

APPLICATION REPORT

Project Name: Early Childhood Outreach and Screening Program
Applicant Organization: South Central Los Angeles Regional Center
Awarded Amount: \$150,000
Funding Announcement Name: Promoting Service Access and Equity Grant



PROJECT SUMMARY

The project aims to connect underserved Latino and African American families with children ages birth to three who may be in need of early intervention services to SCLARC.

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
Applicant Eligibility		
Applicant Information		
1. Project Title What is the project title?	Applicant Response Early Childhood Outreach and Screening Program	
2. Awarded Amount	Applicant Response \$150,000	
3. Organization Type Choose the response that best describes your organization.	Applicant Response Regional Center (RC)	
4. Description of organization/Group 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 and add a website link.	Applicant Response One of 21 Regional Centers in the state, SCLARC is a private, non-profit organization with over 45 years of experience providing services for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. SCLARC's website is www.sclarc.org . Beginning in FY 2016-17, SCLARC received funding for an Early Start Outreach Clinic. The program has been a great success, leading to new children being referred to Early Start for assessment and becoming eligible, an increase in the number of children who receive POS services under Early Start, and an increased community awareness of SCLARC eligibility and services, as well as early developmental milestones and red flags for developmental delays.	
5. Applicant in Good Standing 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.	Applicant Response Yes	2
6. Subcontractors in Good Standing 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?	Applicant Response Not Applicable	
Grant Reapplication Information		
Grant Reapplications		
1. Previous Award(s) Did your organization receive DDS grant funding in fiscal year 2019-2020-21? If yes, go to question 2 to complete each column. If no, skip this category and go to category 3.	Applicant Response Yes	
2. Previous Grant Award(s)	Applicant Response	

APPLICANT INFORMATION	APPLICANT RESPONSE				ATTACHMENT
<p>Since fiscal year 2019, complete a workflow for DDS Services Assessment and Equity grant your organization was awarded funding.</p>	<p>Year Awarded</p>	<p>Project Title</p>	<p>Grant Number</p>	<p>Award Amount</p>	
	<p>2019 - 2020</p>	<p>Early Childhood Outreach and Screening Program</p>	<p>19-SCLARC-03</p>	<p>\$159,979.00</p>	
	<p>2019 - 2020</p>	<p>Regional Center Leadership Academy</p>	<p>19-SCLARC-09</p>	<p>\$69,500.00</p>	
	<p>2019 - 2020</p>	<p>Navigate</p>	<p>19-SCLARC-01</p>	<p>\$465,708.00</p>	
	<p>2020 - 2021</p>	<p>Navigate Program</p>	<p>20-SCLARC</p>	<p>\$465,708.00</p>	
<p>3. Previous Grant Outcomes Provide a brief grant summary of your project outcomes for fiscal year 2019-20 and/ 2020-21.</p>	<p>Applicant Response SCLARC has successfully passed the majority of the project outcomes for fiscal year 2019-2020 for the Early Childhood Outreach and Screening Program. The project aimed to screen 40 African American children and 130 Hispanic children and so far has already met its goal and screened 49 African American children and 194 Hispanic children. The project also aimed to refer 10 African American children to Early Start and 10 Hispanic children, and so far the project has referred 29 African American children and 102 Hispanic children to Early Start. This is also the case for other measures such as children identified as needing early intervention from screening events and the number of children eligible for services after receiving a screening. Overall, the project's outcome has been satisfactory and has prevented connect families and their children to much needed early intervention services.</p>				
<p>4. Project Transition If awarded, how will you continue the project into the 2021-22 proposed project? Does your proposed project expand or continue your current efforts? 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 The current project will continue, but also expand for 21-22. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, many families have a difficult time connecting to services due to limited access to technology. Families with children ages 0- still need to be connected to early intervention services and continue funding for this project will provide a focus on connecting Latin and African American children to Early Start services. The Early Start Outreach Coordinator will continue to provide screenings for children throughout the community to help increase the number of children connected to services. The Early Start Outreach Coordinator will also continue all outreach efforts including providing the new orientation for parents of children recently determined as eligible for services as well as attend community meetings and resource fairs. The current project will also be expanding for 21-22. The project measure that was added is "number of health care providers contacted and provided Early Start intake information." The activity that was added is "outreach to health care providers to provide information on Early Start eligibility criteria and intake referral process." We are proposing these additions because as part of our sustainability plan, we plan to expand our outreach efforts to healthcare providers to help increase the number of referrals so that high risk infants and children are being properly connected to services. The goal is to better serve children from high risk clinics and NICU's to early intervention services.</p>				
<p>General Application Proposal Summary</p>					
<p>1. Project Type Choose the project type that best describes your activities from the list below:</p>	<p>Applicant Response Engagement and Outreach</p>				
<p>2. Duration of project Choose the duration for your project.</p>	<p>Applicant Response 24 months</p>				
<p>3. Regional Centers Choose the Regional Center(s) that you project will serve. Check all that apply.</p>	<p>Applicant Response South Central Los Angeles Regional Center</p>				
<p>4. Counties Served List the county counties your project proposes to serve. Check all that apply.</p>	<p>Applicant Response Los Angeles County</p>				
<p>5. City of Los Angeles If your project proposes to serve the City of Los Angeles, list the zip codes you project will serve.</p>	<p>Applicant Response 90001, 90002, 90003, 90007, 90008, 90011, 90016, 90018, 90037, 90043, 90044, 90047, 90056, 90058, 90059, 90061, 90062.</p>				

