

APPLICATION REPORT

Project Name: Person Enrichment Program
Applicant Organization: RAGNYA
Awarded Amount: \$175,000
Funding Announcement Name: Promoting Service Access and Equity Grant



PROJECT SUMMARY

The success of any project related to the ID/DD/Neurodiverse community lies in how empowered the individual feels & how well integrated the individual is into the fabric of the local community. All services & support programs that are made available to them through the Regional Centers ought to be thriving & striving for the same. PRAGNYA will work with the specific cultural groups South & East Asian, specifically Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, Nepalese, Ethiopian, Filipino, Latino in the treatment areas of SARC, GGRC & RCEB. RAGNYA proposes through the EP, peer support, building trainings & workshops for: Family / Self Advocates in the areas of RC Supports & Services, Independent Facilitation, Advocacy, Social, Employment, Financial, Executive Function, Leadership / Entrepreneurship skills, Basic Technical Skills (Computer Literacy). Service Providers & Staff capacity to be enhanced through comprehensive training in the Allyship Support Program (that incorporates Behavior support, Wisdom Therapy Skills, Social Emotional Learning, Mindfulness), Implicit Bias, Cultural Competency & most importantly "Resumption of Competence" (Person-centered, strengths-based approach to supporting individuals) Local Community (includes family members, self-advocates) from ethnic minority & other community allies in developing businesses that specifically support & address the neurodiverse community. PRAGNYA contends that the needs to be a wrap-around, holistic approach to enrichment & empowerment of the ID/DD neurodiverse community that we serve. A compassionate, ultimately competent support staff (service provider / staff training) An informed & empowered family member role of support (Family advocate training) An enriched & empowered individual (Self Advocate training) And with a wider range of service providers from their own ethnic community to choose from (expanding workforce diversity) would make for an enriched quality of life for the neurodiverse individual within the community with the appropriate & adequate support from the system (Improved access to services). RAGNYA has been in operation for close to 4 years serving the above-mentioned target community groups in the treatment areas of SARC, GGRC & RCEB. With last year's PS&E Grant 2020, we were able to connect with members of the ethnic cultural groups & are involved in improving their engagement with the RCs providing them informational support to better navigate the developmental services system. Through the PEP pilot, PRAGNYA is looking to continue serving more of the ethnic neurodiverse community by scaling & offering existing activities & skills enrichment (Financial literacy, Executive Function, Social Engagement, Advocacy & Leadership, Parent Training, Independent Facilitation, RC Supports et al.), community integration (ally support training, cultural competency, implicit bias) & Advocacy (Local community Neurodiversity awareness & acceptance training) & also introducing new programs of entrepreneurship & business ownership to serve the neurodiverse community. Doing all of this, would be RAGNYA's vision of integrating our neurodiverse/Developmentally Different individuals into mainstream society with support from trained Allies in the community, which would fulfill the principle of the HCBS Final Rule.

APPLICANT INFORMATION	
Applicant Eligibility	
Applicant Information	
1. Project Title	Applicant Response
What is the Project Title?	Person Enrichment Program
2. Awarded Amount	Applicant Response
	\$175,000
3. Organization Type	Applicant Response
Choose the response that best describes your organization.	Community Based Organization (CBO), 501(c)(3)
4. Description of Organization/Group	Applicant Response
Provide a brief description of the organization group. Explain what experience your organization has managing a project similar to the proposal and state the outcomes of that project. You may upload your brochure or add a website link.	RAGNYA is a California based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, working to engage and support the developmentally different (neurodiverse) community by integrating them in a patient-centered Allyship Support Program. Aside from our outreach and engagement efforts for the IDD community through our work with the RCs, RAGNYA has been in the process of building and administering Skill self-advocates, and during the course of our work identified all the areas of need that are outlined in this EP proposal. Please see attached detailed organizational
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? Please upload confirmation letter(s) proof of good standing.	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?	Yes
Grant Reapplication Information	
Grant Reapplications	
1. Previous Award(s)	Applicant Response
Did your organization receive DDS grant funding in fiscal year 2019-2020-21? If yes, go to question 2 to complete each column. If not, skip this category and go to category 3.	Yes
2. Previous Grant Award(s)	Applicant Response

