

# Highlights

Special Edition

Austin, Texas

April, 1988

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Roger A. Webb, executive director of the Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities, has announced the availability of developmental disabilities funds to be awarded through the Texas Rehabilitation Commission.

### Background

P.L. 100-146, the Developmental Disabilities Act, requires the Texas Planning Council to carry out various planning activities including analysis of services provided through state and federal programs, needs of unserved and underserved populations, consumer satisfaction and program outcomes. The Act requires the Texas Planning Council to prepare a report on its findings and recommendations for the Governor and the Texas Legislature, and also for the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services by January, 1990. Proposals for two studies are requested.

### Project A: Policy Analysis Study: Eligibility and Effectiveness of Services

The Act requires the Texas Planning Council to: ". . .conduct a comprehensive review and analysis of the eligibility for services provided, and the extent, scope and effectiveness of, services provided and functions performed by, all State agencies (including agencies which provide public assistance) which impact or which potentially impact on the ability of persons with developmental disabilities to achieve the goals of independence, productivity, and integration into the community, including persons with developmental disabilities attributable to physical impairment, mental impairment or a combination of physical and mental impairments."

This project will include an examination of eligibility criteria, extent and scope and effectiveness of service programs in Texas in promoting the independence, productivity and integration of people with developmental disabilities. The project will also include the compilation of information and trends in consumer concerns documented by the Texas protection and advocacy system under its programs.

The Developmental Disabilities Program will provide the grantee with the methodology to be used in the policy analysis study.

### Project B: Consumer Satisfaction Survey

The Act requires the Texas Planning Council to: ". . .conduct a review and analysis of the effectiveness of and consumer satisfaction with the functions performed by, and services provided and paid for from State and Federal funds by, each of the State agencies (including agencies providing public assistance) responsible for performing the functions for, and providing services to, all persons with developmental disabilities in the State. Such review and analysis shall be based on a survey of a representative sample of persons with developmental disabilities receiving services from each such agency and their families, if appropriate."

This project will complete a consumer satisfaction survey of people with developmental disabilities and their families. The project will include surveyor training, face-to-face interviews with a sample of individuals, analysis of results and a final report.

This announcement was submitted for posting in the *Texas Register* on April 1, 1988.

The Developmental Disabilities Program will provide the grantee with a national model for the survey methodology, copies of the "core" survey instrument, surveyor training and analysis of "core" survey results. The Developmental Disabilities Program and grantee will jointly develop any additional questions to the survey and analysis of those results.

**Application Process**

For information about the request for proposals and an application kit, contact:

David Henderson  
Texas Planning Council  
for Developmental Disabilities  
118 E. Riverside Drive  
Austin TX 78704  
(512) 445-8867

**Contract Limitations**

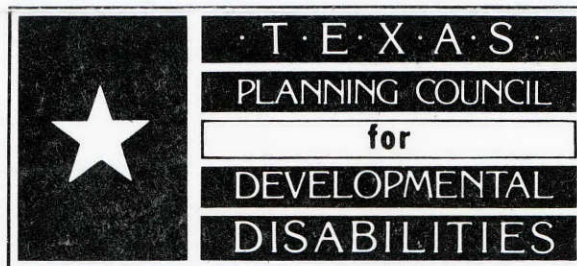
An applicant may apply for one or both projects . The period of funding each project will be from July 1, 1988—February 28, 1989. The total amount of the grant for Project A is estimated to be not more than \$50,000. The total amount for Project B is estimated to be not more than \$30,000.

**Deadline**

The closing date for receiving proposals is **May 16, 1988.**

**Evaluation and Selection**

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee and evaluated on the basis of the content of the proposal (narrative, methodology, budget, qualifications of the applicant) and submission of a bibliography or resume of prior work performed related to the activity area to be funded.



**Definition of Developmental Disabilities**

Developmental disabilities are severe, chronic disabilities that occur before the age of 22 and that substantially limit a person's participation in three or more of the following major life activities:

- self-care
- self-direction
- learning
- language
- mobility
- capacity for independent living
- economic self-sufficiency

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

**Texas Planning Council  
for Developmental Disabilities  
118 E. Riverside Dr.  
Austin, Texas 78704**

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