

Application Report



Applicant Organization: CHLA
Project Name: Consortium for Public Health Initiatives Serving Individuals with Developmental Disabilities in California
Application ID: App-22-667
Funding Announcement: FY 22-23 Service Access and Equity Grant
Awarded Amount: \$293,000

Project Summary: USC UCEDD at CHLA proposes to establish a sustainable public health consortium of disability agencies that consists of the 3 California UCEDDs (USC UCEDD, UCLA Tarjan Center, and UC Davis CEDD), DD state and federal partners, Self Advocate organizations, CBOs and FBOs, other disability rights and advocacy organizations, county and state public health departments, and healthcare organizations such as FQHCs. The consortium will build upon, integrate and expand the rapid response collaboration infrastructure that each organization has established for our COVID- 19 related projects and initiatives. The consortium members will work on public health initiatives to address specific challenges facing individuals with disabilities in California across the lifespan.

Authorized Certifying Official: Larry Yin LYin@chla.usc.edu -
Project Director/Manager: Larry Yin LYin@chla.usc.edu -
Project Manager/Coordinator: Larry Yin LYin@chla.usc.edu -
Compliance/Fiscal Officer: Larry Yin LYin@chla.usc.edu -

Section Name: Applicant Eligibility

Sub Section Name: Applicant Information

1. Applicant Question: Project Title

What is the Project Title?

Applicant Response:

Consortium for Public Health Initiatives Serving Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

2. Applicant Question: Awarded Amount

What is the total amount awarded for the project?

Applicant Response:

\$293,000

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:

USC Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at Children's Hospital Los Angeles has a 56-year history of promoting health and well-being of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families through clinical programs, training, research and evaluation, community services, technical assistance, information dissemination, and policy development. USC UCEDD is well positioned to lead this project on Public Health because of our affiliation with CHLA and USC School of Medicine. Many of our faculty are medical doctors with training in Public Health, including the project lead, Larry Yin, MD, MSPH. In the last two and a half years, our UCEDD has been working on several projects to address the needs and challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic for individuals with IDD and their families. We see great promise in applying COVID-19 pandemic's take-away lessons to increase access and equity in DD services by making them part of coordinated health promotion efforts.

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:

[CHLA Secretary of State Active Status 2022.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:

Yes

Attachment:

[Certificate-Status UC_09022021.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

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	Technical Assistance and Peer Education Infrastructure to Increase Impact of Parent-Run CBOs Providing Social-Recreational Services	19-C22	127,793
2021	Technical Assistance and Peer Education Infrastructure for Parent-Run CBOs	20-C22	204,577
2022	Technical Assistance and Peer-Mentorship Infrastructure for Parent-run CBOs	21-C22	150,000

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:

Year 1: In FY2019/2020 we served 10 parent-run CBOs /12 Executive Directors providing social-recreational services in communities of color in LA County. Of 12 Founders / EDs, 11 were mothers; 8 were African American, 1 as Latina, and 3 Chinese American. Selected outcomes: 1) All CBOs expanded their programs during the funding period which coincided with the start of the pandemic; 2)5 CBOs received DDS SAE funding, 3 were first time grantees; 3) National Core Indicators surveys via RedCap. A curriculum-based, culturally-tailored Technical Assistance and Peer Education program; 4) Transitioned to remote program.

Year 2: In FY2020-2021 we served 24 CBOs and went state-wide. The new CBOs addressed educational transitions, homelessness, domestic violence prevention, and housing insecurity affecting families. We added a USC MPH Students practicum allowing the students to support the activities of 10 CBO leaders. Selected outcomes: 1) At least 13 CBOs secured state, federal, and foundation grant funding; one CBO ED was awarded a multi-year Goldman Sachs One Million Black Women Impact Grant. 2) Added three COVID-related questions to NCI surveys to collect data on how the CBO leaders and their families are faring during the pandemic; 3) 'Nonprofit incubation' coaching and consulting model with 8 emerging CBOs; 4) 'Founders forum' where the CBO leaders could share their challenges in a safe space.

