Application Report

Applicant Organization: USC UCEDD at CHLA1

Project Name: Pathways to Competitive Integrated Employment in Advanced Manufacturing and Web Development for Individuals with IDD receiving Lanterman Act services

Application ID: ███████

FundingAnnouncement: DDS Employment Grant

Requested Amount: $███████

Project Summary: This 18-months 'proof of concept' project will develop, implement, and evaluate a Uniquely Abled Project's (UAP) model of specialized training and placement in high wage competitive integrated employment for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) receiving Lanterman Act services. The project will train a total of 30 individuals with IDD in three specialized programs, called Uniquely Abled Academies: Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Machining and Robotics Programming, both of which are in the advanced manufacturing sector, and Web Development in the Information Technology (IT) sector. The project is an academic - community collaboration that brings together a multi-disciplinary team of professionals with extensive experience in the IDD and Competitive Integrated Employment fields. The team has access to necessary material and non-material resources (space, equipment, supplies) and professional and industry networks, as well as a collective 'know how' needed for the success of this innovative project.

Authorized Certifying Official: ███████   ███████   ███████

Project Director/Manager: ███████   ███████   ███████

Compliance/Fiscal Officer: ███████   ███████   █

Section Name: Applicant Eligibility

Sub Section Name: Applicant Information

---

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 UCEDD at CHLA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

---

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:

USC UCEDD at CHLA (uscucedd.org) is a national leader in technical assistance, community education, and community-partnered programs. Sub-contract holders are: USC Viterbi School of Engineering, Center for Advanced Manufacturing (sites.usc.edu/cam); and Uniquely Abled Academy at College of the Canyons (uniquelyabledproject.org/uaa-college-canyons-ca/). UAA at COC subcontracts are Uniquely Abled Project (uniquelyabledproject.org), Jay Nolan Community Services (jaynolan.org), and Emily Iland, Inc.

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:

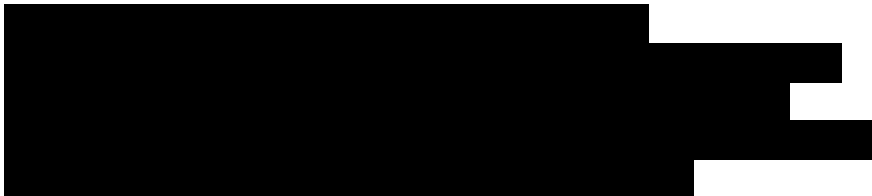██

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:

Yes

Attachment:

██

Section Name: Grant Application

Sub Section Name: Proposal Summary

1. Applicant Question: Project Type

Choose one project type that best describes your activities.

Applicant Response:

Employment Preparation Services and Supports

2. Applicant Question: Duration of Project

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

Applicant Response:

18 months

---

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:

- North Los Angeles County Regional Center

---

4. Applicant Question: Counties Served

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

Applicant Response:

- Los Angeles County

---

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:

NLACRC served Northern Los Angeles County, including the San Fernando, Santa Clarita, and Antelope Valleys Zip codes: 90290, 91040, 91042, 91301-91307, 91310, 91316, 91320, 91321, 91324-91326, 91330, 91331, 91335, 91340, 91341-91345, 91350, 91352, 91355, 91356, 91359-91362, 91364, 91367, 91401-91413, 91423, 91601-91609, 93020-93022, 93062, 93065, 93243, 93510, 93532, 93534-93536, 93539, 93543, 93550, 93551, 93553, 93555, 93563

---

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:

Yes

Attachment:
USC CAM_LOS.pdf - PDF FILE
COC Letter of Support.pdf - PDF FILE

---

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.

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

Applicant Response:

Uniquely Abled Academy at College of the Canyons (UAA at COC), Uniquely Abled Project (UAP), and Jay Nolan Community Services (JNCS) each have an established record in CIE for individuals with IDD. Established in 2018, UAA at COC has graduated over 100 trainees with DD, most of whom have been hired in high-wage advanced manufacturing jobs. Since 2013, UAP has established UAAs in 4 community colleges in Southern California (College of the Canyons; Glendale Community College; San Bernardino Valley College; Long Beach City College), as well as in 5 community colleges outside of California. JNCS has been a leader in providing Employment Services to individuals with developmental disabilities in California, from Access to Customized Employment to Paid Internship Program leading to CIE. JNCS is a vendor of NLACRC and DOR, and is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). Emily Iland is UAP's curriculum developer, trainer and consultant since 2018.

