

Application Report



Applicant Organization: Yes I Can Unity Through Music and Education, Inc.

Project Name: Summer Meltdown Festival Project

Application ID: [REDACTED]

Funding Announcement: DDS Employment Grant

Requested Amount: [REDACTED]

Project Summary: Summer Meltdown Festival Project (SMFP) will serve adults 18+ with I/DD found eligible for NLACRC and WRC funding, who through the PCP process, have expressed an interest in developing the skills needed to pursue CIE. Participants served will reside in L.A. County within the NLACRC and WRC catchments areas and will be authorized to receive CIT services through the YIC Program (055). SMFP is a 12 month project designed to offer participants hands-on, work experience in a professional, community-based workplace setting related to the participants' career path of interest in the entertainment industry. SMFP participants will complete up to 5 hrs/wk of production role-based training that provides participants with clarity, alignment, and expectations of all roles in each department and promotes effective communication between various departments facilitating the full integration of the departments and company as a whole. This training will assist participants in making an informed choice for career options and preparing for CIE by providing participants with the opportunity to explore a wide range of career options in production to help clarify and refine their career objectives/goals. Communication with natural supports in the workplace is emphasized assisting the participant in performing their role and feeling socially included which is crucial for high performance/job retention. Participants receive up to 10 hrs/wk of hands-on, project-based training in community-based workplace setting, working alongside industry employers on all phases of production of a live music event. At the conclusion of SMFP, participants will obtain 1 yr of relevant work experience qualifying them for industry internships, and will assist them in building professional contacts while performing role specific job tasks alongside employers offering internship/entry level job opportunities. Ratio is 1:3. Participants who secure internships will transition to YIC's PIP.

Authorized Certifying Official: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Project Director/Manager: Bret [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Project Manager/Coordinator: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Compliance/Fiscal Officer: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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:

- Regional Center Vendor
- Community-Based Organization
- Other - Please Specify

Attachment:

Applicant Comment:

YIC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization vendored with North Los Angeles County RC and Westside RC.

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:

Yes I Can Unity Through Music and Education (YIC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides person-centered, customized training and employment services to creatives with intellectual and developmental disabilities to assist them in developing the necessary skills to prepare them for competitive integrated employment in a variety of in-demand careers within the entertainment industry. To learn more, please visit our website at www.yicunity.org.

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

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:

Business Focused Practices

2. Applicant Question: Duration of Project

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

Applicant Response:

12 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
 - Westside 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:

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, 90003, 90008, 90024, 90025, 90034, 90035, 90044, 90045, 90047, 90049, 90056, 90064, 90066, 90067, 90210-90212, 90230, 90245, 90247-90250, 90260, 90265, 90272, 90278, 90291, 90301-90305.

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:

[1500 Sound Academy Support Letter.YIC Summer Meltdown Festival Project.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

[Tink Tank Animate Employer Support Letter YIC.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

[SOS Entertainment. Employer Support Letter.YIC.SMFP.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

[College of the Canyons. Educational Support Letter. YIC. SMFP.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

[North Agenda Group.Letter of Support Employer.SMFP.YIC.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:

All YIC educators and program counselors are Masters level credentialed educators with the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing and possess a minimum of 5 years of field experience providing instruction/training to learners with disabilities. YIC's Executive Director possesses over 20 yrs experience working as a mild/mod special education teacher, holds a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction, is a Certified Autism Specialist, and is a Certified Career Skills Instructor. YIC's Deputy Director possesses over 25 yrs experience working with children, teens, and adults with I/DD, holds a Master of Education, Master of Ed. Counseling, is a CA Credentialed School Counselor, is a Certified Employment Support Professional with APSE, and worked as a Regional Center CSC. All YIC direct service staff meet the highly qualified requirements as defined under Federal law, including personnel that have the content knowledge and skills to serve individuals with disabilities.

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:

Not Applicable

Applicant Comment:

Not Applicable

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:

25

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:

Not Applicable

Applicant Comment:

Not Applicable

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:

9

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

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
- Filipino
- Hispanic
- White
- 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:

Summer Meltdown Festival Project (SMFP) will serve adults 18+ with I/DD found eligible for NLACRC and WRC funding, who through the PCP process, have expressed an interest in developing the skills needed to pursue CIE. Participants served will reside in L.A. County within the NLACRC and WRC catchments areas and will be authorized to receive CIT services through the YIC Program (055). SMFP is a 12 month project designed to offer participants hands-on, work experience in a professional, community-based workplace setting related to the participants' career path of interest in the entertainment industry. SMFP participants will complete up to 5 hrs/wk of production role-based training that provides participants with clarity, alignment, and expectations of all roles in each department and promotes effective communication between various departments facilitating the full integration of the departments and company as a whole. This training will assist participants in making an informed choice for career options and preparing for CIE by providing participants with the opportunity to explore a wide range of career options in production to help clarify and refine their career objectives/goals. Communication with natural supports in the workplace is emphasized assisting the participant in performing their role and feeling socially included which is crucial for high performance/job retention. Participants receive up to 10 hrs/wk of hands-on, project-based training in community-based workplace setting, working alongside industry employers on all phases of production of a live music event. At the conclusion of SMFP, participants will obtain 1 yr of relevant work experience qualifying them for industry internships, and will assist them in building professional contacts while performing role specific job tasks alongside employers offering internship/entry level job opportunities. Ratio is 1:3. Participants who secure internships will transition to YIC's PIP.

