

# Application Report



**Applicant Organization:** USC UCEDD  
**Project Name:** Innovative Peer Navigator Employment Pathway for Health Care Services  
**Application ID:** [REDACTED]  
**Funding Announcement:** DDS Employment Grant  
**Requested Amount:** [REDACTED]

**Project Summary:** The objective of this 18 month project is to develop, implement and test an innovative peer navigator employment pathway (IPNEP) for young adults with ID/DD in Los Angeles County to facilitate their transfer of care to adult health care and assist with service referrals and supports for transition and adult services for employment, education, training and community living. The USC UCEDD at CHLA in collaboration with ELARC will develop, implement and test the IPNEP for its adaptation as a Paid Internship Program (PIP) employment training pathway at ELARC and other regional centers. It is anticipated job seekers who enroll in and complete the IPNEP PIP will have competitive and integrated employment in part-time or full-time positions as PN in health care and other service settings. These actions will be taken to achieve the project objective: Action 1: The IPNEP will convene an advisory committee to provide continuous input during IPNEP project composed of youth and young adults with ID/DD, family members, health care professionals with ID/DD expertise, community-based representatives from health care, employment, education, rehabilitation, community-living agencies and organizations. Action 2: The IPNEP curriculum framework will be developed to guide development of curricular materials for IPNEP. Action 3: The IPNEP team will create IPNEP materials and resources identified. Action 4: The IPNEP will initiate IPNEP recruitment. It is anticipated that 2 PN trainees will be enrolled in IPNEP pilot. Action 5: The IPNEP team will pilot test IPNEP with 2 PN with 1 to 1 job trainers. The IPNEP team will provide close supervision and support of job trainers and IPNEP PN trainees who will assist 10 young adults with ID/DD each; IPNEP team will assist with troubleshooting; liaison with job training sites, serve as resource, content, service experts. Action 6: The IPNEP project will refine and prepare for PIP program launch at ELARC, UCEDD and in other regional center settings.

**Authorized Certifying Official:** [REDACTED]  
**Project Director/Manager:** [REDACTED]  
**Compliance/Fiscal Officer:** [REDACTED]

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**Section Name:** Applicant Eligibility

**Sub Section Name:** Applicant Information

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## 1. Applicant Question: Organization Type

Check all that apply. If selecting "Other" please specify your type of organization.

### Applicant Response:

- Community-Based Organization

**Applicant Comment:**

USC University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at CHLA

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**2. Applicant Question:** Description of Agency/Organization

Provide a brief description of the organization or group. You may add a website link for additional information.

**Applicant Response:**

The USC University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, based at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and affiliated with the USC Keck School of Medicine, is a nationally recognized leader in developing and implementing quality services for infants, children, youth and adults with, or at risk for, behavioral, developmental, physical, and/or special health care needs and their families.

Website Link: <https://www.uscuedd.org/>

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**3. Applicant Question:** 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) or proof of good standing.

**Applicant Response:**

Yes

**Attachment:**



**4. Applicant Question:** 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? Select "N/A" if you do not plan to use subcontractors for your project.

**Applicant Response:**

Not Applicable

**Applicant Comment:**

Not Applicable

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**Section Name:** Grant Application

**Sub Section Name:** Proposal Summary

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**1. Applicant Question:** Project Type

Choose one project type that best describes your activities.

**Applicant Response:**

Employment Preparation Services and Supports

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**2. Applicant Question:** Duration of Project

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Choose the duration of your project, 12 months or 18 months.

**Applicant Response:**

18 months

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**3. Applicant Question:** Regional Centers in Service Area

Identify the Regional Center(s) in the community to be served by this project. Select all that apply. For a regional center map, see [Attachment F](#).

**Applicant Response:**

- Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center
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**4. Applicant Question:** Counties Served

List the county or counties that the project will serve. Check all that apply.

**Applicant Response:**

- Los Angeles County
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**5. Applicant Question:** City of Los Angeles

If your project proposes to serve the City of Los Angeles, list the zip codes your project will serve.

Zip code information for Los Angeles County can be found [here](#). If your project does not serve the Los Angeles area, select "N/A".

