

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

DATE: May 20, 2021

TO: All Interested Parties

FROM: Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC) Community Service Division

RE: Request for the development of a Socialization Training Program for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

AWARDED TO PLUS ONE-CSU CHICO ON 6/7/21

Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC) is a private nonprofit organization under contract with the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS). FNRC is part of a statewide network of 21 Regional Centers responsible for the coordination and development of services to meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities in Shasta, Butte, Tehama, Siskiyou, Modoc, Trinity, Glenn, Lassen and Plumas Counties.

Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC) is seeking a provider to develop a social skills training program. The program must be evidence based. The desired outcome would be developing a series of trainings to enhance the individual's socialization skills where one can fully integrate in community activities and improve overall health. The program should provide opportunities for individuals to seek social interaction amongst peers in supportive integrated settings. The ideal program will provide services in the natural environment, but may offer some site-based activities consistent with best practice. Services and supports that focus on vocational training which can lead to competitive integrated employment would be included in the program development. Individuals identified for the program may have behavioral challenges, communication deficits, lacking proper socialization skills to participate in traditional day/work programs successfully, or having regression on learned social skills due to isolation and/or lack of contact with others.

The program must be able to provide individualized or small group training activities to consumers with a wide range of skill sets and cognitive abilities. Program should have sufficient qualified staff with knowledge of local resources and how to assist clients in accessing the community resources they need and desire. The new program should develop activities designed to build as much independence as is possible for each unique consumer. Goals and objectives should promote appropriate socialization opportunities, stimulate interest and pride in contributing to one's community, build skills essential to success in seeking and maintaining employment, support individuals in building community connections, and much more.

The program should have the capability to offer teaching activities and supports in a classroom environment. Supports may include the usage of technology to assist in communication and outreach to the community. Supports should include taking part in community activities that can be accessed by individuals to the same degree of access as individuals without a disability. The

program should support individuals in a wide variety of settings, including an individual's home, the community, as well as an integrated site. Supports can be offered full and part-time to meet the needs and choice of individual clients. Service hours can be flexible to facilitate consumer access to community and peer events and activities.

Start up funds are available for this project through the Community Placement Plan (CPP) up to \$100,000.00. Individuals referred to the program may require some type of behavioral or medical intervention support services. The program may need to address transportation and provide adequate staffing ratios for participants.

Prospective vendor must have experience in providing innovative services to individuals with Autism. The program will need to have sufficient number of competent trained staff who have experience and knowledge of working with individuals with Autism and can communicate clearly with consumers, families, professionals and members of the community. Preference will be given to the most qualified applicant who intends to seek additional training and consultation, and has a willingness to collaborate with FNRC in meeting each individual's support needs.

All interested parties are required to submit a proposal to FNRC. The proposal must include:

1. A cover page listing the applicant's name, address, phone number, name of person preparing the proposal if other than the applicant.
2. A description of applicant's education, experience related to the field of developmental disabilities and similar projects, and ability to complete the project.
3. Description of applicant's purpose/intention in operating the proposed service to be delivered, including meeting requirements for Home and Community –Based Services (HCBS)
4. Budget for start up cost, showing realistic costs of operating such program as required by this proposal.
5. A statement of applicant's goals and expected outcomes in providing client programming support services.
6. A description of how applicant will assess the level of support required to meet lifestyle preferences of the people served.
7. A statement of how applicant will plan for staff stability and training.
8. Information on how applicant deems relevant to issues of equity and diversity.

Please submit a hardcopy proposal, **the original plus five (5) copies**, to Far Northern Regional Center. All proposals received by the deadline will be reviewed and scored by evaluators selected by FNRC. Applicants who meet the proposal criteria may be invited to participate in an interview process.

Please submit proposals to:

Kao Saechao
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Far Northern Regional Center
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(530) 221-9546
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Deadline for submission of proposal.....May 31, 2021

*FNRC reserves the right to withdraw this Request for Proposal (RFP) at any time without prior notice. Furthermore, FNRC makes no representation that any agreement will be awarded to any applicant responding to this RFP. FNRC reserves the right to reject the proposal of any respondent who, in the opinion of FNRC, is not responsible or has previously failed to perform properly, or is not in a position to operation within the program design.