Attachment:

[YES.I.CAN.SMFP.SummaryandVideoLinks.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

2. Applicant Question: Need for Project Question 1

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

Applicant Response:

The underlying problems are: 1) the vast majority of internship opportunities currently available require that applicants have at least 1 year of relevant work experience to qualify for internship positions, creating a significant barrier for job seekers with I/DD who struggle with securing an internship due to lack of relevant work experience prior to applying for an internship; and 2) Employers are less likely to hire an applicant with a disability due to societal stereotypes and stigmas.

3. Applicant Question: Need for Project Question 2

Provide facts or data to support the need for this project

Applicant Response:

A recent study of over 4 million jobs posted on LinkedIn since late 2017 reveal that 35% of postings for entry-level positions asked for applicants with years of prior relevant work experience. Internships across all industries have become the entry level job and are no longer for people just entering the workforce. The requirement for prior relevant work experience to qualify for an internship is even more prevalent in certain industries. For example, 60% of listings for IT internships require 3+ yrs of experience. Internship applicants who don't have prior relevant work experience simply don't qualify. Securing the first internship is even more difficult for job seekers with I/DD. Employers are less likely to hire an applicant with a disability due to societal stereotypes and employers are much more likely to hire those who've had internships before. Having prior relevant work experience increases the chance of receiving at least one internship offer by 32% (Zippia,2022).

4. Applicant Question: Need for Project Question 3

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

Applicant Response:

SMFP brings together people from different neurotypes, physical abilities, racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds to develop mutual understanding and real connections by working on a common work-based project. SMFP promotes the collaboration of people from diverse backgrounds learning about, understanding, and celebrating program participants' and industry employers' unique contributions, differences, and similarities. Relationships and trust are developed among SMFP's diverse group of participants due to the fact that project completion cannot be achieved without the active participation of the other. Each participant has a distinct role that reflects their unique strengths and abilities. Participants and employers get to know each other individually, decreasing the tendency to perceive others with different backgrounds as monolithic/homogenous allowing them to recognize that even though they differ on one social category, they may share a common identity on another dimension.

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 SMFP is to establish business focused services that respond to employers needs and increase the hiring of workers with IDD. SMFP's evidence-based, innovative practices, services and supports will be provided in community-based settings, is tailored to each participant, enables participants to build professional industry connections by performing skilled work alongside industry employers, and provides participants with relevant work experience to add to their resumes making them stronger candidates when applying for internship/entry level job opportunities. SMFP's business partnership focused project design fosters employer awareness of the skills/abilities of individuals with IDD, promoting inclusive employment opportunities and will assist in increasing the hiring rates of people with IDD in skilled occupations that employer partners are seeking to fill. SMFP promotes increased and meaningful opportunities for participants to make an informed choice for career options and prepare for CIE by providing participants with the opportunity to explore career options to help clarify and refine their career objectives/goals, as well as enables participants to explore skills/interests they didn't know they had. SMFP is designed to achieve, maintain, or advance individuals with IDD in CIE by offering participants the opportunity to apply hard skills learned in their schooling programs in a workplace setting, develop skills necessary for any work environment, build job search skills, build a network of professional contacts, and perform career specific job tasks alongside industry employers who are offering internship/entry level job opportunities. SMFP's methodology for planning, participation, and evaluation is strong, utilizing an evidence-based, tested model which has given it the credibility to support the model can be successfully replicated. Key components of SMFP's operating model and instruction process can be easily articulated/standardized into teachable routines while allowing wide degrees of latitude for individual improvisation, enabling it to be replicated to new locations statewide. PCP is a guiding value of SMFP and is integrated procedurally within the project, specifically in the way the service deploys core processes. PCP techniques/values are repeatedly addressed in agency/service specific training, and in the ongoing development, training, and support of participants. The provision of services are driven by input collected through meetings with participants, employer partners, RCs and other stakeholders. A situational assessment and report will be conducted internally with the PCP team at 30 days, 6 mos, and 1 yr. External deliverables: Progress assessment reports conducted/submitted to the DDS quarterly with quantitative/qualitative data collected from the PCP team utilizing DDS standardized set of measures. 12 mos of data will be compiled in final report & submitted to DDS within 45 days of the end of project.