APPLICANT INFORMATION				
<p>Since fiscal year 2019, complete a worksheet DDS Service Assessment and Equity grant organization was awarded funding.</p>	Year Awarded	Project Title	Grant Number	Award Amount
		2021	ENGAGE with RAGNYA	20-C19
<p>3. Previous Grant Outcomes</p> <p>Provide a brief grant summary of your project outcomes for fiscal year 2019-20 and 2020-21.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>The Grant Activities are in progress and the 2nd Quarter reports have been uploaded to the GrantVantage System.</p>			
<p>4. Project Transition</p> <p>If awarded, how will you ensure project transition into the 2021-proposed project? Does your proposed project expand on/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.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>Not Applicable</p>			
<p>General Application</p> <p>Proposal Summary</p>				
<p>1. Project Type</p> <p>Choose the project type that best describes your activities from the list below:</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>Educational and Training</p>			
<p>2. Duration of project</p> <p>Choose the duration for your project.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>12 months</p>			
<p>3. Regional Centers</p> <p>Choose the Regional Center(s) that you prefer to serve. Check all that apply.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>San Andreas Regional Center, Regional Center of the East Bay, Golden Gate Regional Center</p>			
<p>4. Counties Served</p> <p>List the county counties your project proposes to serve. Check all that apply.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>Alameda County, Contra Costa County, San Francisco County, San Mateo County, Santa Clara County, Santa Cruz County, San Benito County, Monterey County</p>			
<p>5. City of Los Angeles</p> <p>If your project proposes to serve the City of Los Angeles, list the zip codes you prefer to serve.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>Not Applicable</p>			
<p>6. Community Based Organizations</p> <p>Will you be working with one or more Community Based Organizations? If so, provide the name of the organization and how you will be working together.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>Yes, we intend to work in collaboration with certain cultural CBOs inviting them as SMEs (Subject Matter Experts) to build our Enrichment Program & reach out to community with inclusion but not limited to: Asian Resource Network FCSN Parents Helping Parents Disability Voices United</p>			
<p>7. Multiple Organizations</p> <p>Does your project include partnership with one or more organizations either as a co-applicant or subcontract? 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>			
<p>8. Strategies and Sustainability</p> <p>How will you perpetuate its work after the grant funding has ended?</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>We believe that we would be able to sustain the efforts initiated through the EP (Enrichment Program) pilot. Leveraging Technology to foster community connection and, ultimately, we believe that we will be able to further the enrichment process for our neurodiverse community to receive supports and thus improve their quality of life.</p>			
<p>Target Population</p>				
<p>1. Ethnic Groups Served</p> <p>Select the ethnicity group(s) the project will serve. For "Indian", "Pacific Islander", "Slavic", "Other" use comment section to list specific groups.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>African American, Filipino, Hispanic, Indian (list), Other (list), Pacific Islander (list)</p>			
<p>Applicant Comment</p>	<p>Others include Nepalese, Sikh, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Afghani, Ethiopian and Middle Eastern</p>			
<p>2. Ethnic Group(s), Language(s) and Number of Individuals Served</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p>			

