, if so how? What activities, measures, or target groups are being added? Provide a summary of the differences and reasons why you are proposing the change. If not applicable, select Not Applicable.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>ABLT will be able to smoothly transition if awarded a new grant as some of the activities will continue such as conducting outreach to targeted communities who continue to experience disparity in services. We will expand our relationships with community and faith based organizations in the community and provide education and training. We will add the workgroup with the San Diego Regional Center which will allow us to access barriers and work towards solutions to create more opportunities for individuals to access services. Some of the progress was impacted by the pandemic as we could not meet face to face with leaders in the community and those leaders were focused on meeting the basic needs of their constituents. Our new project will also have expert trainers who will provide trainings that will be available to families and other community based organizations to learn about services available to them and cultural specific nuances that will equip the community and service providers to deliver services in a cultural specific manner.</p>	
General Application		
Proposal Summary		
<p>1. Individuals Impacted</p> <p>Enter the projected number of individuals impacted.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>1500</p>	
<p>2. People Served</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p>	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
What is proposed number of people projected to be served?	300	
3. Duration of project	Applicant Response	
What is the duration of the project? Enter Start & End Dates.	Start Date: 03/01/2021, End Date: 02/28/2022	
4. Duration of project (months)	Applicant Response	
What is the total duration of project in months?	12	
5. Regional Centers	Applicant Response	
List all Regional Centers in the project catchment areas.	San Diego Regional Center	
6. Cities Served	Applicant Response	
List the city or cities your project proposes to serve.	All cities in the county of San Diego	
7. Counties Served	Applicant Response	
List the county or counties your project proposes to serve.	San Diego	
8. City of Los Angeles	Applicant Response	
If your project proposes to serve the City of Los Angeles, list the zip codes and/or communities your project will serve.	Not Applicable	
9. Community Based Organizations	Applicant Response	
Will you be working with one or more Community Based Organization?	No	
10. Regional Center Data	Applicant Response	
If you plan to use regional center data for your project, indicate what steps you will take (or already have taken) to acquire it. For example, completing a data agreement, completing a data request, meeting with RC to discuss data availability/timelines, etc.	A Better Life Together, Inc. will get Purchase of Service Data from the San Diego Regional Center by completing a data agreement and data request. San Diego Regional Center has shared their Purchase of Service Data for the current project and has indicated that they will share their data for this proposed grant.	
11. First Project Type Selection	Applicant Response	
Select your first project type.	Community Connector (Example: Promotora or Navigator)	
12. Second Project Type Selection	Applicant Response	
Select your second project type (if applicable).	Workforce Capacity and Development (staff training, etc)	
13. Third Project Type Selection	Applicant Response	
Select your third project type (if applicable).	Engagement and Outreach (community events, etc)	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
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<p>14. Multiple Organizations</p> <p>Does your project include partnership with one or more organizations either as a co-applicant or subcontractor? If “yes”, please upload a letter of support from each organization, that includes an explanation of their role in the partnership.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>No</p>	
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<p>15. Leverage & Strategies</p> <p>Describe how your organization will leverage and build upon strategies, collaborations, and lessons learned to continue to address the identified disparities after completion of the project. How will your project continue its work after the grant funding has concluded?</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>A Better Life Together, Inc. will leverage our collaborations with community and faith based organizations to continue to advocate to decrease the disparities that exist. The B.R.I.D.G.E. project staff will continue to identify and address the barriers that exist, to ensure that all individuals have access to services. Staff will build upon established relationships with community based organizations to continue to educate about various services offered to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. ABLT will build off of its relationship with the San Diego Regional Center to assist individuals and their families to reduce barriers and receive the services they need. ABLT believes everyone should receive services regardless of ethnicity and those services should be delivered in a cultural appropriate manner. ABLT will continue advocating for services for all and work with existing relationships with our community based partners to advocate and educate as requested. ABLT will continue sharing information through our social media platform and website. ABLT is a part of local and statewide vendor groups such as the Developmental Disability Provider Network and the California Community Living Network and will continue our advocacy work.</p>	
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Target Population

<p>1. Target Groups Served</p> <p>Select all groups the project will serve. If you select "Pacific Islander" or "Other" use comment section to list all groups.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>African American , Filipino , Hispanic , Other (list)</p>	
<p>Applicant Comment</p>	<p>Individuals of African Descent, individuals who were listed in the other category</p>	

<p>2. Number of Target Group Served</p> <p>For each target group selected in previous question, list number served.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>100 African American 150 Hispanic 25 Filipino 25 African</p>	
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<p>3. Languages</p> <p>Select all Languages the project will serve. If you select "Other" please list all languages.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>Spanish , Tagalog</p>	
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APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
Applicant Comment	We will use translation services as needed for other languages not listed.	
