

CRDP FY 18/19 Proposed Projects

Proposed Project #1 Housing

1) Identification of Community Resources Need: Housing Development. The total grant request is \$500,000. The goal of the project will be to provide affordable housing options for individuals who receive RCRC services using the *Community Placement Plan Guidelines for Purchasing and Developing Permanent Housing*. Rural Communities Housing Development Corporation has proposed new construction of an affordable 40-unit housing complex in Mendocino County. In 2018 the **Fair Market Rent** for a two-bedroom home in Mendocino County is \$1,033 per month. This complex would be developed in accordance with Federal and State Housing laws that target individuals with developmental disabilities, senior households, and senior veterans. Ten of the 40 units (25%) will be set aside for use by RCRC clients only.

2) Results of outreach activities: Survey questionnaires for RCRC's Performance Plan Contract for Fiscal years 2017 and 2018 revealed that affordable housing is a major priority for families and clients of RCRC. In an already limited housing market the fires in Lake and Mendocino County have created that much more of a need. Additionally the *Portrait of Services Assessment* (July 2018) completed by the State Council of Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) and the Regional Advisory Council found the following information as reported by RCRC Clients, Family Advocates and SCDD staff: Openings for HUD housing are rare and many landlords will not take section 8 vouchers; Rising costs are making it tough to find accessible, affordable housing; There is a severe housing shortage in our region and the fires occurring over the last three years have only exacerbated the problem; and there have been multiple reports of people served by the Regional Center being placed in temporary housing situations, such as a hotel, due a shortage of housing.

3) Justification: As per The Community Health Improvement Plan's 2015 *Community Health Needs Assessment*, respondents cited the cost of housing as being a major barrier to meeting their family's needs in Mendocino County. Additionally, according to the Affordable Senior/Special Needs Housing Market Study conducted by Raney Planning and Management, Inc in July 2018 there is currently a demand for 123 units for persons with developmental disabilities with an income at or below 30% of the Area Median Income. The city of Ukiah and surrounding area has only 12 affordable multi-family housing complexes, which are currently 100% occupied and require a waitlist.

4) Track Progress: During the development phase RCRC will meet with the NPO monthly and offer technical assistance, as needed, to assure that the contractor is meeting development timelines and contract requirements. Once the project is completed RCRC will track the number of units occupied by RCRC clients on a quarterly basis in order to maintain full capacity of the allotted units.

Proposed Project #2 Person Centered Thinking Training

1) Identification of Community Resources Needed: Training/Consultation. The total grant request is \$50,000. The goal of this project will be twofold: first, offer Person Centered Thinking training for RCRC staff and service providers in both RCRC's Northern and Southern counties; and second, offer a trainer certification for up to 2 RCRC clients following *The Learning Community's* Trainer Credentialing process. Funds will be used for training costs and as a pathway for up to two selected clients of RCRC to become Person Centered Thinking Trainers.

2) Results of outreach activities: Survey questionnaires for RCRC's Performance Plan Contract for Fiscal year 2018 revealed that clients and families of RCRC would like more training opportunities regarding self-advocacy as related to educational services and abuse prevention. Additionally, findings from the *Portrait of Services Assessment* (July 2018) completed by the State Council of Developmental Disabilities and the Regional Advisory Council revealed the following: Documents and information produced should be in an accessible format, and that the service system should be a leader in accessible information in order to support self-advocates in leadership roles; Local People's First Chapters across the region have seen a decline in membership; and not all RCRC Service Coordinators understand how to implement self-advocacy and its role in service coordination for Self Determination. Service Coordinators report a need for training in order to help them gain the knowledge needed to support clients who desire this option.

3) Justification: This training is aligned with the CMS Final Rule. As per the Department of Health and Human Services CMS Fact Sheet (January 10, 2014): *CMS specifies that service planning for participants in Medicaid HCBS programs under section 1915(c) and 1915(i) of the Act must be developed through a person centered planning process that addresses health and long-term services and support needs in a manner that reflects individual preferences and goals. The rules require that the person-centered planning process is directed by the individual with long-term support needs, and may include a representative whom the individual has freely chosen and others chosen by the individual to contribute to the process. The rule describes the minimum requirements for person-centered plans developed through this process, including that the process results in a person-centered plan with individually identified goals and preferences. This planning process, and the resulting person-centered service plan, will assist the individual in achieving personally defined outcomes in the most integrated community setting, ensure delivery of services in a manner that reflects personal preferences and choices, and contribute to the assurance of health and welfare.*

4) Track Progress: During the development phase RCRC will meet with the contracted training agency and offer technical assistance as need to assure that the contractor is meeting development timelines and contract requirements. Once the project is completed, the selected trainers will provide RCRC with annual training data which will include information such as the number of trainings performed the name of attendees and number of participants trained. Surveys will be administered after trainings to determine the efficacy of material taught.