**Applicant Response:**

91800, 91801, 91802, 91803, 90033, 90063, 90040, 90023, 90022, 91107, 90032, 90041, 90042, 90050, 90631, 90638, 90639, 90031, 90640, 91754, 91755, 90065, 90660, 91770, 91775, 91776, 91778, 91108, 91030, 90670, 91780, 90601, 90602, 90603, 90604, 90605, 90606, 90607, 90608, 90609

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**6. Applicant Question:** Collaborating Organizations or Other Entities

Does your project include partnerships 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.

**Applicant Response:**

No

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**7. Applicant Question:** Consultants and Trainers

Describe the qualifications of the consultant/trainer/training organization, including their subject matter expertise in competitive integrated employment for individuals with developmental disabilities. Describe their prior experience as a consultant/trainer, professional credentials, including names of other organizations/entities for whom they have provided consultation or training.

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If question does not apply to your project, select "N/A"

**Applicant Response:**

The USC UCEDD is a leader in providing pre-service and community-based training, clinical and community services, and research related to individuals with developmental disabilities in order to ensure integration into the community to the greatest extent. Dr. Cecily Betz has led the healthcare transition efforts at the USC UCEDD and Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) for decades and most recently led a Community-Based Transition Pilot Program grant funded by the Administration on Community Living that led to the identification of the need for employment training at the USC UCEDD as well as a peer navigator program. Dr. Christine Mirzaian is a pediatrician at CHLA and has successfully trained Parent Navigators as part of a DDS POS Disparities and SAE grant funded program to help link individuals to needed services. In addition, Dr. Betz helps lead the CA-LEND program which trains self-advocates in leadership in developmental disabilities, and CHLA is a site for Project SEARCH.

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**Section Name:** Target Population

**Sub Section Name:** People Served

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**1. Applicant Question:** Number of youth (under 18) with I/DD that will be served

Specify number of people to participate or be served by this project. If question does not apply to your project, select "N/A".

**Applicant Response:**

10

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**2. Applicant Question:** Number of adults (18 and older) with I/DD that will be served

Specify number of people to participate or be served by this project. If question does not apply to your project, select "N/A".

**Applicant Response:**

12

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**3. Applicant Question:** Number of family members that will be served

Specify number of people to participate or be served by this project. If question does not apply to your project, select "N/A".

**Applicant Response:**

20

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**4. Applicant Question:** Number of professionals and staff that will be trained

Specify number of people to participate or be served by this project. If question does not apply to your project, select "N/A".

**Applicant Response:**

2

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**5. Applicant Question:** Number of other individuals that will be served/trained

Specify number of people to participate or be served by this project. Please describe the individuals that will be served. If question does not apply to your project, select "N/A".

**Applicant Response:**

Not Applicable

**Applicant Comment:**

Not Applicable

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**6. Applicant Question:** Ethnicity Group Served

Select the ethnicity group(s) the project will serve. For "Indian", "Pacific Islander", "Slavic" or "Other" use comment section to list specific groups.

- **"Indian"** includes: Indian (nationals of the present-day Republic of India), Bangladeshi, Nepalese, Pakistani, and Sri Lankan.
- **"Pacific Islanders"** includes: individuals whose origins are the original peoples of Polynesia, Micronesia, and Melanesia. Polynesia includes Guam, Hawaii (Native Hawaiian), Samoa (Samoan), American Samoa (Samoan), Tokelau (Tokelauan), Tahiti (Tahitian), Tonga (Tongan) and other Pacific Islands.
- **"Slavic"** includes: Russian, Ukrainian, and Belorussian (East Slavic), Polish, Czech, Slovak, and Sorbian (West Slavic), and Bulgarian, Serbian, Croatian, Macedonian, and Slovene (South Slavic).
- The **"other"** category includes ethnicities not specified in the ethnicity options.