4. Age Groups Served	Applicant Response	
Select all Age Groups the project will serve. If you select "Other" please list groups.	Birth up to Three (Early Start) , Three to Five , Three to 21 , 16 to 21 , 22 and older	
Applicant Comment		
Project Application		
Project Application		
1. Project Summary	Applicant Response	
Provide a clear and concise project summary that includes a defined target population, catchment area, and project design. Specifically describe what your project will accomplish and how it will benefit the community served.	<p>A Better Life Together, Inc.'s B.R.I.D.G.E. project will provide the following services to the African American, Hispanic, Filipino, and African community throughout San Diego County:</p> <p>Engagement/Outreach: The B.R.I.D.G.E project will continue to educate the targeted community about services offered by the San Diego Regional Center by conducting informational sessions either online or in person. B.R.I.D.G.E project staff will use social media outlets to conduct outreach to the targeted communities and contact community based organizations within the targeted communities to disseminate information. This will increase knowledge about services that the San Diego Regional Center provides.</p> <p>Community Connector: The B.R.I.D.G.E. project will provide individualized support to families who have applied, have been approved but not utilizing services or utilizing one service or need support and education to advocate for services. The B.R.I.D.G.E. project staff will serve as a liaison between individuals and their families as requested serving as an independent facilitator. During the COVID-19 crisis, staff have provided emotional support and found resources from the community for families who were not receiving any support. Families indicated how much they appreciated having someone check on them. B.R.I.D.G.E staff have established trusting relationships with parents and have been able to connect them with their service coordinator.</p> <p>Workforce Capacity: The B.R.I.D.G.E project will provide individual and group training on a variety of topics related to the disability service system including how to advocate, disability rights, self determination, independent facilitation, disability and culture, etc. Participants will gain an understanding of the service delivery system and other topics related to cultural and how it impacts various disabilities. The B.R.I.D.G.E project will join the cultural competency workgroup from the San Diego Regional Center to discuss cultural issues and identify barriers that arise and work towards solutions. The meetings will occur quarterly and will involve the cultural specialist (TBD) and other key staff of SDRC and staff from ABLT. This objective will help reduce the barriers to services.</p>	
2. Organization Experience	Applicant Response	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
<p>What experience does the organization/group have working with the target population?</p>	<p>A Better Life Together, Inc (ABLT). is a multicultural agency that has been providing supports to African American, Hispanic, Filipino, and Laotian adults since 2005. Since, 2018, ABLT has been providing education and training to these communities under B.R.I.D.G.E. project funded by the Department of Developmental Disability. With established relationships with several community and faith based organizations such as, El Cajon Collaborative, Live Well San Diego, Bayview Baptist Church, Alpine Family Medicine, La Maestra Community Health and the San Diego Refugee Forum, ABLT has established relationships with community leaders in the targeted communities and have gained trust within the community. To date over 11,000 individuals and families of various ethnicities including African American, Hispanic, Filipino, Chaldean, Ethiopian, Asian and others were informed about the San Diego Regional Center services. B.R.I.D.G.E project staff have provided supported and education to individuals and families who have qualified for services but were not utilizing them. They have continue to provide emotional support and community resources to these families during the pandemic.</p>	
<p>3. Underserved Target Populations</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p>	
<p>Explain how the target population(s) are underserved using RC POS data or other data as supporting evidence of the disparity.</p>	<p>The San Diego Purchase of Service Data for fiscal year 2018-2019 demonstrated a disparity between White clients expenditures as opposed to other races and ethnicities. The fiscal year 2019-2020 purchase of service data was not available on their website. According to the 2018-2019 report, White consumer expenditures were \$163,912,314 compared to African American expenditures which were \$23,360,645. Hispanic expenditures were listed as \$90,326,352 and Other ethnicity and race reported \$29,834,647. Based on previous years, there is an assumption that the fiscal year 2019-2020 may show similar disparity expenditures.</p>	
<p>4. Input from Community</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p>	
<p>How did your organization use input from the community and/or target population to design the project? What methods did your organization use to allow the community to advise you in designing the project? Were there any changes to your project design as a result of community input?</p>	<p>ABLT B.R.I.D.G.E project staff spoke with individuals of the targeted population who expressed their gratitude for the services that were provided. In March during the beginning of the pandemic and subsequent shut down of out of non essential services, many families expressed concern about their well beings and needed assistance with access food and other resources and relied on staff for emotional support. As families adjusted to the new way of life, they indicated that they were unaware of what they would qualify for and asked for assistance contacting their service coordinator. In some cases, there was confusion regarding which service coordinator was assigned to their case and if the San Diego Regional Center was closed.</p>	
<p>5. Improve Access</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p>	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
<p>How will your project improve equity, access and reduce barriers to services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families and is sustainable?</p>	<p>The B.R.I.D.G.E. project will equip individuals and families with knowledge regarding the service delivery system and help them establish their own relationship with the San Diego Regional Center. Families and individuals will have knowledge about that services are available and support to access those services. The B.R.I.D.G.E project will help identify barriers to services and discuss those with dedicated staff at the San Diego Regional Center and develop strategies to remove those barriers. ABLT staff will collaborate with the San Diego Regional Center cultural competency group for quarterly meetings to discuss challenges and barriers to accessing services and develop solutions. The B.R.I.D.G.E project will also host monthly webinars on a variety of topics including disability rights, how to advocate, how disability and culture and other topics which will be open to service providers, regional staff and the community at large.</p>	
