

AWARD LIST AND PROJECT SUMMARIES

On May 14, 2021, \$2 million of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), Governor’s Discretionary 15 percent funds were awarded to six organizations under the Disability Employment Accelerator (DEA) Year (PY) 2020-21 Solicitation for Proposals. Awardee project list and project summaries are listed below. Funding decisions are final.

PROJECT LIST

APPLICANT NAME	COUNTY	TOTAL AWARD
Able Disabled Advocacy, Inc.	San Diego	\$350,000
Mother Lode Job Training	Amador, Calaveras, Mariposa, and Tuolumne	\$350,000
Sacramento Employment and Training Agency	Sacramento	\$350,000
Workforce Development Board of Ventura County	Ventura	\$350,000
Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County	Tulare	\$250,000
Veterans & Youth Collaborative	Los Angeles	\$350,000
Total		\$2,000,000

PROJECT SUMMARIES

See pages 2-10.

Project Summaries

APPLICANT	Able-Disabled Advocacy, Inc. 4283 El Cajon Blvd., Suite 110 San Diego, CA 92105
CONTACT	Ms. Elaine Cooluris, Executive Director 1-619-231-5990 ada@able2work.org
AWARD	\$350,000
INDUSTRY FOCUS	Information technology and business services
TARGETED PARTICIPANTS	100 People with Disabilities, ages 18+
KEY PARTNERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• San Diego Workforce Partnership• EDD's Wagner-Peyser Program Central Office• KRA AJCC• Department of Rehabilitation• County Veterans Services Office• San Diego Vet Centers• San Diego Housing Commission• San Diego Veterans Council• California College San Diego• University of California San Diego/Extension• San Diego Unified School District's Transition Resources for Adult Community Education (TRACE) Program• San Diego City College• A-DA's Business Advisory Council• synED• ODME Solutions• Sentek Global• Apex• Mater Dei High School• Association of IT Professionals• Project Management Institute• San Diego Cyber Center of Excellence• San Diego Industry Liaison Group• South County and East County Economic Development Councils
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	A-DA, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization will fund a DEA project named TechWORKS that will serve 120 residents of San Diego County, CA in its entirety. The DEA services and training activities will be offered in a comprehensive and customized fashion to meet the unique needs of

each participant and to ensure occupational choice, program engagement, training completion, and employment. Program activities include ongoing vocational assessments and career counseling, computer and basic skills upgrading, disability training and benefits counseling, occupational skills training, work readiness/soft skills training, financial management, paid internships, job development and placement assistance, career advancement services, and extensive follow-up/retention services. The project will also provide reasonable accommodations, mental health and substance abuse counseling, housing assistance, support groups, and a wide range of other personal and professional support services which will be delivered using an intensive client-centered case management approach. To maximize leveraged sources, A-DA will co-enroll appropriate DEA participants into our Veterans Employment-Related Assistance Program, Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program, and YouthBuild programs. The project will provide industry-recognized credentials to include CompTIA A+, Network+, Security+, Microsoft Office Specialist, Cloud+, Server+, Linux+, CySA, and others.

**EXPECTED
OUTCOMES**

A total of 100 participants will be served. Of the 100 served, 72 (72%) will be Employed at the 2nd Quarter after Exit; 70 (70%) will be Employed at the 4th Quarter after Exit, and 72 (72%) will Attain a Credential. Median Earnings 2nd Quarter after Exit will be \$9,100. The Cost Per Participant Served is \$3,500 and the Cost Per Participant Trained and Placed is \$4,861.

APPLICANT	Mother Lode Job Training 197 Mono Way, Suite B Sonora, CA 95370
CONTACT	Ms. Emily Graham, Job Center Manager 1-209-536-4702 Egraham@mljt.org
AWARD	\$350,000
INDUSTRY FOCUS	Natural Resources, construction, and technology
TARGETED PARTICIPANTS	All Persons with Disabilities (PWD), including but not limited to intellectual, developmental, mental health, and Veterans with disabilities, low-income adults, dislocated workers, or youth.
KEY PARTNERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calaveras Public Utility District • Columbia College • Amador College Connect • Motherlode Educational Opportunity Center • Disability Resources and Independent Living • Mother Lode Regional Continuum of Care
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	Building on the success of previous projects, the Mother Lode Job Training project combines the needs of the region’s industries with the employment needs of Persons with Disabilities (PWD). This project will provide expanded remote access to career services, individualized services, training and work-based learning (WBL), and online skills attainment and training opportunities to PWD. This will be accomplished by partnering with already established programs at the region’s community colleges to improve skill levels for PWD, and with local organizations and businesses to provide WBL opportunities that are remote, hybrid, or in person, to meet the changed circumstances of employment during and after this pandemic.
EXPECTED OUTCOMES	Within the 24 months of the project, persons with disabilities in the region will have improved access to online and remote learning and work opportunities. Mother Lode Job Training will have the capacity to not only provide services remotely during the time of the grant but to sustain that capacity going forward. Key partnerships will be codified with other organizations and agencies, coordinating the best and most appropriate services for PWD without duplication. PWDs will attain the key skills needed in the pandemic and post-pandemic work environment, and the Natural Resources, Construction, and Technology industry sectors will be provided with employees and candidates that meet occupational qualifications. Additionally, PWDs will develop self-advocacy skills and receive equal opportunity employment education so they can meet the desired qualifications of employers, with or without reasonable accommodations.

