

Consideration of Continuation Grant Awards

Tab 6

Background:

Executive Summaries for three (3) current grant projects that are eligible for continuation funding are enclosed for consideration by the Committee (Items A-C). Grants monitoring strategies are noted under staff recommendations which follow the grants risk assessment report. Note that grantee organizations' names below are "hyperlinks" to summary information about each project on the TCDD website.

- A. [Epilepsy Foundation of Texas](#) – Health & Fitness
- B. [Imagine Enterprise](#) – Self Advocacy as Speakers
- C. [Region 17 Education Service Center](#) – Families in Schools

Grants Risk Assessment Report (found under Tab 3) – The Grants Risk Assessment Report enclosed summarizes the risk assessment matrix for consideration of grant awards and provides more detail about monitoring activities for all TCDD funded projects.

Important Terms:

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

Executive Committee

Agenda Item 9.

Expected Action:

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

Council

Agenda Item 11. B.

Expected Action:

The Council will receive a report on Executive Committee decisions.

**Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities`
Executive Committee**

Date: 5/7/14

Review of Proposed Activities & Budget

ITEM: A

Grantee: Epilepsy Foundation of Texas (EFTX)

Year: 3 of 5

Project Title: Health & Fitness – Get FIT (Fitness, Integration, Training) Texas

Project Location: Statewide rural communities

Website: <https://www.getfittexas.org>

TCDD RFP Intent:

The RFP intent is to demonstrate how appropriate supports may help people with developmental disabilities to participate in exercise and nutrition programs. Grantees are expected to demonstrate how to: 1) Provide *individualized*, inclusive recreational fitness programs to people with developmental disabilities to assist them to reach their goals in fitness, recreation, and overall wellness and 2) Provide training and/or technical assistance to enable service clubs and volunteer organizations to, if necessary, alter their culture and activities to support full and equal participation by people with developmental disabilities in a way that will promote participation in recreational programs based on interest and wellness goals.

Authorized Funding: TCDD has approved up to \$250,000 per year for up to five years project.

Expected Results: At least 2 sustainable programs will be created or modified to provide individualized community health and fitness programs/opportunities for people with developmental disabilities. Data will be collected on each project’s impact for at least 30 people per site.

Project Goals and Accomplishments for Years 1-2:

Goal 1: Implement a health and wellness curriculum and fitness program for individuals with developmental disabilities (DD) and epilepsy, as well as their caregivers.

Goal 2: The project will focus on the rural Texas communities of at least four geographic locations and include a minimum of 170 participants.

Accomplishments per goal:

A comprehensive, 12-week health and wellness program was created to improve the physical fitness, nutrition and healthy lifestyles of adults with DD and epilepsy and their caregivers. First year total enrollment was 88, which was expanded to 200 by the end of the second year. The development of an individualized Get FIT plan of action with “at home activities” was created and applied. The program served rural areas surrounding major cities including Austin, Dallas, Plano, Houston, and San Antonio.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 3:

Goal: Same as above.

Objectives: 1) Expand service demographic to individuals aged 10 years and older; 2) Serve a minimum of 250 individuals in Year 3; 3) Develop a Get FIT program that will work well for school programs; 4) Expand the project service area to rural communities in West Texas (Lubbock).

Council Considerations: Public Policy Considerations: Get FIT states a public policy goal to bring individuals with developmental disabilities to the table in developing and promoting opportunities in physical activity and health resources. By the end of the 2nd year 90% of Get FIT participants lost inches and increased endurance. Being physically fit impacts public policy by lessening the onset of conditions such as diabetes and reducing the demand on publicly funded health care and long term services and supports.

Grant Management Considerations: No concerns; extensive risk monitoring (amount, award-within-award).

Staff Recommendation: TCDD staff recommends Council to consider continued funding for this project.