<p>6. Community Based Organizations</p> <p>Will you be working with other community based organizations? If so, provide the name of the organization and how you will be working together.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>The Early Start Outreach Coordinator will work with Watts Health Care Center & partners for Children South LA. The ESOC receives direct referrals from Watts Health Care Center for children with developmental concerns with a suspected developmental delay. The ESOC notifies parents to offer a developmental screening and assists them through the intake process as needed. The ESOC also helps identify and refer SCLARC families with children ages 0-5 to CSLA who are in need of community resources.</p>							
<p>7. 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>							
<p>8. Strategies and Sustainability</p> <p>How will you be able to continue its work after the grant funding has concluded?</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>Families with children birth to three will be negatively impacted if the funding for the Early Start Outreach Coordinator was to come to an end. The ESOC has prevented help increase the number of African American and Latino children who have been identified as needing early intervention services and who have been referred to Early Start. With continued funding the ESOC will continue to connect with families and extend its reach to healthcare providers throughout SCLARC's existing network to create referrals about the Early Start intake process and services available. The ESOC will be a point of contact for healthcare providers and will help resolve issues that may arise when connecting families to SCLARC's Early Start Intake Department.</p>							
Project Application								
<p>1. Ethnic Groups Served</p> <p>Select the ethnicity group(s) the project will serve. From "Indian", "Pacific Islander", "Slavic", "Other" use comment section to list specific groups.</p> <p>Applicant Comment</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>African American, Hispanic</p>							
<p>2. Ethnic Group(s), Language(s) and Number of Individuals Served</p> <p>For each ethnicity group, provide the number of individuals you project intends to serve and the related language(s).</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="479 1123 1333 1302"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #003366; color: white;"> </td> <td style="background-color: #003366; color: white;"> </td> <td style="background-color: #003366; color: white;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hispanic</td> <td>520</td> <td>English, Spanish</td> </tr> </table>				Hispanic	520	English, Spanish	
Hispanic	520	English, Spanish						
<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 Three (Early Start)</p>							
Project Application								
<p>1. Project Summary and Organizational Experience</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p>							