**Applicant Response:**

- Hispanic
  - African American
  - Chinese
  - Korean
  - Vietnamese
  - Native American
  - Pacific Islander
  - White
  - Filipino
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**Section Name:** Project Application

**Sub Section Name:** Project Application

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**1. Applicant Question:** Project Abstract

Provide a clear and concise project summary that includes a defined target population, geographic area, and project design. Specifically describe what your project will accomplish and the intended impact it will have on the employment of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

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## Applicant Response:

The objective of this 18 month project is to develop, implement and test an innovative peer navigator employment pathway (IPNEP) for young adults with ID/DD in Los Angeles County to facilitate their transfer of care to adult health care and assist with service referrals and supports for transition and adult services for employment, education, training and community living. The USC UCEDD at CHLA in collaboration with ELARC will develop, implement and test the IPNEP for its adaptation as a Paid Internship Program (PIP) employment training pathway at ELARC and other regional centers. It is anticipated job seekers who enroll in and complete the IPNEP PIP will have competitive and integrated employment in part-time or full-time positions as PN in health care and other service settings. These actions will be taken to achieve the project objective:

Action 1: The IPNEP will convene an advisory committee to provide continuous input during IPNEP project composed of youth and young adults with ID/DD, family members, health care professionals with ID/DD expertise, community-based representatives from health care, employment, education, rehabilitation, community-living agencies and organizations.

Action 2: The IPNEP curriculum framework will be developed to guide development of curricular materials for IPNEP.

Action 3: The IPNEP team will create IPNEP materials and resources identified.

Action 4: The IPNEP will initiate IPNEP recruitment. It is anticipated that 2 PN trainees will be enrolled in IPNEP pilot.

Action 5: The IPNEP team will pilot test IPNEP with 2 PN with 1 to 1 job trainers. The IPNEP team will provide close supervision and support of job trainers and IPNEP PN trainees who will assist 10 young adults with ID/DD each; IPNEP team will assist with troubleshooting; liaison with job training sites, serve as resource, content, service experts.

Action 6: The IPNEP project will refine and prepare for PIP program launch at ELARC, UCEDD and in other regional center settings.

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## 2. Applicant Question: Need for Project Question 1

Please describe the underlying problem, challenges, or issues that your project will address.

### Applicant Response:

The National Core Indicators Survey data from 2017-2018 indicates that only 18% of individuals with IDD have a paid job in the community, and 45% of those who do not would like to have paid job in the community. Multiple barriers to employment for individuals with IDD exist including discrimination and lack of knowledge on how to seek jobs. Peer mentoring/navigation programs have been effective in providing job interview skills (Bobroff, 2010) and can help individuals with IDD find employment.

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## 3. Applicant Question: Need for Project Question 2

Provide facts or data to support the need for this project

### Applicant Response:

A total of 61,565 students, ages 14 to 22 are enrolled in LA County special education. Of that number of students, 4,397 (7.1%) students have intellectual disabilities and 9,558 (15.5%) have autism. 86.5% of students enrolled in special education in LA County are racially and ethnically diverse. Of these students, 5.3% of students with intellectual disability are diverse as are 17% of students with autism. In CA, the employment rates for the general population, people with disabilities and those with cognitive disabilities are 72.2%, 31.9% and 13% respectively. ELARC serves an ethnically and culturally diverse community, which is predominately Hispanic (69.9%). Nearly 10% of the consumers served by ELARC are ages 18 to 21 years.

In CA, individuals with ID/DD lag behind other states as CA is ranked 35th in facilitating employment in integrated employment settings as just 8% of individuals with ID/DD work in competitive settings. There is a need to provide new pathways to employment.

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## 4. Applicant Question: Need for Project Question 3

Describe how the project will involve and benefit participants who are from diverse backgrounds

### **Applicant Response:**

Given the USC UCEDD and CHLA's location in metropolitan Los Angeles, we are well-versed in serving populations from diverse backgrounds. The UCEDD serves individuals with ID/DD living in SPAS 4 and 6. In SPA 4, 75% of the population is racially and ethnically diverse. SPA 4 racial/ethnic profile is 51.8% Latinx; 24.8% White; 5.2% African American; 17.9% Asian; 0.1% Pacific Islander/Other Pacific Islander (NHOPI); 0.2 % American Indian/Alaskan Native (Los Angeles County Department of Public Health [LACDPH], 2017). In SPA 6, 98% of residents are racially/ethnically diverse. SPA 6 racial/ethnic profile of SPA 6 is 68.2% Latinx; 2.4% White; 27.4% African America; 1.7% Asian; 0.2% NHOPI; and 0.1% American Indian/Alaskan Native (LACDPH, 2017). We will closely collaborate with ELARC for this project, and the demographics of ELARC per the 2020 POS data indicate that the percent of clients served are: Hispanic (69.7%), Asian (12.9%), White (9.4%), African-American (1.5%), and Other (6.5%).