Continuation Budget Detail Summary			
	Federal	Match	Totals
Expended Year 1 (Consultant: \$35,000)	\$249,538/\$249,538	\$80,848/\$81,869	\$330,386/\$331,407
Expended Year 2 (8 months)(Consultant: \$59,375)	\$249,750/\$129,319	\$83,624/\$63,285	\$333,375/\$192,604
Amount requested for Year 2 budget:			
I. Personnel services	165,347	66,697	\$232,044
II. Travel	7,392	0	7,392
III. Purchased services (\$62,000 consultants)	64,000	5,556	69,556
IV. Property/Materials	13,261	1,500	14,761
V. Rental/Leasing	0	11,251	11,251
VI. Utilities	0	0	0
VII. Other (Indirect Costs)	0	0	0
Budget period totals	\$250,000	\$85,004	\$335,004

**Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities`
Executive Committee**

Date: 5/7/14

Review of Proposed Activities & Budget

ITEM: B

Grantee: Imagine Enterprises
Project Title: Self-Advocates as Speakers
Project Location: Statewide

Year: 2 of 4

Website: www.imagineenterprises.org

TCDD RFP Intent: To develop a project that will support and promote a diverse pool of self-advocates who can present or serve as facilitators or mentors at in-state conferences or training events.

Authorized Funding: TCDD has approved up to \$125,000 per year for up to four years.

Expected Results: There will be an increase in the number of organizations that include self-advocates as speakers, facilitators, and mentors in conferences or trainings.

Project Goals and Accomplishments for Year 1:

Goal: Project Sharing Personal Experiences and Knowledge (SPEAK) will recruit, train and support at least 50 self-advocates from diverse backgrounds to deliver presentations in local and state venues where their message will have an impact.

Accomplishments per goal: Project SPEAK coordinated efforts with 3 organizations that will serve as training sites for participants; Created an info sheet and application for prospective participants; Distributed these materials to the various sites for recruitment of participants; A selection process for candidates was developed for local site use; Developed a curriculum that is used to conduct both a 3-day and 1-day follow up training; The project consultant and peer mentor play key roles in providing the trainings; 15 SPEAKers were recruited and trainings began in February, 2014; Self-Evaluations are provided to SPEAKers during the trainings in order to encourage reflection and the desire to improve; Evaluations will also be collected and used to assess the effectiveness of the trainings.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 2:

Goal: Same as above

Objectives: Implement the infrastructure plan for the Project SPEAK, including modifications of the curriculum for self-advocates, needed supports for project outcomes and sustainability; Develop and implement marketing strategies to: (a) promote Project SPEAK, (b) recruit candidates from self-advocate and advocacy groups, service providers, schools, or other organizations and agencies (c) promote self-advocates as speakers for conferences, and (d) position the project for sustainability; Develop three new Project SPEAK team sites to recruit five participants per site (15 new participants total per year), to train and sustain as speakers, facilitators or mentors by May 31, 2015; Coordinate each Project SPEAK team site to prepare and deliver a minimum of one presentation per member at in the local area and at least two state conferences by May 31, 2015.

Staff Recommendations:

Public Policy Considerations: Project Speak is supporting people to speak about how they choose to live their lives. Those trained will be able to provide living examples of self determination and leadership. These skills would be valuable to include in future self advocacy curricula to be used in the broader system of supports for persons with DD. Such training might be particularly important for persons who choose to participate on statewide boards, committees and councils. Persons with training in public speaking also might be ideal candidates to be invited to participate on statewide boards, committees and councils.

Grant Management Considerations: No concerns; considerable risk monitoring (awards within awards; award amount) **Staff Recommendations:** TCDD staff recommends Council to consider continued funding for this project.

Continuation Budget Detail Summary			
	Federal	Match	Totals
Expended Year 1 (8 months) (Consultant: \$25,974)	\$124,999/\$57,489	\$41,767/\$6,801	\$166,766/\$64,290
Amount requested for Year 3 budget:			
I. Personnel Services	80,846	12,653	93,499
II. Travel	5,868	1,200	7,068
III. Purchased Services (\$24,294 consultants)	38,250	22,120	60,370
IV. Property/Materials	36	2,700	2,736
V. Rental/Leasing	0	0	0
VI. Utilities	0	3,000	3,000
VII. Other (Indirect Costs)	0	0	0
Budget period totals	\$125,000	\$41,673	\$166,673

**Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities`
Executive Committee**

Date: 5/7/2014

Review of Proposed Activities & Budget

ITEM: C

Grantee: Region 17 Education Service Center

Year: 2 of 5

Project Title: Family Involvement in Schools

Project Location: Bailey, Lamb, Hale, Floyd, Motley, Cottle, Cochran, Hockley, Lubbock, Crosby, Dickens, King, Yoakum, Terry, Lynn, Garza, Kent, Gaines, Dawson, Borden **Website:** None

TCDD RFP Intent:

The intent of the Family Involvement in Schools proposal is for one project to recruit, engage, empower and support families of children with special needs attending schools in the Region 17 Educational Service Center (ESC) to become involved with their child's public school.

Authorized Funding: TCDD has approved up to \$300,000 for up to five years.

Expected Results: At least 2,220 parents or other family members (including fictive kin) who have children attending schools in the Region 17 ESC will be actively engaged in schools and other education-focused community collaborative efforts because they receive training and other necessary services to support that involvement.

Project Goals and Accomplishments for Year 1:

Goal: Build collaborations within ESC 17 to demonstrate ways to create measureable improvement in at least 2 identified indicators of educational success for students with developmental disabilities. The percentage of parents with a child receiving special education services who report that schools facilitated parent involvement will increase.

Objectives: 1) Provide training and coaching to support active engagement by at least 1 family member for every 4 students who have developmental disabilities in ESC 17; 2) Increase the number of home and school activities that participating districts provide to families of students with disabilities within the school year; 3) increase the attendance of parents/family members at ARD meetings; 4) increase the attendance of parents/family members at training and events; and 5) increase parents' level of satisfaction with the school environment, communication between parents and school and ARD/IEP participation

Accomplishments per goal:

A total of 4 school districts (Slaton, Roosevelt, Wilson and Southland ISD) were recruited to participate in training and coaching for Cohort 1. Slaton ISD hosted Conscious Discipline book study for parents at 3 out of 4 elementary campuses; ESC 17 supplied the resources. Wilson ISD hosted 2 parent activities, including a BLOCK Fest with 16 parents, 22 children and 5 staff in attendance. The Building Strong Families Conference, a collaboration of multiple community agencies, was held on October 24th, 2013. Parents from Slaton ISD and Roosevelt ISD attended the Inclusion Works Conference.

Proposed Goals and Objectives for Year 2:

Goal: Same as above.

Objectives: 1) Same; 2) Increase the number of home and school activities that participating districts provide to families of students with disabilities within the school year and to increase parents' level of satisfaction with the school environment and with communication between parents and schools; and 3) Increase parent/family members' attendance at trainings and events.

Council Considerations: Public Policy Considerations: Region 17's approach to increasing the attendance of family members of students with disabilities in school activities is to increase the quality of what the districts are already doing. The grantee offered a variety of trainings in Spanish (not just translated), including Spanish language tracks at the Building Strong Families Conference and BLOCKfest activities on campus. The grantee also hosted a "Poverty Simulation" for school personnel which resulted in teachers noting that it gave them insight into the daily lives of families. Families also report higher expectations for their children academically and professionally. Public policy staff will highlight successes and recommend similar approaches throughout Texas.

Grant Management Considerations: No concerns; extensive risk monitoring due to award amount and sub-awards.

Staff Recommendation: TCDD staff recommends continued funding for this project

Continuation Budget Detail Summary			
	Federal	Match	Totals
Expended Year 1 (9 months)(Consultant: \$95,500)	\$300,000/\$144,413	\$33,333/\$24,695	\$333,333/\$169,108
Amount requested for Year 2 budget:			
I. Personnel services	134,808	0	134,808
II. Travel	11,150	0	11,150
III. Purchased services (\$97,912 consultants)	119,062	12,758	131,820
IV. Property/Materials	17,296	6,235	23,531
V. Rental/Leasing	17,684	0	17,684
VI. Utilities	0	0	0
VII. Other (Indirect Costs)	0	14,340	14,340
Budget period totals	\$300,000	\$33,333	\$333,333