Section Name: Target Population

Sub Section Name: People Served

---

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:

0

---

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:

30

---

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:

30

---

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:

12

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:

32

Applicant Comment:

30 College of the Canyons students will be recruited to assist in creating a inclusive and welcoming environment on COC campus for the UAA trainees. These students will be screened and trained by the USC UCEDD team using elements of the CA Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (CA LEND) curriculum, and will help organize social and informational events with the UAA trainees on topics of common interest. Some of these events will be remote / virtual, and some will be in-person. We will pair each COC student with each UAA trainee to be a peer resource for college campus life, including issues of safety. This will provide a bi-directional learning experience for the students and the trainees.

2 USC student research assistants will be trained as part of the USC CAM sub-contract to assist with developing and testing learning tasks and materials for the Robotics Programming UAA. Their training will include content on CIE and the potential of robotics programming to increase high-wage, meaningful career opportunities for individuals with IDD.

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:

- African American
- Hispanic
- White
- Chinese
- Korean
- Filipino
- Indian
- Vietnamese
- Other

Section Name: Project Application

Sub Section Name: Project Application

---

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.

Applicant Response:

This academic - community partnership project develops **a model for a sustainable pathway to CIE** in advanced manufacturing and web development for adults with IDD. It builds upon an established Uniquely Abled Academy (UAA) model of CIE training and placement in Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machining that has been effective for adults with ASD since 2013. The UAA model will be expanded at three dimensions:1) **the population**; in addition to ASD, the IDD population will include those with cerebral palsy, epilepsy and other conditions; 2) **the specialization**; in addition to CNC machining, we add specializations in robotics programming and web development; 3) **the social setting**; the UAA congregant setting will be more inclusive by engaging COC students in social activities with UAA trainees. Our person - centered approach spans the progression of identifying interests, training for, and gaining CIE, starting from the initial contact to the job placement and follow-up for 6 months.

The target population is adults with IDD ages 18 to 40 from diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds who receive services at NLACRC. The project will develop 3 new UAAs to train 30 individuals with IDD (10 in each UAA) in computer numerical control (CNC) machining, robotics programming, and web development. We will create an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) for each participant under existing regional center and DOR services and supports to create sustainability and integration of the program into the existing service systems. The training will be offered as a Paid Internship Program that leads to CIE and uses DOR funding for job coaching and barrier removal services. The participants receiving social security benefits will be eligible to tap into Ticket to Work, including benefits planning with a work incentive planner (WIP). The project will develop a sustainable, industry-focused program available to be replicated at other community colleges across California with UAP support.

---

2. Applicant Question: Need for Project Question 1

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

Applicant Response:

Few opportunities for CIE exist in NLACRC's catchment area in spite of aerospace and high tech industries' presence. Compared to general population, individuals with IDD face additional barriers to high wage employment, especially those from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds. The industry often sees hiring people with IDD as 'charity' rather than a human resource and capacity building strategy. Building upon industry connections, we will create new pathways to CIE training and job placement.

---

3. Applicant Question: Need for Project Question 2

Provide facts or data to support the need for this project

Applicant Response:

1) NCLARC's Spring 2022 Progress Report documents that although 27% consumers of working age had CIE as a goal on their IPP in FY 2020/2021, **no adults were placed in CIE following participation in Paid Internship Program (PIP) in FY 2020/2021, and 5 (11% of all who participated) were placed in CIE in FY 2019/2020** below CA average of 8. The consumers who participated in PIP in FY 2020/2021 on average worked 16 hours / week and earned $14.36/hour, close to CA average.

2) NCI In-Person Survey data show that **41% of NLACRC's consumers want a job if they currently don't have one, but only 12% receive training and skill development** from the RC, which is lower that CA average.

3) DDS data from EDD show that in 2020, **17.73% of NLACRC consumers of working age were employed compared to 18.86% statewide**, and most were under-employed and earning sub-minimum wage. Average **NLACRC consumers' monthly wages were $1,098**.

