



# Highlights

Special Edition

Austin, Texas

October 1990

## Announcement of Two Requests for Proposals: Community Connections and Personal Care Attendant Services

### 1. Community Connections

The Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities announces the availability of funds for agencies or organizations to provide people with developmental disabilities opportunities to become involved in the milieu of community life. The project(s) will provide coordination of efforts to recruit and develop individuals as volunteer "connectors" who will establish relationships with people with developmental disabilities and connect them with community activities of their choice.

### 2. Personal Care Attendant Services

The Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities also announces the availability of funds for four activities related to personal care attendant services (PCAS). These activities are:

- (a) a PCAS Planning Project to prepare a report on national methods, future demands and standards for training, certification, and liability (a 12-month project),
- (b) a PCAS College Program Model Project to develop an operational plan and demonstrate the feasibility of using college students to provide part-time temporary service,
- (c) a PCAS Employment/Supported Employment Model Project to develop an operational plan and demonstrate the feasibility of employing people with disabilities to provide personal care attendant services, and
- (d) a PCAS Innovative Approaches Project to develop an operational plan and demonstrate new methodologies for recruiting, training and retaining personal care attendants.

### Funding

The funds for these projects will be awarded by the Texas Rehabilitation Commission as the administrative state agency designee of the Council. Developmental Disabilities funds may not be used to pay wages of personal care attendants in any of the PCAS projects. An exception may be granted for the Innovative Approaches Project after the operational plan is completed and approved.

### Limitations

Agencies, except state agencies, that have a Texas Planning Council member as a member of their board of directors or an employee are not eligible applicants.

### Application Process

To receive an application packet containing the full requests for proposals, application forms and instructions, please submit a written request to:

David P. Henderson  
Texas Planning Council  
for Developmental Disabilities  
4900 North Lamar Blvd.  
Austin, Texas 78751-2316  
(512) 483-4084

### Deadline

Proposals will be accepted at the Texas Planning Council, 4900 North Lamar, Office #4141, 4th Floor, Austin, Texas until 5 p.m. on December 12, 1990.

This announcement was submitted for posting in the October 16, 1990 issue of the *Texas Register*.

## Definition of Developmental Disabilities

The Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act defines a developmental disability as:  
"A severe, chronic disability of a person which --

- (a) is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or a combination of mental and physical impairments;
- (b) is manifested before the person attains age twenty-two;
- (c) is likely to continue indefinitely;
- (d) results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity
  - self care,
  - receptive and expressive language,
  - learning,
  - mobility,
  - self-direction,
  - capacity for independent living, and
  - economic self-sufficiency; and
- (e) reflects the person's need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic care, treatment, or other services which are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated.

Examples of developmental disabilities include autism, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, mental retardation, deaf-blindness, chronic mental illness and various birth defects.

## The Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities

The Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities is a 28-member board whose mission is to plan and advocate for the independence, productivity and community integration of Texans with developmental disabilities by working to develop a comprehensive service delivery system in Texas. Council members include people with developmental disabilities and their parents or guardians, as appointed by the governor, as well as representatives from each major state agency that serves people with developmental disabilities. The Council also has a representative from the state's University Affiliated Program, The University of Texas at Austin; a representative from the state's protection and advocacy system, Advocacy, Inc.; and a representative from an institution of higher education.

Texas Planning Council  
for Developmental Disabilities  
4900 North Lamar Boulevard  
Austin, Texas 78751-2316

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