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENT
<p>Provide a clear and concise summary that includes a defined target population, categorical 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>The project aims to connect underserved Latino and African American families with children ages birth to three who may be in need of early intervention services to SCLARC. The categorical area that will be served will be the Sevierville Planning Area 6 and the western half of the Sevierville Planning Area. The project will fund the continuation of the Early Start Outreach Clinic pilot program, which is embedded within SCLARC's organization to help in case referrals to the Early Start Intake department and help families assess services.</p> <p>The ESOC is responsible for providing developmental screenings for children referred through community partners and families who self-identify within the community. The ESOC also conducts educational presentations to health care providers and the community organizations to promote awareness of SCLARC's early start services. In addition, the ESOC provides New Parent Orientation trainings to parents of children eligible for services, attends case conferences and screening events throughout the community, reach and engage with parents who are SCLARC clients to ensure their children to SCLARC services, and assists in troubleshooting any issues that families may face when going through the intake process in receiving services.</p> <p>The ESOC works closely with SCLARC's Early Start Program Managers and Sevierville Clinic staff to help improve barriers and improve access to services. SCLARC has successfully conducted targeted outreach to each outreach population of seven years, increasing the number of children referred to Early Start through outreach efforts, and new partnerships with community clinics and health care providers. The agency has conducted outreach to various service agencies, early education professionals and health care professionals in an effort to increase the number of children referred to SCLARC in recent years.</p>	
<p>2. Data and Community Input</p> <p>Explain how the target population(s) are underserved using RCOS 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 communities SCLARC serves is comprised of all of Sevierville Planning Area 6 (SPA 6) and the western half of SPA 7. These areas are severely challenged by infant mortality, poverty, lack of education, single parent households, and overall disproportionate numbers of negative outcomes in the health and wellbeing of young children. Communities served by SCLARC have the highest percentage of African American and Latin residents of any area within Los Angeles County (http://www.laalmnra.org/m/pulatin/p38.php). Through this project, we aim to help ensure underserved families and their children to services needed through SCLARC.</p> <p>It is SCLARC's goal to assist families who face barriers such as those described above with gaining access to needed services that will help them live healthier lives. SCLARC hosted a town hall public meeting on June 3rd, 2021 where our staff and SCLARC services were presented to Board members, staff, stakeholders, and the community at large. Parents and advocates had the opportunity to share their ideas and provide comments during this meeting. The ideas and comments shared were collected and taken into consideration when designing the continuation of this project. A copy of the RCOS Data Public Meeting Report can be found on SCLARC's website at https://sclarc.org/transparency/pulatin/p38.php, which includes all the information that was presented and shared during this public meeting including our community's feedback.</p>	
<p>3. Uniqueness</p> <p>How is the proposed project unique/different from a currently funded grant (e.g., strategies, activities, and objectives) in the proposed regional center at the 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>This project provides a unique focus on outreach, education and support in acquiring services for Early Start families and underserved children who could be eligible for Early Start. While offering one-on-one support to families, the ESOC is also able to provide community professionals with education on the Regional Center system, leading to increased appropriate referrals to Early Start, and improved connections between SCLARC and various referring agencies. While there are other programs across the state funded by DDS for use in Early Start this project is unique in that the ESOC is embedded within SCLARC at a Specialist level, and is able to help barriers in service acquisition directly to Early Start Program Managers. The ESOC has direct access to consume files, allowing her to quickly identify ways to better serve families. The ESOC also provides outreach to client parents of SCLARC to ensure their children to Early Start services. If approved for additional funding, the project will be able to expand its focus in outreach to health care providers to provide presentations in Early Start services, but will also serve as a direct connection to help address any issues that providers may face when referring children to SCLARC's intake department.</p>	
<p>4. Improve Equity and Service Access</p> <p>How will you promote equity, access, and reduce barriers to services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families?</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>This project is directly related to decreasing disparities in access to Regional Center services and in educating barriers to services. The project will work with community partners to connect with underserved families through SCLARC's services area. It will raise awareness of Early Start, providing increased access to information about SCLARC to the large community. As part of this project the ESOC will provide educational presentations throughout the community about SCLARC's eligibility criteria and intake referral process to better connect families to services.</p> <p>The ESOC will conduct new parent orientations to inform parents of the various services available and the trainings and services that they can be connected to through the Family Resource Center. The ESOC will focus on educating barriers for underserved families by working directly with families, Sevierville Clinic and Early Start Program Managers and helping identify the barriers that families face so they can be better addressed and help educate disparities in SCLARC's service area.</p>	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENT
<p>5. Support of RC Plan</p> <p>How does this project support the RC plan to promote equity and reduce disparities in your proposed target area? If you are a RC, how does this project support your recommendations and plan to promote equity and reduce disparities in your target 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>SCLARC's recommendations and plan to promote equity and reduce disparities includes the continuation of virtual trainings and presentations in various areas such as Parent-Centered Learning, New Parent Orientations, and continued referrals to the McClaney Family Resource Center (FRC). In addition, SCLARC opened a new satellite office in the city of South Gate to help address families' needs in regards to requesting SCLARC's presence in the Southeast communities.</p> <p>The ESOC will assist in reaching these goals by assisting in providing the New Parent Orientations to parents who were hindered by the pandemic. The New Parent Orientations were held in person at both SCLARC offices. During the pandemic the orientations are held virtually and will continue to do so until it is safe to resume in person. The ESOC has assisted in providing the New Parent Orientations virtually and will continue to provide them to assist parents. The ESOC will transition to in person orientations in the Southeast office when safe to do so, to continue to connect families and promote equity within our target area. Through this project the ESOC will partner with multiple partners to help connect families to SCLARC services and address issues families may face. Some of the partners that the ESOC will work with are CSLA, Watts Health Care Center, Early Head Start programs, School Districts and health care providers.</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 measures.</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p> <p>The objective for this project is to connect underserved Latino and African-American children to Early Start and improve connections for children of Atlanta's underserved Early Start. The measures for this project are to connect the number of Latino and African American children to Early Start services. The measures include the number of children who need services, number of children screened for services, number of children referred for services and number of children eligible for services. The activities listed that will focus on achieving these goals are reach outreach health care providers to provide information on Early Start eligibility criteria and intake referral process, identify and reach outreach centers for parents with young children age birth to three, high educational presentations for Early Start families in available PPS services, the IFSP, and high quality services, finally high developmental screening days and events with community partners. The ESOC will be responsible for completing these activities in order to meet the project's goal and measures. The ESOC will provide data reports on a quarterly basis to be submitted and help track the progress of the measures listed.</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 objective 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 project's proposed measures are appropriate to track the project's objective and activities because the measures will show the number of children that were served, referred for services and ultimately who were eligible for services. The project's goal is to connect underserved Latino and African-American children to Early Start and improve connections for children of Atlanta's underserved Early Start. By providing quantitative data, we will be able to measure how many children are being referred for services and how many children are ultimately being eligible for services. These measures will help demonstrate that the goal of connecting underserved Latino and African-American children to Early Start is being accomplished. Quantitative data will be entered into Grant Vantage on a quarterly basis to demonstrate the progress of the families served and how this project is closing the disparity gap within the Latino and African-American families.</p>	
<p>8. Budget Template and Narrative</p> <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>Applicant Response</p> <p>The project's objective is to connect underserved Latino and African-American children to Early Start and improve connections for children of Atlanta's underserved Early Start. The proposed budget includes costs associated with the provision of the Early Start outreach curriculum. Funds will be utilized for salary, benefits and operating expenses towards the provision of the ESOC. The ESOC will be responsible for connecting families and their children to SCLARC's services by providing outreach to the community, connecting to healthcare providers, and reaching out to parent clients with young children. The travel costs (\$600) will be utilized for the ESOC to travel to different meeting sites with families and professionals as part of the outreach efforts for this project. The Early Start State Conference cost (\$451) will be utilized for the ESOC staff to attend the annual conference that is held annually that provides pertinent information and resources on early intervention services. The conference is beneficial in the professional development of the staff persons as this will help increase their knowledge and expertise to better serve the target population.</p>	
<p>9. Budget Costs</p>	<p>Applicant Response</p>	

<p>Explain how the project budget costs are clearly associated with the project activities and objective and confirm that the budget does not include non-allowable costs funded by the sur es.</p>	<p>The proposed budget includes \$2,000.00 for printing and copying which will be utilized for the printing of family stability books. The books will be distributed to families at outreach events, screening events and during presentations such as the new parent orientation. The books will also be distributed to health care providers and parent clients to help educate them on the intake process as well as the services available. The budget also includes a cost of \$2,000.00 for educational supplies for children. These funds will be used to purchase reading books for children to help enhance their learning in different developmental areas such as their expressive and receptive communication skills. The books will be provided to low-income parents who at times do not have the funds to purchase educational materials for their children. The books will be used as a means to encourage parents to involve themselves with their children's learning. The ESOC will be able to provide parents with different strategies on how they can utilize the books at home to continue to increase their children's learning capabilities. These costs are not funded by the sur es nor are they currently being funded by SCLARC's operational budget.</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>No</p>	
<p>2. RC Contact</p> <p>CBOs are required to submit their application directly to the Department and to each RC(s) in attachment 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>Not applicable, we are a regional center.</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>		