<p>6. Support RC's Recommendations</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p>	
<p>How does this project support the RC recommendations and plan to promote equity and reduce disparities in their catchment area? If you are a RC, how does this project support your recommendations and plan to promote equity and reduce your identified disparities? How will your project collaborate with other organizations that serve individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families?</p>	<p>Due to the pandemic, the San Diego Regional Center has not released their Purchase of Service Data and plans to promote equity and reduce disparities. Kim Mills, CEO of ABLT spoke with Carlos Flores, Executive Director of the San Diego Regional Center and explained the activities that were proposed in the project and he indicated that he was in support of the ideas.</p>	1
<p>7. Project different or unique</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p>	
<p>How is the proposed project unique or different from a currently funded grant (e.g., strategies, activities, and goals) in the proposed regional center catchment area? If the project is similar to a currently funded grant listed on the Department's website, how is the proposed project different?</p>	<p>The B.R.I.D.G.E. project is different than other projects awarded in the San Diego Regional Center catchment area. This project focused on contacting individuals and families who have qualified for services and provides support and training to assist them in advocating for services. No other project is targeting individuals from the African American, African, Hispanic, and Filipino communities who have qualified for services but not utilizing them. ABLT will host monthly trainings on cultural specific topics related to disabilities, IHSS, and other topics that will be open to families, service providers and employees of the San Diego Regional Center. The goal of the trainings is to assist the service delivery system to provide services in a culturally competent manner. The B.R.I.D.G.E project will collaborate with the San Diego Regional Center's cultural competency committee and meet quarterly to discuss challenges, barriers and develop solutions to decrease barriers and increase access.</p>	
<p>8. Activities & Measures to Achieve Goal</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p>	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
<p>Clearly and specifically state how the schedule of activities and measures demonstrate the operational details and steps that the project will take to achieve its stated goals, activities, and measures. Note: Before answering this question, applicant may want to complete the Activities Template located in the tab directly above.</p>	<p>Community Connector: ABLT will receive Purchase of Service Data from the San Diego Regional Center and contact 2500 individuals and their families who have qualified for regional center services but are only receiving 0-1 service. B.R.I.D.G.E project staff will contact families and individuals to provide support and guidance regarding needs. Based on 2018-2019 POS data over 4,000 individuals of various ethnicities are in this category. The 2019-2020 POS data is not available on the SDRC website. Staff will advocate on behalf of families and individuals as requested and serve as a liaison with the San Diego Regional Center regarding challenges receiving services due to cultural barriers.</p> <p>Workforce Capacity: ABLT will host 6 webinars open to SDRC staff, providers and family members regarding cultural competency topics such as disability and culture, advocacy, and other topics to be determined. Staff will also collaborate with the San Diego Regional Center's cultural competency committee and Cultural Specialist and meet quarterly to discuss barriers and develop strategies to decrease barriers.</p> <p>Engagement and Outreach: ABLT B.R.I.D.G.E project staff will continue ongoing outreach efforts that include communicating with community partners and using social media platforms. ABLT will continue meeting with collaborative partners such as Live-Well San Diego and others to increase the knowledge of the community partners about services.</p>	
<p>9. Measures</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p>	
<p>Are your proposed measures appropriate to track project goals and activities, provide insight into the effectiveness of the overall design of the project and demonstrate how the impact on the community will be evaluated?</p>	<p>Our proposed measures are appropriate and will allow ABLT to track B.R.I.D.G.E. project goals and activities. The effectiveness of the design of the project will be measured by increased knowledge about services offered and staff providing services will have an understanding of cultures which will enable them to provide cultural competency services. Staff will gather input from the community using surveys and pre and post tests from trainings. Qualitative data will be gathered and share with DDS.</p>	
<p>10. Budget Narrative</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p>	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
<p>Note: Before uploading your Budget Narrative, applicants should complete the Budget Template located in the tab directly above. After you complete the Budget Template, please return to this question to upload your Budget Narrative.</p> <p>The project budget is consistent with stated projected goals and activities, and clearly and concisely explains how the proposed expenditures support the overall project design. The project budget costs are clearly associated with the project activities and goals. The project budget does not include non-allowable costs. The overall project budget is appropriate to the outcomes proposed. Please attach your Budget Narrative document. An example of a Budget Narrative can be found in Attachment C.</p>		1
Proposal Certification		
Certification		
1. Applicant & Regional Center Discussion	Applicant Response	
If you are a CBO, have you discussed your proposal with the RC(s)?	Yes	1
2. Applicant Certification	Applicant Response	
By submitting this application, the Applicant is certifying the truth and accuracy of the proposal. The applicant also certifies that if you have subcontracting organizations, each participating organization has reviewed your project and agrees to their assigned activities, measures, and the budget. (Select Yes or No and enter you name in the comment box.)	Yes	
Applicant Comment		