

## Request for Letters of Interest

**DATE:** October 31, 2022

**TO:** All Interested Parties

**FROM:** Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC) Community Services Division

**RE:** Vocational and Employment Services

Far Northern Regional Center (FNRC) is a private non-profit 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.

In early October, Far Northern Regional Center received notice from Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency, that they were beginning discussion with the Board of Supervisors (BOS) regarding ending their Opportunity Center (OC) vocational program. For nearly 60 years, the OC has provided employment training program for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Shasta County. These individuals perform paid work in a number of different work environments and at the same time learn the skills necessary to obtain competitive employment in the local community. Individuals are employed in a number of different work environments including assembly and packaging, as part of a crew providing services in the community (such as janitorial, grounds keeping, and motel housekeeping), and through individual job placement with local employers. Much of this work is done through contracts with entities such as Cal-Trans, the Bureau of Reclamation and the Department of Rehabilitation. In addition, the Opportunity Center provides a variety of support services to help the people they serve to secure and retain their jobs.

Shasta County is holding a series of meetings to gather community input regarding the potential closure of the OC. They will then report back their findings to the BOS who will make a final decision in December as to whether or not to close their program. On November 2, 2022 Shasta County will be holding a Stakeholder meeting for potential vendors from 10-12 at the OC (1265 Redwood Blvd.). At this meeting, they will be discussing their current programs and providing an overview of the contracts these programs serve. If you'd like to attend virtually, a GoToMeeting is available: <https://meet.goto.com/220413973> or by your phone. United States: [+1 \(408\) 650-3123](tel:+14086503123) Access Code: 220-413-973.

If the BOS does decide to close the Shasta County Opportunity Center, FNRC will begin the process of finding a new vendor or vendors to provide vocational and employment programs throughout Shasta County.

**FNRC is accepting Letters of Interest for the following Vocational and Employment services:**

**Description of Requested Services:** Vocational and employment services including assessment, training, education, job development and job coaching. Services are to take place in both group and individual placements in both supportive environments as well provided in supportive environments as well as within the community.

**Locations to be served:** Shasta County.

**Reimbursement:** Established rates will be set by DDS or FNRC, depending on the service code.

**Applicant Eligibility:** Must demonstrate previous experience in vocational rehabilitation; supported employment; job development; customized employment; individual job placement community based integration; job coaching; working with contract entities as well as the Department of Rehabilitation. Must have or be able to obtain CARF Accreditation. Must be, or have the ability to become, able to contract with AbilityOne/Federal Government through NISH.

**Application Process:** All interested parties shall complete a Letter of Interest with a resume and applicable license, certifications and/or credentials attached. Please submit application to:

Far Northern Regional Center

Attention: Cathy Tillman

P.O. Box 492418

Redding, CA 96049-2418

Email: [ctillman@farnorthernrc.org](mailto:ctillman@farnorthernrc.org)