

**APPLICATION REPORT**

**Project Name:** Parent Parent Enhanced Support  
**Applicant Organization:** Tri-Counties Regional Center  
**Awarded Amount:** \$79,000  
**Funding Announcement Name:** Mentoring Services Access and Equity Grant



**PROJECT SUMMARY**

Tri-Counties Regional Center (TCRC) and Rainbow Connections FRC are partnering to provide Individuals, ages 3 and over, and their families, education and training in topics identified by the community including 1:1 follow ups. Trainings will be held in Spanish which will include Homework to Use, Homework to connect with organizations in the community that do and could provide services, how to connect and apply for services, what to do after you apply for services, and session participants will learn skills and share the learning with their community.

APPLICANT INFORMATION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENTS
<b>Applicant Eligibility</b>		
<b>Applicant Information</b>		
<b>1. Project Title</b> What is the Project Title?	<b>Applicant Response</b> Parent Parent Enhanced Support	
<b>2. Awarded Amount</b>	<b>Applicant Response</b> \$79,000	
<b>3. Organization Type</b> Choose the response that best describes your organization	<b>Applicant Response</b> Regional Center (RC)	
<b>4. Description of Organization/Group</b> 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.	<b>Applicant Response</b> Tri-Counties Regional Center (TCRC) and Rainbow Connection Family Resource Center work together to serve and support people with developmental disabilities and their families. Rainbow is staffed by parents of children and adults with special needs. Rainbow draws from their own experiences and understand the daily joys and challenges of parenting a child. An adult with special needs. Rainbow Connection Family Resource Center are great listeners, they have parent to parent support and are a trusted organization by people in the community and TCRC.  TCRC and Rainbow both have experiences with project managing. Recently developing One age file workshops for families both English and Spanish to support individuals and families. This workshop has recently gone virtual due to the pandemic and Rainbow has been very supportive throughout the planning, out each, identifying families, and following up with services. TCRC and Rainbow have received great feedback.	
<b>5. Applicant in Good Standing</b> 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.	<b>Applicant Response</b> Yes	2
<b>6. Subcontractors in Good Standing</b> 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?	<b>Applicant Response</b> Not Applicable	
<b>Grant Reapplication Information</b>		
<b>Grant Reapplications</b>		
<b>1. Previous Award(s)</b> 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.	<b>Applicant Response</b> No	
<b>2. Previous Grant Award(s)</b>	<b>Applicant Response</b>	

Since fiscal year 2019, complete a workflow DDS Service Assessment and Equity grant organization was awarded funding.				
<b>3. Previous Grant Outcomes</b> Provide a brief grant summary of your project outcomes for fiscal year 2019-20 and/ 2020-21.	<b>Applicant Response</b> Not Applicable			
<b>4. Project Transition</b> If awarded, how will you currently project transition in the 2021-22 proposed project? Does your proposed project expand 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.	<b>Applicant Response</b> Not Applicable			
<b>General Application Proposal Summary</b>				
<b>1. Project Type</b> Choose the project type that best describes your activities from the list below:	<b>Applicant Response</b> Education and Training			
<b>2. Duration of project</b> Choose the duration for your project	<b>Applicant Response</b> 12 months			
<b>3. Regional Centers</b> Choose the Regional Center(s) that you project will serve. Check all that apply	<b>Applicant Response</b> Tulsa County Regional Center			
<b>4. Counties Served</b> List the county or counties you project to serve. Check all that apply	<b>Applicant Response</b> Ventura County			
<b>5. City of Los Angeles</b> If your project proposes to serve the City of Los Angeles, list the zip codes you project will serve	<b>Applicant Response</b> Not Applicable			
<b>6. Community Based Organizations</b> 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.	<b>Applicant Response</b> Not Applicable			
<b>7. Multiple Organizations</b> 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	<b>Applicant Response</b> No			
<b>8. Strategies and Sustainability</b>	<b>Applicant Response</b>			