Year 3: In FY 2021-2022 we are working with 23 CBOs, 19 continuing from Year 2 and 4 new. Outcomes: expanded the CBOs' scope to arts, music, and fashion modeling for youth with I/DD. CBO services also include social- recreational (swimming, surfing), navigation of educational transitions, homelessness, domestic violence, and housing insecurity prevention. Selected outcomes: 1) 3 CBOs have secured grant funding in the last 5 months; 2) 12 USC MPH students have supported 20 CBOs; 3) TNP is providing high level coaching and consulting services; 4) Continue NCI data collection via RedCap

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:

The proposed project is new for our group. It organizes the 3 UCEDDs in California and other DD partners to coordinate a rapid response, public health consortium. This proposed project falls under **Engagement and Outreach**, the currently funded project is **Workforce Capacity and Development**

We will invite all the CBOs in the Technical Assistance and Peer Mentorship Infrastructure (TAMI, DDS# 21-C22) project to be part of the consortium for this proposed project, however, there will be no transition necessary from the DDS# 21-C22 TAMI project to this proposed Consortium project.

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:

Engagement and Outreach

Applicant Comment:

The proposed project meets the **Engagement and Outreach** project type description as it increases community awareness of health promotion and disease prevention and fosters engagement through outreach activities about health literacy and health-promoting behavioral change. Project activities will include informational presentations, public service announcements, and community health fairs where health screenings would include information on DD services and on-site developmental screening. The approach for organizing these activities will be informed by the takeaways / collective lessons learned from the consortium member organizations' community COVID-19 vaccination events and other pandemic-related work.

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:

- All Regional Centers/Statewide
-

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:

- All Counties / Statewide
-

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:

USC UCEED has on-going collaborations with multiple Community-Based Organization in Southern California and state-wide, including Healthy African American Families, South Central Prevention Coalition, Community Health Councils' Social Change Institute, Fiesta Educativa, La Familia, PathPoint, Chinese Parents Association for the Disabled (CPAD), Vietnamese Parents with Disabled Children Association (VPDCA), and many others. All CBOs that are SEA grant recipients will be invited.

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:

Yes

Attachment:

[LoS SCDD DDS Consortum Grant.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

[LoS DRC DDS Proposal CONSORTIUM.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

[MIND CEDD LOS_USC CEDD DDS proposal \(2\).pdf](#) - PDF FILE

[DOR Letter of Support for USC UCEDD_DDS proposal CONSORTIUM.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

[LOS_Consortium Tarjan UCEDD_DDS proposal.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

7. Applicant Question: Strategies and Sustainability

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

Applicant Response:

The purpose of this 12-months grant is to provide support to the DD agencies and allies / collaborators to create a consortium infrastructure, and to coordinate and organize our agencies around a series of taskforces which one or two of our organizations will lead. Most of the budget will be allocated to hire a 50% Project Coordinator who will be in charge of communication between the consortium members, community networking and outreach, scheduling meetings and events, and recruiting new partner organizations. Using this seed funding, the consortium members will leverage long-term funding sources to:

- 1) design a curriculum and practicum for Masters of Public Health students at our affiliated academic institutions (USC, UCLA, UC Davis) to provide training on social determinants of health for the IDD population
- 2) apply to public health departments for health screening programs funding
- 3) combine COVID-19 / MPX / HIV mobile medicine services with general health and DD screening

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:

- African American
- Cambodian
- Chinese
- Filipino
- Hispanic
- Hmong
- Indian (list)
- Japanese
- Korean
- Mien
- Native American
- Vietnamese
- Pacific Islander (list)
- Slavic (list)
- Other (list)

Applicant Comment:

Our consortium will serve all racial and ethnic groups; we will work on linguistic and cultural competence and tailoring for our taskforces' programming

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)
All ethnicity groups	400,000 + served by regional centers	All languages in California

3. Applicant Question: Age Group(s) Served

Select all Age Groups the project will serve.

Applicant Response:

- Birth up to Three (Early Start)
- Three to Five
- Three to 21
- 16 to 21
- 22 and older

Applicant Comment:

Our consortium efforts will serve all age groups in a life-span approach commonly used in public health work

