

Application Report



Applicant Organization: Kern Regional Center
Project Name: Indigenous People community connector.
Application ID: App-22-695
Funding Announcement: FY 22-23 Service Access and Equity Grant
Awarded Amount: \$250,000

Project Summary: This grant will create community resources and partnerships and help educate stakeholders, consumers, and families. The goal for this grant is to make connections and to be able to work closely with other agencies that work with minority groups, Native American, African Americans, and Hispanics in our community. The project will continue as we will have the funding to hire two nurses that can work closely with other nurses, doctors, hospitals, and clinics in the county and share information about the early start program and the Regional Center system.

Authorized Certifying Official: Karina Proffer Kproffer@kernrc.org -
Project Director/Manager: Karina Proffer Kproffer@kernrc.org -
Project Manager/Coordinator: Karina Proffer Kproffer@kernrc.org -

Section Name: Applicant Eligibility

Sub Section Name: Applicant Information

1. Applicant Question: Project Title

What is the Project Title?

Applicant Response:

Indigenous People Community Connector.

2. Applicant Question: Awarded Amount

What is the total amount awarded for the project?

Applicant Response:

\$250,000

3. Applicant Question: Organization Type

Choose the response that best describes your organization.

Applicant Response:

Regional Center (RC)

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:

The Kern Regional Center (KRC) was founded in 1971. Our mission is to support equality, independence, and opportunity. KRC coordinates resource and collaborates with other agencies to develop the best services for clients and their families. KRC values diversity respects individual rights and choices and is committed to excellence, honesty, and cost-effective service delivery. KRC respects support and cooperates with public and private agencies to carry out this mission. KRC's service areas include Kern, Mono, and Inyo counties. During fiscal year 2019/2020, KRC served over 10,487 clients across three counties. The main office is located in Bakersfield with outlining offices in Lamont, Delano, Tehachapi, Taft, Ridgecrest, and Bishop. [Kern Regional Center](#) | [Kern Regional Center \(kernrc.org\)](#)

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

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

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
21-22	Readiness toward future employment and independence		\$188.00
21-22	Language, Culture, and Community		\$380.44

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:

The projects for Language access and employment were approved a couple of months ago, and we are in the first stages of development.

Attachment:

[Previous Grant Outcomes Category 2 question 3 \(Indigenous People\).docx](#) - WORD DOCUMENT

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 Regional Center will expand the current project to add other minority groups if the grant is awarded. We are starting with the Native American community as we are not serving many individuals from the community who identify as Native American. In the future, we would like to add African Americans, Vietnamese, Indians, Filipinos, Arabic, and other minority groups. The activities would be to work alongside other agencies and hospitals and find opportunities to share information with the targeted groups. Nurses that will connect with families and work with community agencies, who can speak the lingo and is familiar with doctors and clinics in the county. The nurses will be considered a liaison between the Regional Center and the community, someone from the medical profession who will be able to communicate, cooperate with local agencies and closely work with them as well as make close relationships between our agency, community, and other organizations.

Attachment:

[Total Annual Expenditures and Authorized Services by Ethnicity .docx](#) - WORD DOCUMENT

[Kern County Population by Race .docx](#) - WORD DOCUMENT

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:

An effective method to indirectly and directly influence early childhood development (ECD) is through exposure prevention and education (Mikton, Macmillan, Dua, & Betancourt, 2014). Goals associated with education and prevention include reducing childhood mortality, preventing developmental delay, enhancing social capital, and improving gender relations. Nurses are uniquely positioned to meet these needs for Kern County children. A primary prevention intervention strategy in ECD is pre-primary education. Through traditional public education, children can demonstrate improved emotional literacy and coping skill development (Unwin, Kroese & Blumson, 2018). A study by Piper, Merseth, & Ngaruiya (2018) found that successful implementations of these types of educational programs must primarily focus on resource allocation. Nurses in leadership positions can address these needs by working closely with families, understanding and managing healthcare systems, providing information necessary to families, connecting with community resources, and providing change leadership. However, implementing change may take a lot of work for organizations that operate on a strict budget. Kern Regional Center is writing a grant proposal to secure the financial resources to hire a staff member that can connect with the Native American community and help make a difference and support the current efforts to increase the number of children in the early start program. The recent effort is to increase the number of Native American children and other minority groups in our area.