<p>How will you perpetuate its work after the grant funding has concluded?</p>	<p>Based upon feedback from our community, our strategy to make this project sustainable includes: building a community where individuals and families collaborate to support each other via 1:1 follow ups, skill development that can be shared in support groups, and providing leadership, connection, and accessibility to resources in our community. Empowering members of the community to disseminate their learning potential and then share their new skills and knowledge supports sustainability by connecting organizations with individuals and individuals with their community.</p> <p>This program's sustainability is also supported by the existing structured support groups and connections currently in place due to Rainbow FRC's work. Minimal supervisory coordination will be needed after grant funding concludes as TCRC and Rainbow Connections Family Resource Center would support the families that share what they have learned.</p>							
<b>Project Application</b>								
<p><b>1. Ethnic Groups Served</b></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><b>Applicant Response</b></p> <p>Hispanic</p>							
<p><b>2. Ethnic Group(s), Language(s) and Number of Individuals Served</b></p> <p>For each ethnicity group, provide the number of individuals you expect intends to serve and the related language(s)</p>	<p><b>Applicant Response</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="479 709 1334 835"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #0056b3; width: 33%;"></td> <td style="background-color: #0056b3; width: 33%;"></td> <td style="background-color: #0056b3; width: 33%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>							
<p><b>3. Age Group(s) Served</b></p> <p>Select all Age Groups the project will serve</p> <p>Applicant Comment</p>	<p><b>Applicant Response</b></p> <p>Three to Five, Three to 21, 16 to 21, 22 and older</p>							
<b>Project Application</b>								
<b>Project Application</b>								
<p><b>1. Project Summary and Organizational Experience</b></p> <p>Provide a clear and concise project summary that includes a defined target population, current needs, and project design. Specifically describe what you 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><b>Applicant Response</b></p> <p>Ti-Cunties Regional Center (TCRC) and Rainbow Connections FRC are partnering to provide individuals, ages 3 and over, and their families, education and training in topics identified by the community including 1:1 follow ups. Trainings will be held in Spanish which will include Homework, homework connection with organizations in the community that do and could provide resources, how to connect and apply for services, what to do after you apply for services, and so on. Currently, Rainbow is in conversation with health care agencies in the Ventura County to get information on their health care apps. We know that the individuals in the conversations following the training better support themselves. Rainbow is staffed by parents of children and adults served by the Regional Center. Rainbow is a trusted agency in the community and they have developed great relationships with individuals and families served by TCRC.</p> <p>Rainbow FRC will work with families and the community to facilitate community, trust, and change practices over time. The TCRC will create a monthly training agenda and will share throughout each which include making phone calls, sending text messages, sharing calendar through email, and social media. Once the training is completed for a given month, project director will then schedule follow up meetings with those who need support taking action. Meetings will be scheduled at 2 weeks following the training to work on accessing the apps that are needed and potentially applying for services/ resources in the community. At the 6th week following training, the TCRC director along with community leaders will assess where family is at with skills needed to access services. The purpose of this project is for individuals and families to learn skills not only navigate their community but also navigate what is positive and possible with their phones/tablets so they have access to services in their community. Individuals and families have expressed that trainings are good but they are not sufficient for their individual's success. Families have also expressed that their children would use their smartphones that parents are able to join meetings but if parents would be asked to join during a time that their children are not present, they would not be able to.</p> <p>Rainbow Connections FRC has already established relationship with the underserved population in the Ventura County and families are willing to participate in this project which includes training and continuous education through 1:1 follow up meetings with them. This project will create great impact in the community as families will learn skills and share with their community so their individuals and families have access to services and support through training and education.</p>							
<p><b>2. Data and Community Input</b></p>	<p><b>Applicant Response</b></p>							