4) NLACRC 5-year strategic plan calls for **more CIE and PIP opportunities.**

---

4. Applicant Question: Need for Project Question 3

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

Applicant Response:

DDS employment data from RCs across California document the inequities in employment between those living in affluent areas and those living in dis-invested, racially and ethnically diverse areas, especially in the percentage of working age people with IDD and their average monthly wage. In FY 2020/2021, NLACRC served a diverse population of 28,370 consumers and families in the largest catchment area in Los Angeles county: 47% were Hispanic, 28% White, 10% African American, 3% Asian, 12 % Other or Multi-Cultural. Over 27% are of working age, and 85% live in their family home. We will work closely with NLACRC to recruit a cohort of 30 + individuals and their families who represent the racial and ethnic diversity of the consumer population.

Located at a community college, UAA at COC has leveraged its ties to industry to gain extensive experience of recruiting, retaining and successfully placing in CIE many trainees from diverse backgrounds.

---

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:

This project's **objective** is to develop and evaluate a Uniquely Abled Academy (UAA) model for CIE pathways in computer numerical control machining (CNC), robotics programming, and web development for individuals with IDD. The individualized, social-ecological approach is based upon a promising, emerging best practice for job development, attainment and retention that UAA at COC has been implementing since 2018. The program is industry-focused and has leveraged UAP's significant ties to aerospace, defense and advanced manufacturing sectors.

The **methods and activities** will contribute to an innovative program that
1) supports participation of the individuals with IDD, their family members, instructors, and aides in the UAA community of practice with its 'uniquely abled' philosophy and a whole-person approach;
2) models a workplace climate that is positive and adapted to the sensory, social, and information processing needs of the trainees, and is guided by strategies to avoid burn-out;
3) provides classroom preparation in math and reading to help interested individuals with IDD fulfill academic prerequisites for UAA;
4) orients individuals with IDD towards having a career, identifying their interests, unique abilities, talents and skills through standardized career testing instruments, interviews and focus groups;
5) provides information about the three UAA specializations in different formats including powerpoint presentations and videos so individuals with IDD can make informed choices;
6) involves families to support and facilitate the trainees' success;
7) creates opportunities for campus participation through engaging COC students in planning social events with UAA trainees;
8) utilizes available RC and DOR services, supports and incentives, and creates or follows an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) for each trainee;
9) offers UAA training as a Paid Internship Program (PIP) that leads to Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) and uses DOR funding for job development and coaching, and barrier removal services;
10) follows all current LACDPH guidelines for COVID-19 precautions and provides PPE as needed for in-person participation. The existing UAA at COC has been reopened, with a recent cohort of 10 CNC trainees graduated in April 2022.
11) builds relationships with potential industry employers to leverage CIE job development and placement that will support the trainees' professional success and career advancement;

Community input: In the first 6 months, the USC UCEDD team will conduct 6 focus groups, 2 with individuals with IDD, 2 with family members, 2 with RC staff to receive input on the design of the UAAs in the three specializations (CNN, robotics programming, web development), the UAA screening, assessment, and testing process, curriculum design and implementation, and family and RC staff support of UAA trainees' success.

Deliverables: A standardized curriculum and step-wise pathway instructions for replication with support from UAP.

---

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
  - Descript 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

---

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:

We will create a post-project transition plan with NLACRC and DOR to assure that the trainees continue to receive services and supports after the UAA completion. One of the aims of this project is to establish on-going collaborations within the DD and DOR service systems to support each individual who participated in the UAA program.

The unique sustainability potential of our project is that members of our academic-community partnership have programs outside UAA. Jay Nolan Community Services will be able to continue providing services and supports as part of their on-going programming outside UAA. USC UCEDD team will be conducting regular follow-ups with the trainees, and extending support with securing services as needed.

---

8. Applicant Question: Sustainability Question 2

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

Applicant Response:

We plan to apply for industry and federal funding opportunities after the grant's funding period is over to continue this work. Our group has substantial connections to the industry sectors for which we are developing this CIE pathway. Both Dr. Satyandra K. Gupta and Ivan Rosenberg are well positioned to secure industry funding, and the USC UCEDD team members have a strong record of funding from Association for Community Living (ACL) and other federal funding agencies. Additionally, we will seek private foundation funding from philanthropic organizations invested in equity and quality of life for individuals with disabilities.

All existing UAAs have become self-sustaining after the initial set-up by UAP. Please see DOR's letter of support.