APPLICANT	TI N																											
<p>For each ethnicity group, provide the number of individuals you project intends to serve and the related language(s).</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ethnic Group(s)</th> <th>Individuals Served</th> <th>Language(s)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Asian Indian</td> <td>100</td> <td>Hindi, Telugu, Gujarati, Punjabi, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Philippine</td> <td>50</td> <td>Tagalog</td> </tr> <tr> <td>African American</td> <td>5</td> <td>English</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ethiopian</td> <td>10</td> <td>Amharic</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sri Lankan</td> <td>5</td> <td>Sinhalese</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nepal</td> <td>5</td> <td>Nepalese</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pakistani</td> <td>10</td> <td>Urdu, Punjabi</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bangladeshi</td> <td>5</td> <td>Bengali</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ethnic Group(s)	Individuals Served	Language(s)	Asian Indian	100	Hindi, Telugu, Gujarati, Punjabi, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam	Philippine	50	Tagalog	African American	5	English	Ethiopian	10	Amharic	Sri Lankan	5	Sinhalese	Nepal	5	Nepalese	Pakistani	10	Urdu, Punjabi	Bangladeshi	5	Bengali
	Ethnic Group(s)	Individuals Served	Language(s)																									
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<p>3. Age Group(s) Served</p> <p>Select all Age Groups the project will serve.</p> <p>Applicant Comment</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>Birth up to Thirteen (Early Start), Thirteen to Fifteen, Fifteen to Twenty-One, Sixteen to Twenty-One, and Older</p>
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Project Application