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENT
<p>Explain how the target population(s) are understood using RC OS data their 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>Regional Center OS data continues to show a variance in OS dollars spent when comparing the ethnicities and languages. Through OS data expenditure meetings and support group feedback, we have learned that educating disparities is tied to trainings being available in Spanish. Apps usually include a "training" video, but it is not understandable due to language, the assumption of a certain level of technical experience by end users, and the training videos do not include step-by-step instructions for individuals who have a basic level of technical experience.</p> <p>We have also learned that it is not enough for individuals and families served to receive a contact number, a website, or a link when they are seeking services. Families informed TCRC and Rainbow FRC that although end users are able to find them, but they need a "how to" training as well as information about how to navigate an app when someone provides them a website or a link so they can apply for a service. Families have also communicated the need for information to better understand the process of what happens after they apply for a service and where to go to follow up.</p> <p>This project was designed based upon the understanding that when families are empowered to share and inform themselves of their needs, experiences and knowledge, the community grows in strength which then transfers to their children being more aware of what is available to them and how to access services and support within their community.</p>	
<p><b>3. Uniqueness</b></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 home 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><b>Applicant Response</b></p> <p>The parent to Parent Enhanced Support project is unique because parents from Rainbow Connection Family Resource Center bring their individual experience and wisdom of being a parent of a child/adult with developmental disabilities to their community. Their experience with the regional center system and their challenges as members of the underserved community will bring great insights to this project which can increase the project's impact. The insights of individuals and their perspectives will also support the goal of connecting with individuals and families and not just them the supports that best serve them and improve equity in access to services.</p> <p>Additionally, Rainbow FRC staff have strong relationships with Service Coordinators beyond the early start age group that will facilitate the sharing of information about the schedule of training opportunities to a wide group of potential participants. Another unique opportunity to inform the community about this project is TCRC's Multicultural Specialist relationships with adult statistics in Ventura County and which broadcasts in Ventura County in Spanish.</p>	
<p><b>4. Improve Equity and Service Access</b></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><b>Applicant Response</b></p> <p>The project will immediately improve equity and service access by addressing the barrier of accessing information with the "How to Use Z-M" training that will be available every month beginning in February 2022. The project coordinators will support individuals and families to learn how to navigate Z-M, Community Alerts will schedule follow-up appointments to assess the utilization and understanding of the trainings by participants.</p> <p>Follow-ups will also be used to gather and assess feedback to learn from participants what parts of the Z-M and the trainings were effective, not effective, and where improvements can be made. Additional trainings will include presentations, not just as Social Security Income and the use of Healthcare Apps further increasing opportunities for families to receive information in Spanish and learn how to navigate the often complex system of services to increase service accessibility.</p> <p>As families identify where they need to apply for services, follow-ups can be scheduled for family members and a Community Alert to review a website, an App, or an application process if support would be helpful to the family. In these follow-up meetings, Community Alerts responsibility will include guiding a parent, but not completing an application for them. We want to encourage confidence in and ownership of the success of applying for services. What families learn during their experiences, will be able to be shared in their communities.</p>	
<p><b>5. Support of RC Plan</b></p> <p>How does this project support the RC plan to promote equity and reduce disparities in your proposed at-home area? If you are a RC, how does this project support your recommendations and plan to promote equity and reduce disparities in your at-home area? How will you collaborate with their organizations that serve individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families?</p>	<p><b>Applicant Response</b></p> <p>This project includes many of the recommendations to promote equity and reduce disparities in our area which are noted in our OS Expenditure Data Info Final Report. Some of these recommendations include: Collaborate and build on TCRC's existing community partnerships to increase sharing of resources that are relevant to the communities; explore ways of educating families about leadership opportunities in the community to support individuals receiving services and their families; support families in the TCRC community by sharing information about Family Resource Centers; continue partnerships with Family Resource Centers to coordinate and maintain information regarding workshops, meetings, events in the local community and the development of new services; ensure information is available in plain and preferred language to improve understanding by individuals receiving services and their families; explore methods to increase opportunities for Service Coordinators to communicate with their families; and gather and analyze information about how non-TCRC funded services are used across TCRC at-home area.</p> <p>To further promote equity and reduce disparities, we are committed to share with CBO's, providers, and community collaborators what is working, not working for families when applying and accessing services. We plan to share actionable information with the community through adult statistics, TCRC email communications, social media, and text messages.</p>	
<p><b>6. Project Activities</b></p>	<p><b>Applicant Response</b></p>	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENT
<p><b>Note: Before answering this question, applicants must complete the Activities Template located in the middle tab directly above.</b></p> <p>Clearly and specifically state how the schedule of activities demonstrates the steps that the parent will take to achieve its stated objective and measures</p>	<p>Parent to Parent Enhanced Support Project's objective is to train parents to use technology to assess and apply for services that are available in their community with flow ups that will provide insight and increase access to services and community resources for people who identify Hispanic and are Spanish speaking.</p> <p>The proposed activities are:          Recruitment trainings          Develop Training Calendar          Conduct trainings in Ventura County          Assess Trainings: e/ st Suveys          Follow up meetings with parents to see if additional support is needed          Referrals to resources</p> <p>Currently, Ti-Cunties Regional Center and Rainbow Connection Family Resource Center, work together to bring awareness about TCRC services and supports to individuals and families served by TCRC. Rainbow Connection FRC bring their individual experience and wisdom of being a parent of a child/adult with developmental disabilities to their community. Their experience with the regional center system and their challenges as members of the underserved community will bring great insights as we recruit trainers and develop a training calendar. Rainbow Connection FRC has a strong relationship with the underserved population in Ventura County and has received feedback on what trainings are needed and what organizations we should partner with to explain the process of accessibility and application process to receive services.</p> <p>TCRC and Rainbow Connection FRC will effectively increase access to TCRC services, generate services and community resources by planning trainings that are identified with the people and not for the people. Assessing the trainings and the process of attending the trainings in a parent survey will help identify barriers that need attention in the families to find the process of assessing and applying for services more equitable.</p> <p>The 1:1 follow up model will assist the families to be comfortable and identify supports they need following the trainings. This will build confidence for families to use technology to access and apply for services and then sharing with their community on what has worked for them. Encouraging families to be role models in their community will support the underserved community.</p>	
<p><b>7. Project Measures</b></p> <p><b>Before answering this question, applicants must enter performance measures into the Activities Template located in the middle tab directly above.</b></p> <p>Are you proposing measures appropriate to track the project's objective and activities? Explain how you 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><b>Applicant Response</b></p> <p>Below is a list of Proposed Enhanced Support Project measures that will effectively provide quantitative and qualitative information on what is working, has not worked, or families accessing and applying for services in their communities.</p> <p>Number of people attending trainings (Quantitative)          Number of people who kin directly with Project Coordinator/Community Partners (Quantitative)          e/ os Suveys online (Qualitative)          Number of email responses (Quantitative)          Number of emails answered (Quantitative)          Types of needs identified (Qualitative)          Number of trainings of need (Quantitative)          Types of referrals from Community Partners/ families          Barriers to families accessing services (Qualitative)          Barriers to families ending in satisfaction by parent to Parent Enhanced Support team (Qualitative)          Success stories (Qualitative)</p> <p>Individual and families feedback will guide us to identify the additional supports needed including but not limited to technology, trainings, materials, for parents to access and apply for services. Building confidence in parents and strengthening the relationships will build leadership in the community and fielded skills and information to be shared with their community.</p>	
<p><b>8. Budget Template and Narrative</b></p> <p><b>Note: Before answering this question, applicants must complete the Budget Template located in the tab directly above.</b></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"> <li>Budget Template example is located at Attachment C.</li> <li>Budget Details and Restrictions are available <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Applicant Response</b></p> <p>Budget summary and narrative represents 12 months of operations which includes one Project Coordinator, two Community Parents, and one Project Assistant (all positions exclusive to DDS grant). In addition, Benefits at 30% (details in summary and narrative)</p> <p>Operations costs includes Zimpla amounts, materials, mailing, designing flyers, translation services, travel, Salesforce setup, and Stipends for parents. All exclusive to DDS grant and will support training and activities within the project (details in summary and narrative)</p> <p>Indirect Cost - Administrative/Indirect cost 15%</p>	
<p><b>9. Budget Costs</b></p>	<p><b>Applicant Response</b></p>	

