

Application Report



Applicant Organization: GANAS
Project Name: Padres con GANAS (Parents with Desire)
Application ID: App-22-592
Funding Announcement: FY 22-23 Service Access and Equity Grant
Awarded Amount: \$199,000

Project Summary: Advocacy Skill Development Program for Hispanic community in the Coachella Valley.

Authorized Certifying Official: Martha Barragan martha.barragan@theganas.org -
Project Director/Manager: Martha Barragan martha.barragan@theganas.org -
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Compliance/Fiscal Officer: Martha Barragan martha.barragan@theganas.org -

Section Name: Applicant Eligibility

Sub Section Name: Applicant Information

1. Applicant Question: Project Title

What is the Project Title?

Applicant Response:

Padres con GANAS (Parents with Desire)

2. Applicant Question: Awarded Amount

What is the total amount awarded for the project?

Applicant Response:

\$199,000

3. Applicant Question: Organization Type

Choose the response that best describes your organization.

Applicant Response:

Community Based Organization (CBO), 501(c)(3)

4. Applicant Question: Description of Organization/Group

Provide a brief description of the organization or group. Explain what experience your organization has managing a

project similar to the proposal and state the outcomes of that project. You may upload your brochure or add a website link.

Applicant Response:

GANAS is a 501c3 non-profit organization operating in the Coachella Valley in Southern California. Our focus is to help increase the quality of life of those in the special needs community. GANAS currently does this by providing workshops, 1:1 consultations, and skill group meetings to parents. We also provide support to siblings and professionals.

This organization was founded by two mothers of children with special needs. These women are also professionals who provide support primarily to Spanish-speaking Hispanic families in their underserved community. GANAS has the unique perspective of both the professional and the parent. This is how we created a program that is both evidence-based and family-friendly!

The first version of Padres con GANAS (a parent-to-parent model) began in 2021. Both women have the combined experience of developing and managing this project along with over 17 years combined experience. Project outcome details can be found in "previous grant outcomes" question.

Attachment:

[PCG Flyer_ENG&SPAN_Rev_04.13.22.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

5. 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:

[SOS_FTB_GANAS Good Standing.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

[FTB_Exempt_Letter.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

6. 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?

Applicant Response:

Not Applicable

Section Name: Grant Reapplication Information

Sub Section Name: Grant Reapplications Only

1. Applicant Question: Previous Award(s)

Did your organization receive DDS grant funding in fiscal year 2020-21 or 2021-22? If yes, go to question 2 to complete each column. If no, skip this category and go to category 3.

Applicant Response:

Yes

2. Applicant Question: Previous Grant Award(s)

Since fiscal year 2020, complete a row for each DDS Service Access and Equity grant your organization was awarded funding.

Applicant Response:

Year Awarded	Project Title	Grant Number	Award Amount
2020-2021	Padres con GANAS	20-C01	194,336.00
2021-2022	Padres con GANAS	21-C01	175,000.00

3. Applicant Question: Previous Grant Outcomes

Provide a brief grant summary of your project outcomes for fiscal year 2020-21 and/or 2021-22.

Applicant Response:

Fiscal year 2020-2021 Project Outcomes

GANAS began offering the Padres con GANAS program in August 2021. The first months were focused on planning and developing the Padres con GANAS program. Once services were offered, two individuals provided 14 workshops across 7 topics (7 in English and 7 in Spanish), These workshops were also heavily researched and developed by GANAS. A total of 241 participants were served through our workshops and the feedback was very positive, praising our unique presentation style. Another outcome from this period is how we always had higher attendance in our Spanish-only presentations compared to the English-only ones.

10 support groups were hosted exclusively for parents who registered into the Padres con GANAS Program. We provided a total of 213 consultations to assist families with navigating regional center services and generic services. We had a total of 31 parents register into our program and 23 of them decided to continue. There were 127 translator services provided and 90 linguistically appropriate materials which our program developed.

Unplanned positive outcomes were the consistent self-reports of parents who are feeling less anxiety after working with us.

Fiscal year 2021-2022 Project Outcomes from 04/01/2022 – 09/30/2022 (Quarter 1 and 2 of the grant period)

The first month of the grant period (April 2022) was focused on developing a more efficient parent consultation tracker which helped us track and analyze quantitative data more easily as well as developing a worksheet and template system to use during consultations. Please find attached an actual sample of parent data from one of our participants.