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### **5. Applicant Question:** Approach Question 1A

For Business Focused Practices, Employment Preparation Services and Supports, Service Models for Individuals with High Support Needs, and Training and Implementation project types.

- Describe the objective for your project
- Describe the new or innovative methods and activities that will be used that correspond to the proposed objective and project type that:
  - Use innovative, evidence-based, best, or promising practices, services and /or supports
  - Promote increased and meaningful opportunities for participants to make an informed choice for career options and prepare for CIE
  - Are designed to achieve, maintain, or advance individuals with I/DD in competitive integrated employment
  - Are designed to be replicable
- Include how you used input from the community and/target population in the design of the project
- Describe any project deliverables

If your project is not Business Focused Practices, Employment Preparation Services and Supports, Service Models for Individuals with High Support Needs, or Training and Implementation, select "N/A".

## Applicant Response:

The objective of this 18 month project is to develop, implement and test an innovative peer navigator employment pathway (IPNEP) for young adults with ID/DD in Los Angeles County.

The USC UCEDD and ELARC will convene an advisory committee composed of youth and young adults with ID/DD, family members, health care professionals with ID/DD expertise, community-based representatives from health care, employment, education, rehabilitation, and community-living agencies and organizations.

Initially, the IPNEP team, composed of the USC UCEDD and ELARC staff with input of the IPNEP advisory committee would engage in a planning period to develop the employment pathway curriculum framework needed to develop the curricular materials for the IPNEP. The curricular materials will include cross training program for job developers to provide supervision, coaching and support for job seekers enrolled in IPNEP; identification of knowledge and skills peer navigators would be expected to gain during IPNEP; creation of IPNEP instructional materials for job developers and peer navigators; recruitment and enrollment selection criteria for individuals to enroll in IPNEP; evaluation measures to track benchmarks during the IPNEP training period. Importantly we have already done a great deal of initial planning and investigation of the IPNEP, as well as our experience with the Parent Navigator model, and using PIP in LEND and as part of the ACL grant.

During the development period, the USC UCEDD staff in consultation with ELARC will create the IPNEP materials and resources identified. Throughout the development period, the IPNEP advisory committee will be consulted continuously for their input on the materials and resources developed. It is proposed that peer navigators would need to acquire knowledge and skills that would enable them to provide assistance and support to transition-age adolescents and young adults with ID/DD.

At the completion of the IPNEP instructional training program development, UCEDD and ELARC will employ 2 peer navigators through the Paid Internship Program. Each peer navigator will be paired with a job coach, and will help 10 individuals with ID/DD with their transition from pediatric to adult health care services and development of a person-centered career plan.

The IPNEP project will conclude with a period of refinement and preparation for program launch at ELARC and in other regional center settings as a PIP employment pathways. During this preparation period, UCEDD and ELARC will engage in dissemination efforts with other regional centers to implement IPNEP as an employment pathway as well as ways to sustain the program, such as billing insurance using the Community Health Worker (CHW) benefit with licensed professional supervision.

Project deliverables: 1. peer navigator curriculum; 2. Road map for employing peer navigators in healthcare/CBO settings as a new employment pathway; 3. 2 trained peer navigators; 20 individuals assisted

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## 6. Applicant Question: Approach Question 1B

For project type, Service Model Transformation

- A description of the transformation team that will be developing the action plan and includes representation by individuals with ID/D, family members, those who provide direct support, and other relevant community members (e.g., businesses, peer organizations, partnerships, etc.,)
- The objective and activities to be used in developing the action plan, including an outline of the areas to be addressed in the transformational planning and organizational change that will affect the CIE employment services.
- Include how you used input from the community and/target population in the design of the project?
- A detailed description of the planning process that will be used
  - Describe project deliverables
  - Describe how you plan to engage the regional center in the transformation plan

If your project type is not Service Model Transformation, select "N/A".

## Applicant Response:

N/A

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## 7. Applicant Question: Sustainability Question 1

How will individuals served by the project continue receiving employment services and supports once the project has ended?