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 project addresses SAE priorities from a novel and timely Public Health perspective. The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed not only racial and ethnic inequities in health outcomes and access to care that led to disproportionately high morbidity and mortality in communities of color, but also inequities exacerbated due to I/DD and other disabilities. While the DD system and community partners have rallied to meet the needs of individuals with I/DD and their families during the pandemic, there is a critical need to pool together and share pandemic takeaways, and to coordinate and develop successful innovations to increase the DD system's capacity for a rapid response to present and future health threats, e.g. due to climate change. USC UCEDD proposes to establish a sustainable **public health consortium of disability agencies** that consists of the 3 California UCEDDs (USC UCEDD, UCLA Tarjan Center, and UC Davis CEDD), DD state and federal partners, Self Advocate organizations, CBOs and FBOs, other disability rights and advocacy organizations, county and state public health departments, and healthcare organizations such as FQHCs. The consortium will invite the regional centers to join its efforts by authorizing attendance of cultural specialists, disparity committee chairs, and cultural services directors in activities as appropriate. Representatives of Association of Regional Center Agencies, Disability Rights California, and other partners have expressed commitment to participate. The consortium will build upon, integrate and expand the rapid response collaboration infrastructure that each organization has established for our COVID-19 related projects and initiatives. The consortium members will work on public health initiatives to address specific challenges facing individuals with disabilities in California across the lifespan. Consistent with the public health approach, our **target population** is the entire I/DD population served by the regional center system and other people with disabilities, and our **catchment area** is state-wide. The **project design** is informed by the public health model, an epidemiological model that aims to prevent or reduce illness and social problems in at-risk populations. We propose to increase service access and equity in developmental, generic, and school services as part of a larger public health initiative. We will focus on health promotion and disease prevention for individuals with I/DD who are at risk for conditions that tend to be undiagnosed or underdiagnosed in the I/DD population: e.g. diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and nonalcoholic fatty liver disease. As part of SAE efforts, the consortium members will work on increasing DD services access in coordination with healthcare and mental health access. Consortium taskforces will be formed to address the needs within the DD population: LGBTQIA+ persons; the homebound individuals and families; and the unhoused individuals and families.

Attachment:

[DDS CONSORTIUM LIST OF INITIATIVES_TO UPLOAD.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

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:

Data: 1) POS expenditures data for FY2020-2021 by race/ethnicity and language state-wide and by regional center show improvements. Statewide, Hispanic children ages 3-21 received 80% of the POS expenditures that White children received, an increase by 14% in two years. However, while disparity in per capita POS expenditures between Hispanic and White children ages 3 through 21 decreased statewide, it has persisted at most regional centers. SCLARC has shown the most improvement with more than double POS expenditures for Hispanic children in one year. **2) COVID-19 data for I/DD population.** We analyzed data collected for a) two ACL- funded and one CDPH-funded COVID-19 related projects; b) historical data reported by the DDS on case incidence and prevalence by race / ethnicity, age, gender, and residence type in the 21 regional centers' catchment areas; and c) data on COVID- 19 prevalence and vaccination rates by race / ethnicity, age, gender, and residence type from the California DPH and Los Angeles County DPH data on the general population. The I/DD population was less vaccinated and boosted than general population in many RC catchment areas; and the rates of vaccinated / boosted differed across RCs, ranging between 27% and 65%. **3) NCI data dashboard** for health conditions by RC shows large geographical and residence variation even with un-/ under-diagnosis.

Community Input: As evidenced by letters of support, we collected input from DD partner agencies and stakeholders.

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 project is unique because it proposes a systems-level change motivated by our collective experience and takeaways / lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic, at a moment in time when other priorities (e.g. flu season, MPX) are emerging. The project takes down barriers between DD organizations and community partners to establish a consortium of disability agencies that will come together to address the infrastructure/planning/and implementation of interventions to work on public health challenges facing individuals with I/DD and their families. Given our experiences with COVID-19, immunizations, and emergency response needs due to climate change / natural disasters / fires, there is a need to have a consortium of agencies working together in a coordinated way to tackle more public health challenges impacting I/DD population. The consortium will build upon and expand the collaboration infrastructure that each of our organizations have established for our COVID-19 related work. The consortium will work on public health initiatives to address the challenges facing individuals with disabilities in California (e.g. diabetes/ hypertension/ cancer screening/mental health screening /emergency preparedness/aging/ lack of access to care, etc.). These focus areas will cover most of the DDS SAE priorities. We will organize ourselves into smaller sub-groups / taskforces according to our organizational priorities, with wider outreach to our established and new community partners.

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:

We have identified at least 2 strategies to measurably improve equity, access and reduce barriers to services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families:

1) We will catalogue the successful strategies that we developed to combat COVID-19 pandemic and create step-wise written protocols with measurable outcomes, so these strategies can be tested and replicated. For example, for our homebound families COVID vaccination project, our community partners, RC leadership and our team developed a sequence of steps that resulted in successful vaccinations of 5 homebound families / 15 people on one day by two mobile medicine teams provided by our community partners, Kedren Community Health Center. Our measurable improvements will be project- / scenario - specific but each will be documented by a sharable protocol and measurement strategy. We will create a system by which members will document the use of shared protocols / measures so that all outcomes are pooled together for reporting. This will allow us to cross-reference the most successful approaches.