Attachment:
Letter of Support DOR.pdf - PDF FILE

---

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:

USC UCEDD has an established and trusted relationship with the NLACRC team, and we know that they are significantly invested in securing CIE opportunities for their consumers. We will start planning for future sustainability from the start of the project, which will be necessary because individual RC services data related to employment for each UAA trainee will need to be collected so that there is a comprehensive individual data profile for each individual to be shared with the DDS.

Olga Solomon, Project Director is a member of the NLACRC Disparity Committee. Other team members have frequent interactions with the leadership and staff. USC UCEDD strong on-going partnership with NLACRC can be gleaned from their Letter of Support.

---

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:

USC UCEDD has a 56-year history of promoting the well-being of persons with IDD through training, research and evaluation, community services, technical assistance, information dissemination, and policy development. Its mission is to provide leadership in strengthening family-centered, culturally-competent services and systems for the benefit of individuals with IDD and their families.

Dr. Satyandra K. Gupta holds Smith International Professorship in the Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering

USC Center for Advanced Manufacturing, and a father of a daughter on the Autism Spectrum.

Ivan Rosenberg, the founder and President of The Uniquely Abled Project, is a management consultant in aerospace & defense, and a father of two adults on the Autism Spectrum.

College of the Canyons delivers accessible education for diverse students to earn associate degrees and certificates.

---

11. Applicant Question: Organizational Capacity Question 2

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

Applicant Response:

The USC UCEDD has supported individuals with IDD for over 50 years with a variety of programs. Our UCEDD has been at the forefront of every major DD initiative in California, including CIE. Last fiscal year, our Center had 70 projects in the areas of pre-service training, community services, community education, technical assistance, and research, all dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with IDD and their families. Currently, we are working with DOR on *It's Employment* initiative.

---

12. Applicant Question: Organizational Capacity Question 3

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

Applicant Response:

The USC UCEDD has been committed to employing individuals with IDD. We have several staff members, including Wesley Witherspoon (Project Co-Director) who has been working at the UCEDD since 2006. Mr. Witherspoon just received a Governor's reappointment to the SCDD. We also have employed a Self-advocate faculty, a physician recruiter, and family members such as parent navigators and siblings.

Project SEARCH interns at CHLA have worked in Human Resources, Information Systems, Volunteer Resources.

---

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:

This grant will fund the collaborative work of the USC UCEDD, USC CAM, UAP, and UAA at COC. It will allow the team to build capacity to partner with organizations that will employ individuals with IDD who participate in our program. Furthermore, the grant will provide the funding to expand the population served by UAA to other diagnoses, expand the UAA specializations, and to scale evidence-based practice to other community colleges to make this program replicable and sustainable in the future.

---

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 UCEDD has a dedicated unit for contracts and grants plus 2 full-time employees and support from The Saban Research Institute. Kinnari Jhaveri has a MBA and has extensive experience managing projects and grant-based activities. She previously managed the Southern CA Clinical and Translational Science institute. Karli Wong has been with the UCEDD for over 5 years managing budgets. The Saban Research Institute is one of the largest and most productive pediatric research facilities in the U.S.

---

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:

We will recruit participants and/or families through NLACRC referrals. We will have informational sessions for NLACRC Service Coordinators and Cultural Specialists to keep them informed on the UAA program and the CIE opportunities it will provide. We will ask NLACRC to carry out consumer data base queries for age, interest and / or engagement in PIP and CIE, and other criteria (e.g. GED or high school diploma). We will attend NLACRC's community meetings and present the program to the individuals with IDD and their families, answering any questions they might have. We will also use word-of-mouth (snowball recruitment), as we will ask individuals with I/DD or their families to refer us to other potentially eligible families in the NLACRC catchment area.

---

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:

The geographical location of our project is conducive to partnering with high-level employers in aerospace and information technology sectors to promote CIE opportunities for individuals with I/DD. The USC UCEDD will collaborate with Dr. Gupta from the USC Viterbi School of Engineering, the UAA, and the regional center partners. Dr. Gupta has high-level connections to Boeing and Raytheon, a high-tech industry dedicated to space and airline industry in the Lancaster / Palmdale area, which is in the North LA Regional Center Catchment area. Ivan Rosenberg has high-level connections with Mitsubishi company that has been a UAP funder in the past.

