

Special Edition

Austin, Texas

June 24, 1985

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF A CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

Joellen Simmons, Executive Director of the Texas Developmental Disabilities Program, has announced the availability of funds for grant projects to be awarded through the Texas Rehabilitation Commission, on behalf of the Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities, for fiscal year 1986. The goal of the grant program is to improve the statewide system of services for Texans with developmental disabilities.

**PRIORITY SERVICE AREAS**

Notices of grant awards for projects will be announced in January 1986 for budget periods to begin March 1, 1986. Funded projects will address the areas of Alternative Community Living Arrangement Services and Planning for Employment-Related Activities. All projects are highly competitive and focused to impact the service delivery system.

- Alternative Community Living Arrangement Services assist persons with developmental disabilities in maintaining independent living in the community, including necessary support services. Six new grants will be awarded in this area.
- Federal legislation requires the Developmental Disabilities Council to initiate employment-related activities beginning in fiscal year 1987. Employment-related activities will include a variety of services that will increase the independence, productivity or integration of persons with developmental disabilities into work settings. One planning grant will be available in this area.

**PROJECT ACTIVITIES TO BE FUNDED**

**Alternative Community Living Arrangement Services**

1. **Training for parents/family members and providers involved in providing services to persons with developmental disabilities** – A training project to produce a resource manual and provide training for families and providers of clients in need of or currently receiving services from the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation and/or the public education system.
2. **Incentive program for providers participating in the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation's (TDMHMR) model placements for persons with severe and multiple disabling conditions** – One service provider will be awarded grant funds for a pilot project to supplement TDMHMR funds for community services for persons with severe and multiple disabling conditions.
3. **Curriculum development for students in special education with severe developmental disabilities** – To produce, pilot test, evaluate, and disseminate a comprehensive educational curriculum for students, ages 0 - 22, in special education.
4. **Regional rehabilitation technology services for persons with developmental disabilities** – A demonstration project to enhance the independent functioning of individuals with developmental disabilities by providing coordinated services and information about currently available technology and resources.
5. **Independent evaluation of the development of the Texas community services system** – An impact, process and cost-effectiveness evaluation of community services received by clients in the Texas mental retardation system who are entering community-based residential and nonresidential programs.
6. **Training and services on behalf of adult offenders and probationers with developmental disabilities** – A project to train providers and to replicate, expand, and evaluate services to adult offenders and probationers with developmental disabilities in Texas.

**Planning for employment-related activities:**

**Employment-related activities planning study** – To produce a plan to incorporate the new developmental disabilities mandate of "employment-related activities" into the system of prevocational, vocational and employment services programs in Texas, and to regionally coordinate a system of services which enhance transitional services needed for employment of persons with developmental disabilities.



**WHO IS ELIGIBLE?**

Public agencies, private, nonprofit organizations, and institutions of higher education are eligible to apply for projects.

Projects must focus on issues involving persons with developmental disabilities. Developmental disabilities, as defined by P.L. 98-527, are severe, chronic mental and/or physical impairments which occur before the age of 22, are likely to continue indefinitely and limit three or more of the following life activities:

- Self-care
- Receptive and expressive language
- Learning
- Mobility
- Self-direction
- Capacity for independent living
- Economic self-sufficiency

Persons who have developmental disabilities require services which are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated.

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

Persons interested in submitting proposals must write to the Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities to request Application Kits and Requests for Proposals.

All proposals must address the activities outlined above. Unsolicited proposals for other activity areas will not be accepted for the fiscal year 1986.

**PLEASE NOTE: Continuation projects receiving Developmental Disabilities Funds DO NOT submit plans for continuation budget periods at this time, these projects will receive separate instructions from the program at a later date.**

Letters for Application Kits and Requests for Proposals should be sent to:

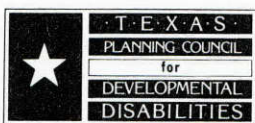
Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities  
 Attention: Robbie Davis, Planner  
 118 East Riverside Drive  
 Austin, Texas 78704

**Hand delivered proposals must be received by 5:00 p.m. on September 13, 1985, at Room 163, 118 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas. Proposals submitted by mail must be postmarked no later than September 13, 1985.**

**TEXAS REVIEW AND COMMENT SYSTEM (TRACS)**

In accordance with state regulations, applicants are required to submit completed proposals to the appropriate TRACS agency by **August 1, 1985**. A directory of regional and state TRACS offices is included in the application kit available from the Developmental Disabilities Program office. Applicants are encouraged to contact their regional TRACS office as early as possible for information and guidance.

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