APPLICANT	Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA) 925 Del Paso Blvd., Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95815
CONTACT	Ms. Michelle O’Camb, Manager of Workforce Development 1-916-263-3868 Michelle.OCamb@seta.net
AWARD	\$350,000
INDUSTRY FOCUS	Advanced manufacturing, clean energy, education, and knowledge creation, food and agriculture, information and communications technology (ICT), life sciences, health services, and construction.
TARGETED PARTICIPANTS	People with disabilities (PWDs) experiencing challenges and barriers to entering the labor force will be served under the proposed grant. This grant will place special emphasis on individuals with developmental disabilities, racial and ethnic minorities, low-income individuals, as well as those holding degrees or credentials having difficulty obtaining employment. Priority will be given to those most impacted by the pandemic.
KEY PARTNERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Folsom Cordova Community Partnership • California Workforce Association • Sacramento Works America’s Job Centers of California • Local EDD/Wagner-Peyser • Department of Rehabilitation • Alta Regional Center • Baivergent • Goodwill Industries • Blue Umbrella • SMUD • Meristem, Inc. • Los Rios Community College District • Sacramento City College Disability Student Program Services • Strategies to Empower People, Inc. (STEP) • NorCal Center on Deafness • Goodwill Sacramento Valley & Northern Nevada • Crossroads-a Pride Industries Organization
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	SETA will enroll 80 PWDs and provide access to services leading to high demand sectors through employer education and engagement, work-based learning, and a multi-disciplinary approach to job coaching and case management. SETA will conduct targeted outreach and recruitment

to the PWDs indicated above through direct outreach, as well as cross-system referrals with subcontractors under the grant, as well as community and regional partners, such as the Alta Regional Center, adult education, and the Los Rios Community College District. SETA will ensure social distancing and safety due to COVID as well as equal access to technology, WiF, and digital literacy. PWDs will be provided education, employment, and training assistance, including access to career pathway programs through short-term vocational training and earn and learn opportunities, such as On-the-Job Training (OJT) opportunities, paid internships, and work experience (WEX). SETA will subcontract with Folsom Cordova Community Partnership to serve 30 PWDs providing employment and training services, including OJTs, under this grant. Also, SETA will subcontract with CWA to assist with outreach to employers offering remote job opportunities, and introducing the benefits of work-based learning opportunities, such as Regional Center Paid Internship Programs, which will assist in addressing the partial economic lockdowns that continue under COVID-19.

**EXPECTED
OUTCOMES**

Employment in careers with job growth and advancement opportunities leading to social and income mobility is this proposed grant's overarching goal. Participant PWDs enrolled in SETA's DEA program will obtain the education, training, and workforce readiness skills needed to enter a career and advance along a pathway. As the grant period is limited to 24 months, long-term goals will be developed with each enrollee, and the map to advance and reach the top of their career pathway will be provided to ensure they are equipped with the knowledge to move forward on their journey.

APPLICANT	Workforce Development Board of Ventura County 2901 N. Ventura Road, 3rd Floor Ventura, CA 93036
CONTACT	Ms. Rebecca Evans, Director 805-289-8127 1-Rebecca.Evans@ventura.org
AWARD	\$350,000
INDUSTRY FOCUS	Healthcare, manufacturing, information technology, trade, transportation, and logistics
TARGETED PARTICIPANTS	Veterans with disabilities, people with mobility, physical impairments, developmental disabilities, and intellectual disabilities, and people with mental health disabilities.
KEY PARTNERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workforce Development Board of Ventura County’s America’s Job Center of California WIOA Title-I • Employment Development Department Disabled Veterans Outreach Program • Department of Rehabilitation • County of Ventura Behavioral Health • Ventura Adult and Continuing Education • Ventura County Community College District • Center for Employment Training • Goodwill Industries of Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties • PathPoint • The Arc of Ventura County • Human Solutions
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	The program will utilize Disability Program Navigators within Ventura County’s workforce system for local coordination, case management, and wrap-around services. The Navigators will conduct targeted outreach and increase access to workforce services; provide comprehensive career consulting, supportive services, and referrals to wrap-around services; partner across WIOA Titles to increase alignment/integration; evaluate current needs for training programs and refer participants to applicable training; work with staff to ensure they know how to tailor services for PWDs; cross-train staff and partners to ensure “no wrong door” access to services; improve skills outcomes for PWDs to ensure successful job placement and retention; enhance collaborations and partnerships with community-based organizations and regional entities for wrap-around services; increase the numbers of PWDs in career pathways, pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship, and other work-based learning models.

