

Continuation Grant Awards

Tab 5

Background:

Executive Summaries for two (2) current grant projects that are eligible for continuation funding are enclosed for consideration by the Committee. Note that grantee organizations names below are “hyperlinks” to summary information about each project on the TCDD website.

- A. [Helpful Interventions](#): *Gulf Coast of Texas African American Family Support Conference*
- B. [Texas Tech University](#): *Project SEARCH*

Important Terms:

Continuation Grant Awards: For each grant project funded by TCDD, the number of years of funding available (usually 3 to 5 years) is approved by the Council, but projects must reapply for funding each year.

Executive Committee

Agenda Item 8.

Expected Action:

The Executive Committee will review the information provided and consider approving funding for each continuation award.

Council

Agenda Item 12. B.

Expected Action:

The Council will receive a report on Executive Committee decisions.

**Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities
Executive Committee**

Date: 8/07/13

Review of Proposed Activities & Budget

ITEM: A

Grantee: **Helpful Interventions, Inc.**

Year: 2 of 3

Project Title: **Gulf Coast African American Family Support Conference (GCAAFSC)**

Project Location: **Houston**

Website: <http://gcaafsc.net/>

TCDD RFP Intent:

Primary Goal: To establish a sustainable Gulf Coast of Texas African American Family Support Conference (modeled on the Central Texas African American Family Support Conference) with the goals of strengthening family and individual awareness of available behavioral and physical health care services through culturally sensitive education, supports, and partnerships; reducing stigma, and eliminating health disparities.

Authorized Funding Increased (original): Yr 1: \$75,000 (\$35,000) Yr 2: \$75,000 (\$35,000) Yr 3: \$50,000 (\$15,000)

Expected Results: To become a sustainable network to unite the African American community in the Houston area. At least 200 participants will attend the GCAAFSC.

Project Goals and Accomplishments for Year 1:

Goal: To strengthen individual and family awareness of available behavioral and physical healthcare services.

Accomplishments per goal: Helpful Interventions, in collaboration with diverse community stakeholders, hosted a "Family Breakfast Summit" with keynote speaker Representative Garnett Coleman, District 147, Texas House of Representatives, in December 2012. The summit attracted 80 attendees, including 20 community-based agencies, social, health and faith based organizations, advocates, consumers and families. Participants shared their ideas on mental health issues, physical and spiritual health, as well as developmental disabilities and substance use. The satisfaction survey indicated 90%+ satisfaction of the event, and measured the attendee's interests and needs for the upcoming conference scheduled for November 1, 2013. The project will host a pre-conference August 14, 2013.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 2:

Goal 1: Same as above.

Objectives: 1) To integrate research, data, resources and practice to plan an annual conference in Houston, Texas; 2) 200 conference attendees will be able to express an overall increase in awareness about life wellness and risk factors; 3) Conference attendees will be able to identify a life and wellness factor to apply in practical life situations; 4) GCAAFSC promotion and outreach will be able to report a contrast in the conference attendance from 2011, 2013 and 2014; 5) and, Community Stakeholders will be able to engage in activities that support the sustainability of having an annual conference; 6) Community Stakeholders will be able to identify an activity to increase wellness and decrease overall health disparities among African Americans.

Staff Recommendations:

Public Policy Considerations: The conference will bring culturally appropriate awareness and foster commitment to addressing disproportionality and disparity in the Houston area African American community. By harnessing the power and influence of the community's natural supports and strengths, and providing a safe forum for real and difficult conversations, the conference has the potential to be the catalyst for the community to identify and support the use of already available resources and implement policy changes to increase service accessibility to those in need. The interest in the conference and the data yielded from the conference will give formal and informal community leaders the legitimacy and support they need to seek policy changes. **Grants Management Considerations:** Risk Assessment: Moderate Risk (awards within award); increased monitoring will be provided as a result of increased funding. TCDD staff frequently participate in PAC and committee meetings. **Staff Recommendations:** TCDD staff recommends continuation funding for this project with increased fiscal and programmatic monitoring.