During the first half of the program, we have completed 5 out of the 10 scheduled skill group meetings. The meeting topics have included learning how to use our “email recipe” to draft a letter when communicating with professionals, understanding ABA Services, and covering FAQs, as well as giving program feedback to help our program evolve accordingly. We currently have 48 participants registered who are active with the program but do participate in varying degrees.

Our program also developed and presented 4 webinars across 2 topics so far and have 5 more topics scheduled to be completed by January 2023.

From April 1, 2022 – September 30, 2022 we have completed 189 consultations across 48 participants on Regional Center Service Navigation and Generic Service Navigation.

Parent self-report continues to be a decrease in anxiety levels.

Attachment:

[Parent Consultation Data Sample.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

4. Applicant Question: Project Transition

If awarded, how will your current project(s) transition into the 2022-23 proposed project? Does your proposed project expand or continue your current project, if so how? What activities, measures, or target groups are being added? Provide a summary of the differences and reasons why you are proposing the change.

Applicant Response:

Our project will expand to include the option of meeting not only virtually but in person. This is for the families that require the in-person technology training and do not have a person at home who can support with having them access our services virtually. The technology training that will be provided in person includes connecting to a Zoom meeting, screen sharing, scanning documents, sending documents, using voice to text, and sending emails. These skills were already worked on but through videos created by the program for families to be able to follow. However, there were some parents who still had trouble following along and require in-person training for this type of skill to develop.

This next grant period, we propose for the project to expand by also inviting the minors with special needs to attend the one-on-one consultations with their parents. This will be on a case-by-case basis, and we would emphasize on parents encouraging – not forcing their children to attend – even if it is just to listen in. The purpose of this is for multiple reasons. It will help prepare the parent to share control of decision-making and practice listening to what their son or daughter wants once the minor becomes older. Second, the exposure alone will help plant the seed for self-advocacy skills if the parent models effective advocacy strategies.

The activities, measures, and target groups of the program will remain the same.

Section Name: General Application

Sub Section Name: Proposal Summary

1. Applicant Question: Project Type

Choose the project type that best describes your activities from the list below:

Applicant Response:

Community Connector

Applicant Comment:

Padres con GANAS' activities are the following:

1. Workshops - GANAS researches, develops and presents on 7 workshop topics that last about 90 minutes each presentation.
2. Parent support groups - GANAS facilitates more than 2 or more parents interacting 10 times during the grant period.
3. Translator Services - GANAS provides translation of own written materials
4. Follow-Up with families - GANAS mentors interact 2 or more times with a parent
5. Culturally and linguistically appropriate materials - GANAS creates approachable and appropriate materials for the Hispanic Spanish-speaking population.
6. Develop and implement curriculum - GANAS will develop a curriculum meant to train future parent mentors interested in Padres con GANAS.
7. Outreach - GANAS has had presentations to promote awareness of parent potential and understanding parent roles in families impacted by special needs.
8. Identify and Coordinate with Community Partners - GANAS recommends many families to use other community members such as Angel View's Outreach program and Variety's Children's Charity of the Desert Program.
9. Navigating Regional Center Services - GANAS provides 1:1 consultations with parents to assist them in maximizing services or requesting new services through Regional Center.
10. Navigating Generic resources - GANAS provides 1:1 consultations with parents to assist them in maximizing generic services or requesting new generic services.

2. Applicant Question: Duration of project

Choose the duration of your project.

Applicant Response:

12 months

3. Applicant Question: Regional Centers

Choose the Regional Center(s) that your project will serve. Check all that apply. If you are proposing a statewide project, select the All Regional Centers/Statewide option.

Applicant Response:

- Inland Regional Center

4. Applicant Question: Counties Served

List the county or counties your project proposes to serve. Check all that apply. If you are proposing a statewide project, the select All Counties / Statewide option.

Applicant Response:

- Riverside County

5. Applicant Question: Community Based Organizations

Will you be working with one or more Community Based Organizations? If so, provide the name of the organization and how you will be working together.