2) We will use the takeaways from the public health efforts in California and nation-wide to increase trust in DD system, partnering with nontraditional organizations (e.g. public libraries) and turning to novel mechanisms for outreach and combined DD services / healthcare delivery to address a wide range of healthcare needs, especially those associated with societal stigma such as substance use.

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:

USC UCEDD and our other UCEDD partners, and other consortium members are committed to supporting RC plans and to help identify novel strategies to reduce SAE disparities. Our UCEDD has worked closely with several RCs in Los Angeles County to promote equity in their catchment areas, and we look forward to working with all RCs as part of our consortium project. Our COVID takeaway in this area is that expanding the circle of collaboration and introducing our community partners to RCs has been a simple and effective strategy to support RCs in reducing SAE disparities. Community partners become trusted messengers of the DD service system, while the DD service system itself is learning from them how to better serve the historically under-resourced and marginalized communities.

Another effective strategy to support RCs' plans is to attend RCs' community roundtable meetings. Our UCEDD has been a partner on disparity committee initiatives, and we plan to continue this strategy as part of the consortium's work.

Finally, our project will create a collaborative space to which we will invite the RCs as partners. Because most of our organizational activities and events will be virtual, there will be no geographical barriers to attending.

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:

The schedule of activities reflects the goals of this project to create a coordination and collaboration infrastructure.

4/1/23 - 3/31/24 We start with recruitment and outreach, and continue recruiting new partners throughout the funding period. Activity 1.1 Recruitment, Outreach and Orientation will be measured by Measure 1.1 Number of consortium members; and 1.1 a - List of Consortium members

5/1/23 - 3/31/24 A major goal of our project is to collect the takeaways / lessons learned so that these valuable insights are preserved for follow-up and replication. Activity 2.1 Takeaways will be evaluated by Measure 2.1 List and descriptions of Takeaways

5/1/23 - 6/30/24 Focus Groups to identify priorities for Taskforces; Activity 3.1 / Measures 3.1.1 Number of Focus Groups, 3.1.1 Number of people attending Focus Groups 3.1.2; 3.1.3 Thematic analysis of Focus Groups transcripts

4/1/23 - 3/31/24 Taskforces formed and launched to address identified public health priorities; Activity 1.4; Measure 1.4.1 Taskforces focus areas - descriptions.

4/1/23 - 3/31/24 Developing performance metrics. Activity 1.5; Measure 1.5.1 List and description of performance metrics.

3/1/24 - 3/31/24 Recommendations to DDS; project successes and challenges; Activity 1.5. Measure 1.5.1 List and description of performance metrics.

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:

Most of the budget is allocated to hire a 50% Project Coordinator and to provide participation stipends / honoraria to community partners, self-advocates, and others who are not employed by our organizations, such as members of our respective CACs. Dr. Larry Yin will serve as PI at 5% and Dr. Olga Solomon will serve as program evaluator, at 10 %. Wesley Witherspoon will contribute 10% of his time to the project, leading all project activities that involve Self-Advocates organizations, and the Self-Advocates themselves. We request funding for 2 consultants with specific content area expertise: Abhinav Datti, who is a medical doctor from India, is completing his MPH at USC and will assist the consortium to involve MPH students from USC, UCLA, and UC Davis. Aziza Licas Wright has deep connections with Faith-Based Organizations and expertise in equitable engagement of FBOs in community-academic projects

The SCDD sub-contract is requested to make this effort balanced and attuned with the needs and priorities of Self-Advocates. A significant 'in-kind' federal funding contribution will cover Aaron Carruthers' FTE % and benefits necessary for his involvement on the project.

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 Introduction_USC UCEDD__DDS__DD Consortium__Proposal.pdf](#) - PDF FILE

[NLACRC Director Ruth Janka's e-mail.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:

Please see attached. We sent the proposal to all the RCs' contacts listed in Attachment F.

Please also see an e-mail from Amy Westling confirming interest to participate if the proposal is selected for funding.

Attachment:

[USC UCEDD DDS Consortium proposal List of RC contacts we sent proposal to.docx](#) - WORD DOCUMENT

[ARCA_Amy Westling_e-mail 101822_TO UPLOAD.docx](#) - WORD DOCUMENT

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
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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