### **Applicant Response:**

This program is envisioned to become one of the Paid Internship Program (PIP) employment training options not only at ELARC but available at other regional centers in California. Peer navigators are envisioned to help adolescents and young adults to transfer care to adult health care providers and to assist with service referrals and supports for transition and adult services for employment, education, training and community living. It is anticipated that job seekers who enroll in the IPNEP PIP and complete this job training program will have competitive and integrated employment in part-time or full-time positions as peer navigators in health care and other service settings and be paid for through self-determination funds and or CHW funds.

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### **8. Applicant Question:** Sustainability Question 2

How will your project continue its work after the grant funding has concluded?

### **Applicant Response:**

This program is envisioned to become one of the Paid Internship Program (PIP) employment training options not only at ELARC but available at other regional centers in California. It is anticipated that job seekers who enroll in the IPNEP PIP and complete this job training program will have competitive and integrated employment in part-time or full-time positions as peer navigators in health care and other service settings. Ultimately, we plan to work towards hiring the peer navigators full-time at the UCEDD, and for those peer navigators to assist individuals with ID/DD with transition needs including linkage to employment. We also anticipate providing consultation to other agencies to implement IPNEP. We will explore reimbursement as CHWs.

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### **9. Applicant Question:** Sustainability Question 3

Describe your plan to engage the regional center for future sustainability of the project and individuals served.

### **Applicant Response:**

The IPNEP project will conclude with a period of refinement and preparation for program launch at ELARC and other regional centers as a PIP employment pathway. During this period, UCEDD and ELARC project staff will ensure that the IPNEP has addressed training issues during its pilot testing to ensure it readiness for launching as a PIP program at ELARC and other regional centers. During this preparation period, UCEDD and ELARC will engage in dissemination efforts with other regional centers about the IPNEP to facilitate their engagement with this PIP employment pathway. We will expand our efforts to replicate this IPNEP by engaging with other employment specialists in regional centers statewide.

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### **10. Applicant Question:** Organizational Capacity Question 1

Please include details about the history of the organization, its mission or purpose, summary of major programs, services and activities and details about how they tie to the target population. If from a large organization with multiple departments, provide a brief overview of entire organization and then focus on the department or program involved with this proposal. Describe any ongoing collaborative partners in your community.

### **Applicant Response:**

The USC UCEDD, based at Children's Hospital Los Angeles and affiliated with the USC Keck School of Medicine, is a nationally recognized leader in developing and implementing quality services for infants, children, youth and adults with, or at risk for, behavioral, developmental, physical, and/or special health care needs and their families. We provide clinical services to more than 5,000 individuals annually; our interdisciplinary training programs reach more than 16,000 parents, students and professionals. We also collaborate in research, service and policy projects with many partners including the regional centers, Title V programs, state and federal agencies, health care organizations and with educational, rehabilitation and employment service systems. We have a long-standing robust health care transition program that has been a leader in the development of services, research and outreach training. The USC UCEDD is among the largest of the 67 UCEDDs in the nation.

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### **11. Applicant Question:** Organizational Capacity Question 2

Describe your agency's experience supporting the proposed target population.

**Applicant Response:**

For over 20 years, the USC UCEDD has been involved with health care transition (HCT). Our HCT service model has embraced a youth/ family-centered approach that focuses on the transfer of care to adult health care, and service coordination/referrals to transition and adult services that include employment services and supports. For 4 years, parents of individuals with ID/DD employed in our Parent Navigator help connect families of children with ID/DD to needed services in our pediatric clinic.

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**12. Applicant Question:** Organizational Capacity Question 3

Describe employment (or other relevant services) you currently provide.

**Applicant Response:**

The USC UCEDD is engaged in several employment, navigator and transition programs. We are involved with CHLA Project SEARCH, providing job skills training to young adults with ID/DD. Four full-time parent navigators work in the UCEDD/AltaMed pediatrics clinic. This year they served 1023 individuals, 99 families about ancillary services and support for transition-aged young adults. 458 individuals with complex medical needs, including ID/DD Healthcare transition services were provided.

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**13. Applicant Question:** Organizational Capacity Question 4

How will the grant help the organization/agency build expertise to support individuals with I/DD to achieve competitive integrated employment?