Applicant Response:

Not Applicable

Applicant Comment:

Not Applicable

6. Applicant Question: Multiple Organizations

Does your project include partnership with one or more organizations either as a co-applicant or subcontractor? If "yes", please upload a letter of support from each organization, that includes an explanation of their role in the partnership.

Applicant Response:

No

7. Applicant Question: Strategies and Sustainability

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

Applicant Response:

Our organization is continuing to work on a 5 - year plan to increase revenue streams. This includes developing a plan and introduce Behavior Therapy Services which will begin to provide enough funds to financially support the Padres con GANAS program.

We are also looking into other grants, fundraising events, and considering charging for specific services based on family income. However, our end goal is to continue to provide this quality program for free since the majority of families we support are considered low-income.

Sub Section Name: Target Population

1. Applicant Question: Ethnicity Groups Served

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

Applicant Response:

- Hispanic
-

2. Applicant Question: Ethnicity Group(s), Language(s) and Number of Individuals Served

For each ethnicity group, provide the number of individuals your project intends to serve and the related language(s).

Applicant Response:

Ethnicity Group(s)	Individuals Served	Language(s)
Hispanic	200	Spanish and English

3. Applicant Question: Age Group(s) Served

Select all Age Groups the project will serve.

Applicant Response:

- Three to 21
- Birth up to Three (Early Start)

Applicant Comment:

Age groups served reflect the sons' and daughters' ages.

Section Name: Project Application

Sub Section Name: Project Application

1. Applicant Question: Project Summary and Organizational Experience

Provide a clear and concise project summary that includes a defined target population, catchment area, and project design. Specifically describe what your project will accomplish and how it will benefit the community served. In your answer, include what experience your organization has working with the target population and how your organization will work with the local RC(s).

Applicant Response:

The Padres con GANAS (Parents with Desire) program will target Hispanic/Latino English and Spanish speaking families in the Inland Regional Center catchment area, specifically, families in the Coachella Valley who have low/no POS. Our organization has spent the last two years working with this target population by educating and training families to advocate for their loved ones. The two mentors have several years of experience working with the target population by training them on regional center service navigation and generic service navigation to improve families' quality of life.

The goal of this project is for parents to independently navigate the various service systems and connect their loved ones with appropriate services. We will be able to accomplish this by working with Inland Regional Center by having them share our program and event flyers as well as inviting us to RC speaking engagements.

The project will use quantitative data at an individual level to monitor progress of specific skills. The families and community will benefit by showing an increase in POS. The program design is as follows:

Initial Meeting: Parents will meet with a Peer-mentor who will gather intake forms and explain the program.

1:1 Consultations: Parents will have a minimum of two 1:1 meetings per month with a Peer-mentor. During the first consultation meeting, a profile will be completed and a timeline of recent events will be created to help the parent view their information objectively. The parent and peer-mentor will then create action steps for the parent to complete before the next meeting. Aside from assisting parents with navigating their barriers, the Peer-mentors will work on advocacy skill development relevant to the current barrier encountered by using the Behavior Skills Training technique and collecting Task Analysis data on each skill. During consultations, parents will be encouraged to invite their children with special needs to share ideas, give feedback, ask questions, or just observe. Parents will have the ability to request multiple meetings, but two consultation meetings will be required per month to participate in the program.

Skill Group: 10 Skill Group meetings are scheduled that will focus on a small group of parents practicing their advocacy skills across different scenarios. Some meetings will focus on the development of technical skills that impact effective advocacy. For example, knowing how to effectively communicate needs during a conversation.

Workshops: There will be 14 workshops across 7 topics open to those in the community and those formally enrolled in the program. Padres con GANAS has been praised on how it turns complex concepts into parent-friendly presentations that can be applied. Topics presented include how to communicate effectively, how to request services from Regional Center, understanding the IPP, and others.

Finally, the parents who participate the most across services will earn an "advocacy package" incentive.

2. Applicant Question: Data and Community Input

Explain why you have selected your priority population(s) using RC POS data and other data as supporting evidence of the disparity or inequity. Include how your organization used input from the community, target population, and RC to design the proposal.

Applicant Response:

We selected our priority population of Hispanic consumers due to the need observed in the community, and as observed in the POS data. In the community, the few resources available in the Coachella Valley are not widely advertised in Spanish so many Hispanic families are not connecting to needed resources and service providers. Our program will continue to work with our families and translate flyers from outside resources if needed to connect them with the supports that exist and are available. This barrier in the community is reflected in the POS data as well.