**EXPECTED
OUTCOMES**

A total of 120 participants will be served. Of the 120, 60 will be enrolled in worked-based learning. Twenty will be scheduled for completion of credentials. Sixty percent (60%) will enter employment in 2nd quarter after exit. Fifty-nine percent (59%) will enter employment in the 4th quarter after exit. Fifty-three percent (53%) will earn a credential. Median earnings in the 2nd quarter after exit will be \$5,500.00.

APPLICANT	Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County 309 West Main Street, Suite 120 Visalia, CA 93291
CONTACT	Mr. Adam Peck, Executive Director 1-559-713-5200 APeck@tularewib.org
AWARD	\$250,000
INDUSTRY FOCUS	Advanced Manufacturing, construction, energy, healthcare, transportation & logistics, and value-added agriculture
TARGETED PARTICIPANTS	People with Disabilities (PWD) ages 18 and over including; individuals with hearing and visual impairments, cognitive and sensory impairments, physical disabilities, learning disabilities, and mental health disabilities.
KEY PARTNERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tulare/Kern/Inyo/Mono Cluster of the Employment Development Departments • College of the Sequoias WorkAbility III Program • Porterville College's Disability Resource Center • Department of Rehabilitation • Tulare County Office of Education - A Ticket to Success • Visalia Adult School • Porterville Adult School • Community Services Employment Training • Tulare-Kings Healthcare Partnership • South Valley Industrial Collaborative
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	The Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County's Access to Careers and Employment (ACE) project will address the high level of unemployment and poverty faced by PWD in Tulare County and ultimately lead participants to career pathways in lasting employment. Participants will be provided with job readiness, job search assistance, job development, vocational training, and work-based training opportunities through virtual and/or in-person assistance following CDC COVID-19 safety guidelines. Employment will be in Tulare County's high-demand industry sectors and will be compensated at or above minimum wage for similar job duties, training, and experiences that employees without disabilities earn. An Integrated Resource Team will meet regularly to implement co-enrollment and co-case management strategies, align resources, share information, provide a network of supportive services, and assist participants to obtain and retain competitive integrated employment. The ACE project will offer virtual solutions to online training delivery by partnering with post-secondary education to limit participants' exposure to COVID-19.

**EXPECTED
OUTCOMES**

A total of 60 participants will be served, 19 participants will be enrolled in work-based training, 3 participants will be enrolled in training that leads to the attainment of a credential, 36 participants (60%) will be in unsubsidized employment during the 2nd quarter after exit, 36 participants (60%) will be in unsubsidized employment during the 4th quarter after exit, and \$4,400 will be the median earnings of participants in unsubsidized employment during the 2nd quarter after exit.

APPLICANT	Veterans & Youth Career Collaborative 4201 Long Beach Blvd., Ste., 304 Long Beach, CA 90807
CONTACT	Mr. Nelson A. Varas, Executive Director 1-626-506-5414 nvaras@vycareer.org
AWARD	\$350,000
INDUSTRY FOCUS	Educational services, professional and business services, information technology, logistics, and public security.
TARGETED PARTICIPANTS	All disabled adults and youth in the community.
KEY PARTNERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJJ-SE Work Source LA/Watts • Local EDD/Wagner-Peyser Program Operators • Southwest Training Corporation • Sentry Institue • ABCO Technology • West LA Work Source Center • Volunteers of America (VOA) Greater Los Angeles, CA
PROJECT DESCRIPTION	VYCC's project description can be described as a collaboration of work services provided by industry partners working together with the same vision and mission of removing barriers to permanent employment faced by disabled adults and youth in our community. The project will focus on recruitment, assessment, training, referral, job placement, and follow-up support for every disabled adult and youth displaced because of COVID-19 who is seeking employment.
EXPECTED OUTCOMES	VYCC's proposed outcomes are designed to meet or exceed program requirements. With the career services that VYCC offers and its collaboration with existing partnerships and industry organizations, the most challenging obstacles can be overcome, helping the disabled adult and youth we assist to lead productive and meaningful lives. A total of 120 disabled eligible adults and youth will be served; 85% will have significant employment barriers and 100% will be disabled. Approximately 85% are expected to secure and retain employment, with 85% expected to attain industry-recognized credentials and median earnings expected to be at least \$4,725.