**Applicant Response:**

The grant support will enable the IPNEP team (USC UCEDD/ELARC staff) with IPNEP advisory committee input to collectively engage in the IPNEP development. The support is needed to develop the IPNEP curricular materials. The IPNEP curriculum includes job developers cross training, IPNEP peer navigators knowledge and skills training, ongoing job coaching and support for IPNEP job seekers, development of IPNEP instructional materials for job developers and peer navigators; and evaluation measures.

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**14. Applicant Question:** Organizational Capacity Question 5

Describe your organization/ agency experience and current capacity to support grant-based activities and reporting.

**Applicant Response:**

The USC UCEDD has extensive experience and capacity to support grant-based activities. The UCEDD is entirely grant supported and has been so since 1966. Our funding support includes external and internal funding sources. Examples of external funding support NIH, HRSA CDC, FDA, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, and Administration for Community Living, DHHS. Examples of subcontracts with partners include Children's Hospital Wisconsin, Children's Hospital, Boston, and UCLA

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**15. Applicant Question:** Engagement Plan Question 1

Describe how the organization/agency will recruit participants and/or families for participation in the project.

**Applicant Response:**

Recruitment strategies include: Collaboration with ELARC employment specialist to identify consumers to train as peer navigators as part of PIP; collaboration with ELARC to recruit young adults who are transferring their health care to adult providers who can be served by the navigators; use of 3 email distribution lists that we can send out announcements to recruit youth for this pilot. Our UCEDD mailing list consists of approximately 6000 emails of health care (HC) and interdisciplinary ID professionals, community-based (CB) providers, consumers, parents and organizational/agency representatives. We have email distribution list that consists of more than 700 email addresses of HC and ID professionals, CB providers, consumers, parents and organizational/agency representatives who attended our Transition Summit. We also have a mailing list 51 Transition Partnership Committee members. We are confident we will easily recruit young adults using these methods.

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**16. Applicant Question:** Engagement Plan Question 2

Describe how the organization/agency will collaborate with other groups, organizations, employers, and/or agencies to achieve the objective of the project.

**Applicant Response:**

Our project will be overseen by members of our UCEDD Community-Based Transition Program. Members include representatives of the following organizations and agencies: Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center (ELARC), South Los Angeles Regional Center, Lanterman Regional Center, Westside Regional Center (WRC), parent. family members, and consumer representatives of the UCEDD's Consumer Advisory Committee. Other members of the Los Angeles Unified School District officials, , Regional Director of the CA Department of Rehabilitation, Project SEARCH of Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Team of Self Advocates (TASK), Communities Actively Living Independent & Free (CALIF), Chinese Parents Association for the Disabled (CPAD), Fiesta Educativa, Rancho Los Amigos, Disability Rights, California, and Los Angeles County Regional Office CSCDD, and ELARC Family Resource Center, WRC Family Resource and Empowerment Center, and Rancho Los Amigos (which has a successful peer navigator program).

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**17. Applicant Question:** Engagement Plan Question 3

Service Model Transformation Projects must also include a plan to make two community presentations to key stakeholders and community members. The first presentation is to receive feedback about the proposed changes within the agency. The second community presentation is to present the completed action plan. Describe your plan for these two community presentations.

If your project is not Service Model Transformation, please select "N/A"

**Applicant Response:**

N/A

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**18. Applicant Question:** Project Activities

Clearly and specifically state how the schedule of activities demonstrates the steps that the project will take to achieve its stated objective and measures. See [Attachment H](#) for instructions on entering objective and activities into GrantVantage.

**Applicant Response:**

1. Convene project advisory committee
  2. Develop Peer Navigator curriculum
  3. Recruit 2 individuals from ELARC to train as Peer Navigators through the Paid Internship (PIP) program
  4. Train 2 individuals as peer navigators at the USC UCEDD. Training will be conducted by USC UCEDD content experts and job coaches
  5. Peer navigators will serve clients, 10 each, and assist with healthcare transition and navigation to community-based services, supports, and employment with close supervision by licensed healthcare professional
  6. Reimbursement models will be tested, through Medi-Cal CHW benefit and/or through self-determination
  7. Program will be evaluated, including analysis of pre-post participant program survey as well as follow-up of the clients served by the peer navigators to evaluate their connection to adult healthcare providers and employment
  8. Peer navigator training manual and instructions for implementation in other sites will be distributed
  9. Peer navigators will be continued to be hired at the USC UCEDD initially the PIP and then as long-term, integrated employees
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**19. Applicant Question:** Project Data

Provide a clear plan of how data will be collected to track project objectives, activities and measures (e.g., what data collection tools will be used, who will collect, software used, who will summarize, etc.).