2. Applicant Question: Duration of project

Choose the duration of your project.

Applicant Response:

24 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:

- Kern 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:

- Kern 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:

This grant will create community resources and partnerships and help educate stakeholders, consumers, and families. The goal for this grant is to make connections and to be able to work closely with other agencies that work with minority groups in our community. The project will continue as we will have the funding to hire two nurses that can work closely with other nurses, doctors, hospitals, and clinics in the county and share information about the early start program and the Regional Center system. The nurses will provide feedback allowing the Regional Center to develop information for the community.

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:

- Native American
- Hispanic
- African American

Applicant Comment:

According to the Kern Regional POS data, these three groups are underserved by the Regional Center.

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)
Native American	80	English
African American	100	English
Hispanic/Latino	200	English and Spanish

3. Applicant Question: Age Group(s) Served

Select all Age Groups the project will serve.

Applicant Response:

- Birth up to Three (Early Start)

Attachment:

[Total Annual Expenditures and Authorized Services by Ethnicity .docx](#) - WORD DOCUMENT

Applicant Comment:

The Kern Regional Center data shows that these ages are underserved.

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 Kern Regional Center (KRC) was founded in 1971. Our mission is to support equality, independence, and opportunity. KRC coordinates resource and collaborates with other agencies to develop the best services for clients and their families. KRC values diversity respects individual rights and choices, and is committed to excellence, honesty, and cost-effective service delivery. KRC respects support and cooperates with public and private agencies to carry out this mission. KRC's service areas include Kern, Mono, and Inyo counties. The project will target the Kern County area, which includes Bakersfield, Lamont, Arvin, Delano, MacFarland, Shafter, Lost Hills, Buttonwillow, Wasco, and Ridgecrest. For this project, the target population is birth to three. It aims to increase the number of infants and toddlers of minority ethnic groups participating in the early start program while supporting DDS efforts in increasing equity amongst the minority groups.

The funding from the grant will allow KRC to hire or contract out one Native American/Alaska Native nurse working the frontlines within her community. Having a nurse that is Native American will facilitate making a connection with the Native people because they have a deeper understanding, respect, and appreciation for the lifeways of their people. Hire a Hispanic/Latina nurse who can act as a liaison between the Regional Center and the community. Someone who will connect with agencies that work with children, do home visits, and assist with intake/assessment. These two nurses will open the path to link with agencies such as Clinica Sierra Vista and the Bakersfield American Indian Health project.

Attachment:

[Category 4 \(Indigenous People Community Connector\).docx](#) - WORD DOCUMENT

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:

Understanding disparities in school readiness among America's children when they begin kindergarten is critically important, now more than ever. In today's 21st-century global economy, we expect most of our children to complete high school ready to enter college or begin a career and assume their civic responsibilities. This requires strong math, reading, science, and other cognitive skills and the ability to work well and communicate effectively with others, solve problems creatively, and see tasks to completion. Unfortunately, the weak early starts that many of our children are getting make it hard to attain these societal goals. Since key foundations for learning are established at birth, starting school behind makes it likely that early disadvantages will persist as children progress through school and into adulthood.

Research guides strategies to mitigate poverty-related early skills gaps. Some of these strategies include home visiting and other programs that help underprivileged parents support their children's development and access to quality care and prekindergarten.

Knowing which groups of children start school, how far behind they are, and what factors contribute to their lag can help us develop grants to avert the early gaps that become long-term problems. With the help of stakeholders' feedback and the purchase of services, data supports the development of grants that are much needed for Kern County.

Attachment:

[Total Annual Expenditures and Authorized Services by Ethnicity .docx](#) - WORD DOCUMENT

[Category 4 \(Indigenous People Community Connector\).docx](#) - WORD DOCUMENT

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 funding from the grant will allow KRC to hire or contract out one Native American/Alaska Native nurse working the frontlines within her community. Having a nurse that is Native American will facilitate making a connection with the Native people because they have a deeper understanding, respect, and appreciation for the lifeways of their people. Hire a Hispanic/Latina nurse who can act as a liaison between the Regional Center and the community. Someone who will connect with agencies that work with children, do home visits, and assist with intake/assessment. These two nurses will open the path to link with agencies such as Clinica Sierra Vista and the Bakersfield American Indian Health project.