According to RC POS data for 2021-2022, Hispanic families with no POS is 4,827 consumers (29.5%) compared to White families with no purchase of service is 2,363 consumers (24.1%). In comparison, this makes a difference of 2,464 more Hispanic consumers with no POS compared to White consumers. This makes a 5.4% difference.

2021-2022 POS data also show that there were 24% of consumers who speak Spanish and have no Purchase of Services compared to those who speak English 23.8%. Although there is less than one percentage of a difference, English speakers are slightly lower.

When observing the POS data for total annual expenditures and authorized services by ethnicity or race, Hispanic consumers had one of the least amounts compared to other ethnicities with \$12,007 per capita and 68.5% utilized. Compared to that, consumers who identify as white show per capita expenditures at \$23,447 and 69.2% utilized.

3. Applicant Question: Uniqueness

How is the proposed project unique from a currently funded grant (e.g., strategies, activities, and goals) in the proposed RC catchment area? If the project is similar to a currently funded grant listed on the Department's website, how is the proposed project different?

Applicant Response:

The most unique part about our project is our backstory and our program model. Our backstory of a mother who is a BCBA and another mother who has a MA in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and both have sons with special needs. These perspectives are what helped to bring about a well-developed program based on evidence-based strategies that is well-rounded and has a unique perspective.

The evidence-based strategies we use to build the parent's skills is what is most unique about our program. Each individual has their own excel workbook. It is used to record every interaction we make with the parent and tracks their individual progress. It helps us identify barriers and helps us adjust with our teaching strategies if necessary.

There is not currently a similar project that is currently funded in the Coachella Valley and Riverside County, from professional and parent feedback. There are projects which are also community connectors and who provide workshops, however, our program model and the data-driven strategies used are unique to Padres con GANAS and are working for our families. They are becoming successful in connecting their loved ones with services because of the advocacy skills they are implementing.

4. Applicant Question: Improve Equity and Service Access

How will your project measurably improve equity, access, and reduce barriers to services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families?

Applicant Response:

The program Padres con GANAS was specifically developed to improve equity, access, and reduce barriers to services within Regional Center and Generic Service systems. We collect quantitative data on specific skills needed for successful advocacy such as creating a timeline using one of our worksheets, drafting a strong letter using data, scanning and sending documents, using an email, understanding system hierarchies, knowing how to express needs, and many more. Training and practicing on implementing these skills and others does not eliminate barriers that are encountered but it does allow for the barriers to be seen as manageable.

The first tab in the Consultation Tracker is the dashboard which shows all the possible skills available to master. The second tab has the record of parent attendance across workshops, skill groups, and consultations. Another tab has the consultation specific notes. We also included a communication tab for the moments we communicated with our parents, but it was less than the length of a consultation and finally the tabs with the task analysis data collection.

By collecting this data and using this tool is how we can visibly see if parents are learning and maintaining skills in our program which will allow them to improve equity, access and overcome barriers to services for their loved ones.

Attachment:

[New Consultation Tracker.xlsm](#) - EXCEL DOCUMENT

5. Applicant Question: Support of RC Plan

Does the project support the RC plan to promote equity and reduce disparities in their catchment? If you are a RC, how does this project support your recommendations and plan to promote equity and reduce your identified disparities? How will your project collaborate with other organizations to promote community inclusion?

Applicant Response:

Padres con GANAS does support the RC plan to promote equity and reduce disparities in the Inland Regional Center catchment area.

Part of this project will include collaborating with other organizations to promote community inclusion by offering support to translate flyers from other organizations to reach the Spanish-speaking population and make the resources accessible to the families we serve.

Our project supports the RC plan to promote equity and reduce disparities in the Coachella Valley (Inland Regional Center catchment area) by focusing on parents/caregivers and using their own feedback to create goals for themselves. Our program is a guide for families to rely on for guidance but for parents to ultimately learn to advocate independently with

According to the IRC Disparity Report, IRC's goal is to promote equity and reduce disparities in the same areas Padres con GANAS is focusing on (the Hispanic Spanish-speaking community). Padres con GANAS will support IRC by working on those areas. Specifically, we will make sure to do this by connecting with not only Maria Rodriguez but Liliana Garnica from IRC who has been assigned a leadership role working with Low/No POS consumers.