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:

Not Applicable

Applicant Comment:

Not Applicable

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:

All individuals served by the Summer Meltdown Festival Project will be North Los Angeles County Regional Center and Westside Regional Center clients currently authorized to receive community-based, employment-focused community integration training services through Yes I Can Unity Through Music and Education's "YIC Program" (subcode 055). Summer Meltdown Festival Project participants will continue to receive employment services and supports through the YIC Program once the project has ended.

8. Applicant Question: Sustainability Question 2

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

Applicant Response:

YIC is currently working with the North Los Angeles County Regional Center (NLACRC) and Westside Regional Center (WRC) to vendorize the Summer Meltdown Festival Project at their next Open Proposal Period (OPP) Cycle under either Adaptive Skills Training (605) or Creative Arts Program (094). YIC has been in direct contact with Evelyn McOmie, Community Services Director at NLACRC and with Lidenira Amador, Quality Assurance Specialist and Jill Hewes, Quality Assurance Specialist/Resource Developer at WRC to gather the necessary information required to pursue vendorization of the Summer Meltdown Festival Project under the either the (605) or (094) subcodes. Jill Hewes reports she will be reaching out to the DDS for guidance and recommendations.

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:

YIC has been actively working with Lidenira Amador, Quality Assurance Specialist and Jill Hewes, Quality Assurance Specialist/Resource Developer at WRC on preparing SMFP for vendorization. In July 2022, YIC contacted Evelyn McOmie, NLACRC's Chief Consumer/Community Services Officer, and requested to work with Ms. McOmie to prepare our agency for pursuing vendorization for this project with NLACRC at their next OPP Cycle. YIC is currently awaiting a response from NLACRC. Regional Center funding will ensure the long-term sustainability of The Summer Meltdown Festival Project and will enable YIC to continue to offer this program to individuals with ID/DD who have been found eligible for NLACRC and WRC Regional Center funding.

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:

Established in 2009, YIC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit located in L.A. County. YIC's mission is to provide person-centered, customized training and employment services to creatives with I/DD to assist them in developing necessary skills to them for CIE in a variety of in-demand careers in the entertainment industry. YIC is a NLACRC and WRC vendored provider meeting all Title 17 requirements/standards. YIC is vendored under 055, PIP, and CIE. YIC's purpose is to give people with I/DD greater access to quality, innovative training and employment services that meet the needs of employers, assisting participants in learning marketable skills to secure and maintain CIE. YIC is located within the 30 mile zone of entertainment headquarters. The entertainment industry is comprised of a variety of businesses with jobs in every pay grade. YIC is partnered with 100+ industry professionals, employers, educational institutions, government agencies, and for- and nonprofit organizations.

11. Applicant Question: Organizational Capacity Question 2

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

Applicant Response:

With funding from WSH Union School District from 2009-2018, SMFP has positively impacted the lives of over 2000 youth with I/DD providing career specific training and practical work experience related to participants' career path of interest in the entertainment industry. Past participants secured CIE. SMFP's funding was cut by the school district in 2018. Since 2019, YIC has provided employment-based training services to RC clients with I/DD pursuing CIE under YIC's 055, PIP, and CIE programs.

12. Applicant Question: Organizational Capacity Question 3

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

Applicant Response:

YIC's 055 program provides training in career skills in a inclusive college setting covering skills such as adaptability, analysis/solution mindset, collaboration, communication, digital fluency, entrepreneurial mindset, resilience, self-awareness, social diversity awareness, time management, etc. Participants attend weekly guest speaker sessions with industry professionals/employers to learn how professionals apply these skills in the workplace. Additional employment services are provided.

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 will help build expertise by providing staff with hands-on experience working on a CIE business focused project, staff will further develop teamwork skills, staff will increase their awareness of the importance of collaborating with employers in CIE practices/efforts, staff will expand upon their knowledge of CIE best practices, and staff will gain experience in collecting and analyzing data to develop evidence-based practices, services, and supports in the domain of CIE.

14. Applicant Question: Organizational Capacity Question 5

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

Applicant Response:

YIC currently serves 63 individuals with I/DD in YIC's 055 program. Of these 63 participants, 23 have successfully completed their career skills training. 65% of these participants who completed training have secured internships and receive support through YIC's PIP. Participants not yet in PIP are still completing their college/trade school programs. 45% have secured CIE. All during COVID. YIC has experience reporting multiple program results to the RCs based on DDS standards and requirements.