Continuation Budget Detail Summary

	Federal	Match	Totals
Expended Year 1 (10 months) (Consultant: \$47,771)	\$75,000/ \$36,433	\$40,421/ \$22,763	\$115,421/ \$61,330
Amount requested for Year 2 budget:			
I. Personnel Services	0	0	0
II. Travel	1,127	522	1,649
III. Purchased Services (Consultant \$67,341)	67,341	30,557	97,898
IV. Property/Materials	2,100	175	22,276
V. Rental/Leasing	3,225	5,515	8,740
VI. Utilities	1,207	2,400	3,607
VII. Other	0	0	0
Budget period totals	\$75,000	\$39,169	\$114,169

**Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities
Executive Committee**

Date: 8/07/13

Review of Proposed Activities & Budget

ITEM: B

Grantee: Texas Tech University
Project Title: Project SEARCH
Project Location: Statewide

Year: 2 of 5

Website: www.projectsearch.us

TCDD RFP Intent:

The project intent is to provide support for school districts, businesses, and/or other entities who wish to contract with Project SEARCH®. Project SEARCH® is a business-led school-to-work transition model with demonstrated success in developing internships for student with developmental disabilities.

Authorized Funding: \$175,000 per year for up to five years.

Expected Results: TechWorks for Texas (TWT) will support the development of 10 newly certified Project SEARCH® sites in Texas by the end of year 4 of this grant.

Project Goals and Accomplishments for Year 1:

Goal: To select and develop the first cohort of 3-4 sites.

Accomplishments per goal:

Planning and preliminary project implementation activities took place in the first year, including conference calls with the Project SEARCH® national office and the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS). Communities for the first sites were selected: Lewisville, Garland, and Forth Worth. Training and technical assistance have been provided to the selected communities. A difficult negotiation process to contract with the Project SEARCH® national office was completed. All sites have developed their local teams, including school districts that provide a teacher and aide and DARS for a community rehabilitation provider (CRP) and job coach. All sites have arranged internships for 8-10 students each.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 2:

Goal: Same as above.

Objectives: 1) Develop the infrastructure and leadership team who will be responsible for the development and implementation of a strategic plan for TWT; 2) Develop a marketing plan; 3) Assist entities across the state indicating to establish a Project SEARCH® site to receive technical assistance and training; 4) Provide evaluative information on the implementation of Project SEARCH® in Texas community sites to TCDD, DARS, and other relevant stakeholders.

Staff Recommendations:

Public Policy Considerations: The grantee will summarize information about barriers and opportunities to employment for people with developmental disabilities that will help promote changes in state/federal laws or policies and regulations that are barriers. That information should be used to inform the Employment First Task Force formed as a result of SB 1226. The grantee might consider recommending participants – self-advocates, employment providers, and employers – for the stakeholder Employment First Task Force.

Grants Management Considerations: The grantee is not in compliance with TCDD policies regarding PAC meetings. The first PAC meeting was conducted in the third quarter.

Staff Recommendations: TCDD staff recommends continuation funding for this project with increased programmatic monitoring.

Continuation Budget Detail Summary			
	Federal	Match	Totals
Expended Year 1 (6 months) (Consultant: \$57,487)	\$174,854/ \$84,376	\$58,784/ \$23,840	\$233,638/ \$108,216
Amount requested for Year 2 budget:			
I. Personnel Services	91,649	0	91,649
II. Travel	19,153	0	19,153
III. Purchased Services (\$45,000 consultants)	45,200	0	45,200
IV. Property/Materials	1,198	0	1,198
V. Rental/Leasing	0	0	0
VI. Utilities	0	0	0
VII. Other (Indirect Costs)	17,466	58,751	76,217
Budget period totals	\$174,666	\$58,751	\$233,417