6. Applicant Question: Project Activities and Measures

Note: Before answering this question, applicants must complete the Activities Template located in the middle tab directly above.

The schedule of activities clearly and specifically demonstrates the steps that the project will take to achieve its stated objective and measures. Do the proposed measures appropriately track the project objective and activities, provide insight into the effectiveness of project, and demonstrate impact on the target population?

Applicant Response:

Yes. The schedule of activities and measures that will be used are those required by the community connector project type. The activities are below.

1. Workshops - Present 7 workshop topics that last about 90 minutes each presentation.
2. Parent support groups - Will facilitate more than 2 or more parents interacting 10 times during the grant period.
3. Translator Services - Will provide translation of own written materials
4. Follow-Up with families - Mentors interact 2 or more times with a parent
5. Culturally and linguistically appropriate materials - We will create approachable and appropriate materials for the Hispanic Spanish-speaking population.
6. Develop and implement curriculum - GANAS will develop a curriculum meant to train future parent mentors interested in Padres con GANAS.
7. Outreach - GANAS will promote awareness of parent potential and understanding parent roles in families impacted by special needs.
8. Identify and Coordinate with Community Partners - GANAS will refer families to use other community resources along with participating in the Padres con GANAS Program such as Angel View's Outreach program and Variety's Children's Charity of the Desert Programs.
9. Navigating Regional Center Services - GANAS will provide 1:1 consultations with parents to assist them in maximizing services or requesting new services through Regional Center.
10. Navigating Generic resources - GANAS will provide 1:1 consultations with parents to assist them in maximizing generic services or requesting new generic services.

The required measures for community connector projects appropriately track our project objective and activities. Our project's additional data collection methods (task analysis and Consultation Tracker) and the required measures for a community connector project provide insight into the effectiveness of the project.

7. Applicant Question: Budget Template and Narrative

Note: Before answering this question, applicants must complete the Budget Template located in the tab directly above.

The project budget is consistent with the stated project objective and activities, and clearly and concisely explains how the proposed expenditures support the overall project design and outcomes. The project budget costs are clearly associated with the activities and does not include non-allowable costs or costs funded by other sources.

- Budget Template example is located at [Attachment C](#).
- Budget Details and Restrictions are available [here](#).

Applicant Response:

The Padres con GANAS project budget (attached) is consistent with the stated project objective and activities. The budget is clear and concisely explains how the proposal supports the project design and outcomes. The project budget costs do not include non-allowable costs or costs funded by other sources.

Attachment:

Section Name: Proposal Certification

Sub Section Name: Certification

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

CBOs are required to discuss their proposal with each RC(s) the CBO is intending to serve. If you are a CBO, have you discussed your proposal with each RC you are intending to serve?

Applicant Response:

Yes

Attachment:

[Letter of Support GANAS 10.2022-.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

2. Applicant Question: RC Contact

CBOs are required to submit their application concurrently to the Department and to each RC(s) catchment the CBO is intending to serve. If you are a CBO, state the name(s) of the contact person(s) at each RC you have emailed your proposal application. The RC contact list is available here at [Attachment F](#).

Applicant Response:

Lavinia Johnson - Inland Regional Center

Maria Rodriguez - Inland Regional Center

3. Applicant Question: Code of Conduct

Grantee Code of Conduct

The Department is committed to supporting services and programs with integrity that foster collaboration and professionalism. Grantees are expected to conduct project activities in a professional and respectful manner that include:

- **Valuing Diversity and Inclusion.** Grantees should embrace diversity that includes but is not limited to: ability, race, language, national origin, citizenship, age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, and religion.
 - **Conducting Activities with Personal and Professional Integrity.** All activities with individuals, families, community organizations, regional centers, and state, local and federal agencies should be conducted with professionalism, dignity, respect, and fairness. Grantees should be open to listening to different points of view and fostering productive communication.
 - **Providing a Positive Work Environment:** All projects should foster a positive and respectful work environment with their colleagues and other grantees.
-

Applicant Response:

- I acknowledge that I have reviewed the Code of Conduct.
-

4. 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