**Applicant Response:**

We will collect data including the DDS standard measures for Employment Preparation Services and Support, including the following:

- 1. Number of participants who develop a person-centered career plan
- 2. Number of participants who participate in work experiences in CIE settings and the USC UCEDD (of note, number of participants will include the peer navigators trained and employed by the USC UCEDD, and then the number of clients that the navigators help find employment)
  - a. DDS Paid Internship Program (PIP)
  - b. Other Paid Internship Program
  - c. Nonpaid internships d. Job Shadowing e. Informational Interviews f. Apprenticeship g. On the Job Training h. Other \_
- 3. Number of participants referred to a business for a position that matches their employment goal
- 4. Number of collaborators (e.g., In Home Supportive Services (IHSS) representative, behavior/mental health professional, etc.,) with other organization/agencies in development of CIE opportunities

This data will be collected using USC's RedCap data system and by entered by our Project Coordinator and supervised by Dr. Mirzaian who is well-versed in evaluation of prior DDS SAE grants.

In addition, Dr. Betz and Mirzaian will conduct qualitative interviews with peer navigator trainees and clients served to gain additional insight on the program and collect quantitative data (i.e. successful connection to adult healthcare)

We will report on the number of centers the peer navigator curriculum and road map are disseminated to.

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**20. Applicant Question:** Budget Template and Narrative

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.

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**Applicant Response:**

Our budget reflects the expenditures requested to support the overall project design. We request funding for project staff (Project Director, Project Co-Director, Program Coordinator) who will have the responsibilities for developing the IPNEP curriculum over the 18 month project period. Based on our project action steps, the project staff will first formulate the curricular framework for the actual development of the curriculum.

The project staff will be heavily involved in training program development for the job coach who will assist the IPNEP interns who want to learn to become Peer Navigators as described in our proposal will be recruited from the ELARC Paid Internship Program. Additionally, we will develop a parallel training program with IPNEP PIP interns who will be enrolled in this program to learn the necessary skills and knowledge to become Peer Navigators. These efforts will also include the development of resource and instructional materials for the job coach, PIP interns and the young adults that they will serve. Following the preparation of curriculum materials, we will be providing close oversight and monitoring of the IPNEP inaugural training effort. We will be available to trouble shoot and support this training effort. Time is also needed to engage subsequently in the launching efforts of IPNEP at ELARC and other regional centers. We also request funding support for parent and young adult stipends for consultation with the development program.

**21. Applicant Question:** Budget Costs

Confirm that that budget does not include non-allowable costs or costs funded by other sources. See [Attachment D](#) for allowable and non-allowable costs.

**Applicant Response:**

I Confirm

**Section Name:** Proposal Certification

**Sub Section Name:** Certification

**1. Applicant Question:** Confirm Proposal Discussion with RC(s)

Applicants are required to discuss their proposal with each RC(s) service area to be served. Have you discussed your proposal with each RC you are intending to serve?

**Applicant Response:**

Yes

**2. Applicant Question:** RC Contact

Applicants are required to submit their application concurrently to the Department and to each RC(s) service area the applicant is intending to serve. State the name(s) of the contact person(s) at each RC you have discussed your proposal with.

**Applicant Response:**

Gloria Wong, Executive Director, Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center

George de la Loza, Employment Specialist, Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center

Liz Harrold, Manager Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center Community Services

Please see attached letter of support from ELARC

**Attachment:**

[ELARC USC CHLA LOS Employment.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

**3. Applicant Question:** Regional Center Service Provider

If you are a vendored regional center service provider, are you in compliance with [Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4652.5](#)?

If you are not a vendored regional center service provider, please select "N/A".

**Applicant Response:**

Not Applicable

**Applicant Comment:**

Not Applicable

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**4. Applicant Question:** Confirm review of Standard Measures

DDS has developed standard project measures for each project type. Have you read the guidelines and agree to the standardized measures for your project type. See [Attachment C](#) for Standard Project Measures.

**Applicant Response:**

Yes

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**5. Applicant Question:** Applicant Certification

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.

**Applicant Response:**

Yes

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