<p>1. Project Summary and Organizational Experience</p> <p>Provide a clear and concise project summary that includes a defined target population, attachment area, and project design. Specifically describe what your project will accomplish and how it will benefit the community served. In your answer, include what experience your organization has working with the target population?</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>The success of any project related to the ID/DD Neurodiverse community lies in how empowered the individual feels & how well integrated the individual is into the fabric of the groups South & East Asian, specifically Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, Nepalese, Ethiopian, Filipino, Latino in the attachment areas of SARC, GGRC & RCEB. PI</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Family / Self Advocates in the areas of RC Supports & Services, Independent Facilitation, Advocacy, Social, Employment, Financial, Executive Function, Leadership / E 2. Service Providers & Staff capacity to be enhanced through comprehensive training in the Allyship Support Program (that incorporates Behavior support, Wisdom Through) 3. Local Community (includes family members, self advocates) from ethnic minority & their community allies in developing businesses that specifically support & address: <p>PRAGNYA intends that the needs to be a wrap-around, holistic approach to enrichment & empowerment of the ID/DD neurodiverse community that we serve.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A compassionate, culturally competent support staff (service provider / staff training) • An informed & empowered family member circle of support (Family advocate training) • An enriched & empowered individual (Self Advocate training) • And with a wider range of service providers from their own ethnic community to choose from (expanding workforce diversity) <p>would make for an enriched quality of life for the neurodiverse individual within the community with the appropriate & adequate support from the system (improved access)</p> <p>Through the Project, PRAGNYA is looking to continue serving members of the ethnic neurodiverse community by scaling & offering existing activities of skills enrichment (Firm implicit bias) & Acculturation (Local community Neurodiversity awareness & acceptance training) & also introducing new programs of entrepreneurship & business ownership</p> <p>Doing all of this, would be PRAGNYA's vision of integrating our neurodiverse/ Developmentally Different individuals into mainstream society with support from trained Allies in</p>
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<p>2. Data and Community Input</p> <p>Explain how the target population(s) are understood using RC OS data and other data as supporting evidence of the disparity. In your answer, include how your organization used input from the community and/ or target population to design the project?</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>The Project will include a 3-phased Training approach for service providers/staff, consumers/family & Local community for diverse workforce capacity in several areas</p> <p>Learning from the various data points we gathered during the course of our work with the 2020 SAE grant focused on each & engagement, extensive discussions with the</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. The lack of initiative & empowerment among Self Advocates/Family members stemming from poor knowledge about the system of supports, Cultural & Linguistic differences B. The lack of diversity (Ethnicity) & bandwidth/resources in the service provider community, to train the support staff in skills to better understand cultural nuances of their C. The limited understanding in the larger ethnic minority community regarding the service industry that exists to serve the Neurodiverse Community (ID/DD), stemming from <p>MORE INFO IN ATTACHMENT!</p>
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<p>3. Uniqueness</p> <p>How is the proposed project unique/different from a currently funded grant (e.g., strategies, activities, and beneficiaries) in the proposed regional entertainment 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>Applicant Response</p> <p>While there have been many attempts made at training and building skills in the Neurodiverse individual (ID/DD), successful integration is yet to happen. Firm skill retention, a good understanding of the skill and a regular opportunity to practice is essential. On the skill is acquired, regular refresher sessions will reinforce the skill. PRAGNYA's Resonance Enhancement Program (REP) is designed to address the followup and refresher of skills in not only Neurodiverse (ID/DD) individuals, but also their support team.</p> <p>The things that the PEP will target are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Self advocates 2. Family advocates 3. Service provider community <p>The PEP design is a combination of training/workshops with periodic refresher sessions. The Attendees are added to a Moderated WhatsApp meet on a regular basis. So PRAGNYA intends that this unique multi-pronged, wrap-around approach to enrichment & empowerment of the ID/DD neurodiverse community and their support team will</p>
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<p>4. Improve Quality and Service Access</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p>
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APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE
<p>How will you promote equity, access, and reduce barriers to services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families?</p>	<p>The 3-pronged approach used in the E project will target the groups: Service providers/staff, Community members/family & Local community. The skills workshops over several months...</p> <p>With the trainings outlined in the E project Summary for Self Advocates/Family members, we hope to address the lack of initiative & empowerment, possibly stemming from past skills acquisition.</p> <p>Through the training workshops that build skills of Allyship, Cultural competency, Diversity and overcoming Implicit Bias within the Service Provider / Staff community, we hope...</p> <p>The Trainings on Entrepreneurship and business development for self Advocates and the community (ethnic minority) would help to expand the workforce, increasing the diversity...</p>
<p>5. Support of RC Plan</p> <p>How does this project support the RC plan to promote equity and educational disparities in your proposed attachment area? If you are a RC, how does this project support your recommendations and plan to promote equity and educational disparities in your attachment area? How will you collaborate with their organizations that serve individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families?</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>The success of any project related to the ID/DD Neurodiverse community lies in how empowered the individual feels & how well integrated the individual is into the fabric of the South & East Asian, specifically Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, Nepalese, Ethiopian, Filipin, Latin American attachment areas of SARC, GGRC & RCEB.</p> <p>RAGNYA, through the E project, will adopt a multi-pronged approach to increasing capacity in self/family advocates, service providers/staff and also ethnic communities that...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family / Self Advocates • Service Providers & Staff • Local Community (includes family members, self advocates) from ethnic minority & their community allies in developing businesses that specifically support & address: <p>An empowered consumer with a compassionate and culturally competent support team, with an ethnically diverse community of support staff to help form in the community...</p>
<p>6. Project Activities</p> <p>Note: Before answering this question, applicants must complete the Activities Template located in the middle tab directly above.</p> <p>Clearly and specifically state how the schedule of activities demonstrates the steps that the project will take to achieve its stated objective and measure.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>Over a period of 24 months, RAGNYA will work with the specific cultural groups South & East Asian, specifically Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, Nepalese, Ethiopian, Local Community (includes family members, self advocates) from ethnic minority & their community allies in the areas outlined below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Allyship Support program (that incorporates Behavior support, Wisdom Therapy Skills, Social Emotional Learning, Mindfulness), Implicit Bias, Assessment of Competence (Entered, strengths based approach supporting individuals) Cultural Competency RC Supports & Services, Advocacy, Independent Facilitation, Social Skills, Executive Function, Employment (Job Skills), Basic Technical Skills (Computer Literacy); Financial Literacy, Leadership / Entrepreneurship skills, Business Start-Up (Basic) <p>Refresher Sessions:</p> <p>For skill retention, a good understanding of the skill and a regular opportunity to practice is essential. On the skill is a required, regular refresher sessions will reinforce the skill. RAGNYA's e-son Enrichment program (E) is designed to address the followup and refresher of skills in each training hour in not only Neurodiverse (ID/DD) individual. The three groups that the PEP will target are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Self advocates Family advocates Service provider community <p>The PEP design is a combination of training/workshops with periodic refresher sessions. The Attendees are added to a Moderated chat which meet on a regular basis. So PRAGNYA intends that this unique multi-pronged, wrap-around approach to enrichment & empowerment of the ID/DD neurodiverse community and their support team will...</p> <p>Neuropreneurship Xpo sessions: In order to create a more diverse workforce, to create more capacity within the community to serve the neurodiverse population, the EP project from the areas of need, their specific strengths, a easy opportunity to the 101 first to get about setting up a business/service to meet this demand of the neurodiverse community...</p>
<p>7. Project Measures</p> <p>Before answering this question, applicants must enter performance measures into the Activities Template located in the middle tab directly above.</p> <p>Are you proposing measures appropriate to track the project's behavior and activities? Explain how your proposed measures 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>Applicant Response</p> <p>The effectiveness of any training project program is determined by the practice of the skills being imparted to the attendees during the course of the program, the frequency, peers with a Coach/guide. Keeping this in mind, E project has determined that the following quantitative measures would provide insight into the effectiveness of the project:</p> <p>Quantitative measures determining the number of Trainings, Refresher workshops, attendees of trainings, Refresher sessions, Number of Neuropreneurship expos, attendees at the surveys conducted would give us a better understanding of how effective the frequency, target demographic outreach, and data collection efforts in attendee satisfaction at the...</p> <p>The Qualitative measure of the satisfaction, skills and knowledge acquisition process, ability to practice these in the real world and other successful applications of the knowledge gained...</p>
<p>8. Budget Template and Narrative</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p>