Goal: to increase the number of infants and toddlers in the infant development program from the Native American and Hispanic Communities.

Strategies: hire two nurses who are part of the community as they first-hand understand the culture and needs and how to connect with other community members.

1. Summary of children per city, zip code, language spoken, and regional center catchment area.

The descriptive summary by UCI is per city, zip code, language, and ethnic group.

2. Nurses will report barriers that will help us find common themes and improve the system.

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:

This grant will create community resources and partnerships and help educate stakeholders, consumers, and families. The goal for this grant is to make connections and to be able to work closely with other agencies that work with minority groups in our community. The project will continue as we will have the funding to hire two nurses that can work closely with other nurses, doctors, hospitals, and clinics in the county and share information about the early start program and the Regional Center system. The nurses will provide feedback allowing the Regional Center to develop information for the community.

The funding from the grant will allow KRC to hire or contract out one Native American/Alaska Native nurse working the frontlines within her community. Having a nurse that is Native American will facilitate making a connection with the Native people because they have a deeper understanding, respect, and appreciation for the lifeways of their people. Hire a Hispanic/Latina nurse who can act as a liaison between the Regional Center and the community. Someone who will connect with agencies that work with children, do home visits, and assist with intake/assessment. These two nurses will open the path to link with agencies such as Clinica Sierra Vista and the Bakersfield American Indian Health project.

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:

KRC's service areas include Kern, Mono, and Inyo counties. The project will target the Kern County area, which includes Bakersfield, Lamont, Arvin, Delano, MacFarland, Shafter, Lost Hills, Buttonwillow, Wasco, and Ridgecrest. For this project, the target population is birth to three. It aims to increase the number of infants and toddlers of minority ethnic groups participating in the early start program while supporting DDS efforts in increasing equity amongst the minority groups.

Expanding access to care and education for disadvantaged families is essential, as research shows and provides guide strategies to mitigate poverty-related early skills gaps. Some of these strategies include home visiting and other programs that help underprivileged parents support their children's development and access to quality care and prekindergarten.

A substantial minority are so far behind that school success will be very hard. Given the large share of children entering our schools from disadvantaged contexts, these findings demand our urgent attention on both economic and moral grounds.

Attachment:

[Total Annual Expenditures and Authorized Services by Ethnicity .docx](#) - WORD DOCUMENT

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:

Measures will include Quantitative and Qualitative Methods. Using Quantitative data will help us identify if we have met the project objectives and activities. The qualitative data will help us create a story of how the project has impacted the families, the community, and the referral process. Count the number of referrals and the number of families that follow through with the process. Count the number of children by geographic and demographic data such as city, zip code, race/ethnicity, languages spoken, and catchment area will be measured. Data analysis of accumulated data from questionnaires will be conducted. A detailed summary with a thorough evaluation and training effectiveness will be provided. Stakeholder feedback will also be collected and analyzed.

Diversity and representation in any profession are significant in the nursing field. Having professionals who represent the communities they serve can make a big difference in obtaining services or not. Having a nurse that can relate to the families can go a long way toward strengthening communication efforts and promoting services that can be essential to the community. Additionally, culturally competent individuals can create an environment where prospective stakeholders won't experience fear or skepticism in reaching out for services. In terms of serving the Latino population in the U.S., much is needed and has far to go as it pertains to representation, inclusion, and culturally competent care.

Hire or contract out Native American/Alaska Native nurses working the frontlines within their own communities are more likely to make a difference in the health of Native people because they have a deeper understanding, respect, and appreciation for the lifeways of their people.

Hire a Hispanic/Latina nurse who can act as a liaison between the Regional Center and the community. Someone who will connect with agencies that work with children, do home visits, and assist with intake/assessment.

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 project template has been completed, and it is included. Each line item was created and walked through in conjunction with the project design. The Justification consists of a description of which primary activities the line budget item links to, the Year 1 and Year 2 total, and the cumulative total for the line item. All proposed expenditures relate to the project design and proposed outcomes; please see Budget Template Justification Section

Attachment:

[Budget Cost - Indigenous People Community Connector.xlsx](#) - EXCEL DOCUMENT

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

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:

NA

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