APPLICANT QUESTION	APPLICANT RESPONSE	ATTACHMENT
<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-all wable costs funded by the sur es</p>	<p>Director position wages/benefits: Supports Activity #1, 2, 4, 5 - will see the project and will spend their time evaluating staff, evaluating trainers, developing training calendar, supporting community parents with supporting/continuing trainings and collecting data (evaluation surveys)</p> <p>Community Parents position wages/Benefits: Supports #3, 4, 5, 6 - Under Director's supervision will spend their time providing direct services to families, including but not limited to direct calls, texts, supporting families during trainings, continuing trainings when needed, family follow ups after trainings to assess training information/understanding application process, conducting trainings, assisting families navigate technology, and helping families to use services</p> <p>Project Assistant position wages/Benefits: Supports Activity #4, 6 - will set up Salesforce (software) to track project surveys, emails provided to families, and provide support to Director and Community Parents</p> <p>Thee from accounts, Meeting materials, postage, designing flyers, translation services, travel, and Salesforce setup, stipend for parents supports all activities</p> <p>Confirming budget does not include non-all wable costs funded by other resources</p>	
<p><b>Proposal Certification</b></p> <p><b>Certification</b></p>		
<p><b>1. Confirm Proposal Discussion with RC(s)</b></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><b>Applicant Response</b></p> <p>No</p>	
<p><b>2. RC Contact</b></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><b>Applicant Response</b></p> <p>N/A, Tarrant County Regional is submitting proposal</p> <p>Lilia Rangel-Reyes, TCRC</p>	
<p><b>3. Applicant Certification</b></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><b>Applicant Response</b></p> <p>Yes</p>	
<p>Applicant Comment</p>	<p>Do not have a subcontracting organization</p>	