APPLICANT QUESTION	
<p>Note: Before answering this question, applicants must complete the Budget Template located in the tab directly above.</p> <p>In your Budget Template, explain how the project budget is consistent with the stated project objective and activities, and clearly and concisely explain how the proposed expenditures support the overall project design and proposed outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget Template example is located at Attachment C. Budget Details and Restrictions are available here. 	<p>All the expenses listed in the Budget template are associated directly to the activities listed in "Personnel Implementation Program" page 6. The Personnel related expenses to be reviewed in the Budget template for justification of the costs/expenses.</p>
<p>9. Budget Costs</p> <p>Explain how the project budget costs are directly associated with the project activities and objective and confirm that the budget does not include non-allowable costs funded by the sources.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>The Project is one that requires dedicated staff to work with different stakeholder groups, put together the training material, host and moderate refresher trainings, collect material is culturally and linguistically relevant and significant. It is hence that it requires an overall lead, the Program Manager who will oversee the execution of this project to communicate with program manager and Event Director on a regular basis aside from SMEs and program attendees to ensure everyone is effectively engaged and benefited.</p> <p>Speaker fees are for in-state travel for the several training workshops and to moderate refresher sessions, while the consultant fees are specifically for designing the courses based on ethnic minority communities where we see the most disparity in access to services. Other costs of accounting, office supplies, facility rental are self-explanatory and will be covered by the program.</p> <p>All the costs are solely for the activities outlined in this project to achieve the "Personnel Implementation Program" project objective.</p>
<p>Proposal Certification</p>	
<p>Certification</p>	
<p>1. Confirm Proposal Discussion with RC(s)</p> <p>CBOs are required to discuss their proposal with each RC(s) the CBO is intending to serve. If you are a CBO, have you discussed your proposal with each RC you are intending to serve?</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>Yes</p>
<p>2. RC Contact</p> <p>CBOs are required to submit their application directly to the Department and to each RC(s) attached the CBO is intending to serve. If you are a CBO, state the name(s) of the contact person(s) at each RC you have discussed your proposal with.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>SARC - Ruben C / Mike Keely RCEB - Jai Guiza / Lisa Kleinbub GGRC - E Zigman / Amanda Yule</p>
<p>3. Applicant Certification</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>Yes</p>
<p>Applicant Comment</p>	