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:

Through the person-centered planning process, YIC will present the opportunity to participate in the Summer Meltdown Festival Project to all Regional Center clients currently authorized to receive employment-focused, community integration services through the YIC Program (055) who are currently pursuing careers or related careers within TV, Film, and Live Event, and Music Pre-Production, Production, and Post-Production, livestreaming, digital/social media, graphic design, and other related occupations. YIC will also present the opportunity to participate in the Summer Meltdown Festival Project to all individuals served within the YIC Program who have reported they are undecided on what career path they would like to pursue and are currently exploring potential career paths of interest within the YIC Program. YIC will hold an informational session explaining the project, how the project will assist participants in achieving their CIE goals, and to answer any questions individuals have.

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:

YIC has formed strong partnerships with and collaborates with over 100 industry professionals, employers, educational institutions, government agencies, and for- and nonprofit organizations, enabling YIC to leverage resources and increase the impact of SMFP. Since 2009, YIC has proven its value to industry employers and has built incentives to maintain good relations, such as providing employers with qualified candidates for their open internship and entry level job positions offering employers a streamlined process to diversify their workforce, providing employers with access to a national advertising platform to publicize their Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) efforts and progress made toward company DEI hiring outcomes, and the elimination of employer payroll costs for internships offered to SMFP participants through YIC's NLACRC and WRC vendored Paid Internship Program (PIP). YIC will utilize all of its partners strategically and purposely to achieve the objective of SMFP.

Attachment:

[YES.I.CAN.SMFP. EmployerandCommunityPartnerships.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

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:

Not Applicable

Applicant Comment:

Not Applicable

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 provide the specific steps that will lead to the successful achievement of SMFP's objective. Surveys and assessments are strategically integrated into the schedule of activities, involve all stakeholders, including participants, employer partners, staff, and the RCs, support all project activities, and will ensure measurable progress is made toward the project's objective. YIC will work with all stakeholders to ensure two-way communication flows and sharing of information to maximize the impact of the project. Progress toward participants' employment outcomes will be tracked through a 30 day, 6 mo, and 1 year situational assessment and will be reported via each program participants' YIC PC program plan. Through the dissemination of projects results, YIC is dedicated to empower all stakeholders to engage with YIC's SMFP, promote shared learning and share SMFP's innovative approach to increasing the development of other business focused program models that establish business focused partnerships that respond to employers needs and increase the hiring of workers with I/DD in skilled occupations offering a livable wage and benefits. All project activities provided in-person will follow state and local health and safety guidelines. YIC will also follow established procedures and protocol within YIC's Pandemic Response Plan to ensure all participants remain safe and healthy while participating in all project activities. See attached Pandemic Response Plan

Attachment:

[YesICan.Pandemic.Response.Plan.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

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:

Pre and post-surveys, progress and situational assessments are integrated into and support all activities of the project. Pre and post-surveys will be conducted with all stakeholders at the beginning and end of the project utilizing DDS standardized set of measures. Situational assessments will be conducted at 30 days, 6 mos, and 12 mos and will track individual outcome data. YIC will conduct quarterly progress assessments also utilizing DDS standardized set of measures. Progress assessments reports will provide assessment data on all performed activities to ensure the project is on target with the approved work plan. Utilizing program specific surveys, assessments, and utilizing YIC's case management system software Therap, data will be collected throughout the duration of the project. Data will be solicited from participants, DS staff, YIC directors, employer mentors, RCs and other community stakeholders. Data gathered will be used to compile quarterly progress reports and these reports will be submitted in GrantVantage 01/31, 04/30, 07/31, and 10/31, reporting updated performance measures, activities, and financial data. YIC will use the data to evaluate compliance with standards, identify trends in services, detect areas needing improvement, track financial data, and for strategic planning purposes. A final progress report will be completed and submitted to the DDS within 45 days of project conclusion. YIC will provide copies of all surveys/assessment tools utilized.

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:

YIC utilized historical financial data in the development of the SMFP budget from when the project was funded by the WSH Union School District between 2009-2018 to ensure the project budget is consistent with the project's objective and activities, and clearly and concisely outlines how these expenditures will support the overall project design. To further draw upon historical data, YIC assessed past SMFP experiences where any necessary changes were made, how YIC responded to those changes, and how YIC continued to keep in line with the project budget while accommodating those changes. The current economic climate and inflationary factors were also factored into budget development. In addition, YIC consulted with industry employer partners who have worked on past SMFPs who possess vast experience and knowledge in creating budgets for large scale events to confirm the accuracy of the budget further, ensuring the budget is accurate and that available resources are utilized effectively and efficiently. YIC's Deputy Director and CFO possess over 40 yrs of combined experience in finance and the financial management of complex organizational accounting functions and budgets. YIC will track, monitor, and manage all project expenditures in real time utilizing Excel software to enable YIC to actively assess the utilization of grant funds for project expenditures outlined in the planned budget and promptly respond to any unforeseen changes.

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:

Evelyn McOmie, Community Services Director at North Los Angeles County Regional Center.

Lidenira Amador, Quality Assurance Specialist at Westside Regional Center.

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