We have an on-going collaboration with DOR on several initiatives. Olga Solomon is a member of the DOR community of practice group. We will leverage this partnership to create sustainable services infrastructure to support our project's objectives.

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

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:

The schedule of activities maps out the CIE pathway from recruitment and enrollment to training and job placement, to evaluate the progression of activities to project objectives through quantitative and qualitative measures.

The first 6 months (01/01/2023 - 06/30/2023) are allocated to 3 UAAs program development and planning: Recruitment, needs assessment, career assessment, and enrollment (activities 1.1; 2.1; 2.2; 2.3; 3.1; 3.2)

The next 6 months (07/01/2023 - 12/31/2023) will be dedicated to

1) UAA program implementation for 3 new specializations: UAA training program in CNC, Robotics Programming, and Web Development (activities 4-a; 4-b; 4-c);

2) family support (activity 5) and

3) college students peer support (activity 6).

The last 6 months (01/01/2024 - 06/30/2024) will be spent on job development, program evaluation, data analysis, and program write-up for each of the UAAs, as reflected by Performance Measures numbered to match the activities. This includes data on needs assessments, program recruitment, enrollment, retention, graduation and job placement for each UAA, Individual Participant Outcome data; and Family Support and Community College Students engagement data.

---

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:

Several data types will be collected for each individual with IDD, and for each of the three cohorts in UAAs. We will use RedCap for quantitative data and NVivo for analysis of focus group and interview data. Data will be collected by each participating organization but the data analysis will be carried out and summarized by the USC UCEDD team. We will create a secure, password protected, HIPAA-complied data server to manage and maintain the data for this project.

We will follow the DDS RFP guidelines for Individual Participant Outcomes data, Outputs, Outcomes, and project specific data. Most training sessions will involve a pre- and post- survey. Focus groups will be recorded and transcribed.

The additional project-specific data types are: Developmental history, type of disability, services and support in the IPP, educational history, educational attainment (GED, high school diploma)Results of individual interviews and career / interests assessments ; Individualized Plan for Employment ; Academic prerequisite program participation and outcome; Graduation status / program completion; Job development data, job placement outcome, employment status, 6 months follow up; Services and supports related to CIE placement

Qualitative data: Focus groups, individual interviews.

---

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.

Applicant Response:

Most of the USC UCEDD's budget is allocated to personnel costs. Project Director (Solomon), and Project Co-Directors (Wetherspoon, Deavenport-Saman, and Yin) each bring unique skillsets and content areas expertise that are necessary for the expansion of UAAs into the wider IDD population, and for assuring the individualized, social-ecological approach to the development of the UAA at COC program for the new specializations.

There are two main sub-contracts on the budget:

1) Dr. Gupta and the team at USC Center for Advanced Manufacturing will be responsible for providing content expertise in setting up the UAA in Robotics Programming, create the UAA curriculum, provide all robotics equipment (at no cost to the project), and train two UAA instructors in program instructions.

2) Uniquely Abled Project at College of the Canyon holds a sub-contract that supports the development, implementation and job placement for the 3 UAAs. UAA at COC sub-contracts with a) Jay Nolan Community Services to carry out the enrollment, instruction, retention, and job development and placement; b) Uniquely Abled Project that will oversee the program fidelity and quality control, as well as interfacing with industry employers; and c) Emily Iland, Inc, a consultant firm that will develop the new instructional content and materials.

The budget strictly follows all relevant laws, regulations, and grant requirements.

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:

The following NLACRC colleagues discussed the proposal with the USC UCEDD team: Ruth Janka, Jesse Weller, Michael Fernandez. Please see Letter of Support from Jesse Weller, NLACRC Deputy Director.

E-mail from Dr. Michael Fernandez:

To: Olga Solomon

Cc: Jesse B. Weller, Psy.D. <JWeller@nlacrc.org>
Tue 8/16/2022 11:04 AM

Good morning Olga,
Thank you for the opportunity to partner with USC UCEDD on the Competitive Integrated Employment grant. The Uniquely Abled Project sounds fantastic and I am certain there are clients/consumers who would be interested in robotics and automation.
Respectfully,
Michael

Attachment:

NLACRC LOS USC UCEDD_DDS CIE proposal_Jesse Weller.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 a not a vendored regional center service provider, please select "N/A".

Applicant Response:

Yes

---

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

---

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