

Vendor name & number	Expressive Learning Center - HF0155, River Vista Center - PF2106, New Expressions Center - PF2508
Primary regional center	Far Northern Regional Center
Service type(s) - code(s)	Adult Day Program & Support Group - 510, 55, & 110
Number of consumers currently serving	120
Please describe your person-centered approach ¹ in the concept development process; how did you involve the individuals for whom you provide services?	The initial approach started with a rough concept in mind based on an understanding of various needs, while incorporating concepts learned last year at the Northern California Learning Institute in which our organization participated in to gain a greater understanding of a person-centered approach. We then spent time with a number of our clients to discuss the person centered concept as well as learn more about the things they wish to do in the community, with an emphasis on learning more about the disparities they face with respect to community integration and how to overcome them. Our concept has significantly changed from the original rough concept after exploring the needs and desires of our clients in their efforts to become truly integrated into the community in which we live.
Does the concept address unmet service needs or service disparities? If so, how?	The concept now presented addresses many of the unmet service needs as well the disparities faced by our clients. While the concept is derived from a sample of the individuals we serve, we believe it encompasses a representative cross-section of the varying service needs our client base requires. More specifically, our concept addresses the needs of the non-ambulatory segment of our client base. Additionally, with input from these clients we strongly believe that our concept will service the needs of the majority of our clients moving forward into the future, and provide the base model for an entirely person centered organization that we have come to know from our time participating in the Learning Institute activities.
Barriers to compliance with the HCBS rules and/or project implementation	Reducing the disparities faced for true community integration for the individuals we serve are limited due to transportation, technological equipment, and staffing needs. The current format of the programs does not provide the resources, specifically dedicated time, and training needed to begin the process of moving towards an organization that is completely person centered. Some of these barriers include the knowledge of the process to locate community events, as well as supports needed to feel safe with respect to their health and welfare when participating in community events. These barriers are more amplified for our non-ambulatory clients as our

¹ A person-centered approach emphasizes what is important to the individual who receives services and focuses on personal preferences, satisfaction, and choice of supports in accessing the full benefits of community living. For more information regarding person-centered practices, please visit <http://www.nasddds.org/resource-library/person-centered-practices/>

	<p>current resources do not allow us to properly serve these individuals in a timely manner that starts with the current transportation available in our area, which creates an even greater disparity for this segment of our population.</p>
<p>Narrative/description of the project. Identify which HCBS federal requirements are currently out of compliance; include justification for funding request</p>	<p>While we have already begun work on becoming compliant with Federal Requirements 1 through 5 based on our time with the Learning Institute, the barriers we face due to a lack of resources still cause us to be out of compliance in portions of each requirement. In order to begin to facilitate a setting that is integrated in the greater community and include opportunities for participation as well as address individual initiative and independence in life choices, including opportunities to seek employment in competitive integrated settings, it is proposed to develop a new position, transportation, and technological equipment to be utilized strictly within the program setting for facilitating and enhancing the person centered approach and community integration ideals.</p> <p>It is with this goal in mind we are requesting funding to hire and train one individual whose focus will be 100% devoted to person centered training and support services for both our clients and current staff who are split between three different locations. This person will be trained in person centered planning requirements and the intent of the HCBS federal requirements and tasked with ensuring our organization's compliance with Requirements 1 thru 5 as we move forward. The current makeup of our program's staffing ratios do not allow us to have any one individual support all three centers without being specifically attached to any one of them in the current ratios. Funding for a dedicated Person Centered Planning Coordinator for one year will allow us to develop a current staff member at each location to serve as a daily resource while the coordinator is spending time at one of the other locations, also allowing the opportunity for increased work hours for the staff chosen. This will allow us time to develop more person centered knowledgeable staff members as our concept grows. Our belief is that this concept will grow quickly and at the end of one year the coordinator position will more than justify itself, and we will have a need for a coordinator at each location. At a minimum, this individual will continue their employment with our organization as we are committed to this concept and through normal attrition, plus some internal reorganization, we have a plan in place that will allow for no jobs to be lost, while creating the opportunity for new positions. The coordinator will also work with all locations to match clients of similar interests and goals in order to fully utilize the resources available as well as provide proper scheduling of both themselves and other staff members to provide services and supports not only during traditional day program work hours, but those hours and days that are not part of the normal day program setting, in order to truly provide planning and choice to the individuals we serve. Additionally, our coordinator</p>

	<p>will work closely with staff and management to place more emphasis on meeting the deficiencies of Federal Requirements #4 and #5 and be tasked with ensuring that daily activities are based on the individual's needs and preferences are being met. This component will also include life skill training to those who desire it, as being comfortable and prepared to participate in a community integrated event was identified as a barrier for some. Lastly, our coordinator will initially be primarily responsible for scheduling and transporting our non-ambulatory clients in the specially equipped van that we are also requesting as part of this concept, as well as providing assistance and educational supports for our clients to fully use the technology equipment also being requested.</p> <p>The procurement of a van that provides wheelchair accessibility and transportation is critical to our compliance with the Requirements as roughly 30 of the individuals we serve are non-ambulatory. This vehicle will enhance the vehicles already being used, of which none are able to transport our individuals in regular and power wheelchairs. Too many times, these individuals have been unable to participate in events and outings due to a lack of transportation. In reality, we believe one such vehicle is not enough to implement our concept, and to that end we intend to participate by obtaining a similar vehicle to support our non-ambulatory clients. The addition of technological equipment to add, upgrade, and replace outdated equipment currently owned by our organization is a component of our concept that was initially not included. It was only in our discussions with the clients we serve that a need for research, teaching, and training supports arose. In working with our clients of how they would find out more about things they are interested in our community, as well as the ability to reach out and communicate with community organizations and events, it became obvious that the resources we currently possess are inadequate to serve the needs of our clients. The addition of five Chromebook type computers per location, as well as dedicated telephone equipment, would allow the individuals we serve along with our person centered planning coordinator the ability to reach out, communicate, and reduce the disparities that exist in becoming integrated into our community. This equipment will allow us to become compliant with respect to Federal Requirements #3 and #4.</p>
<p>Estimated budget; identify all major costs and benchmarks — attachments are acceptable</p>	<p>Commercial van with non-hydraulic lift: \$50,000 Insurance, maintenance, and fuel for one year: \$8,000 15 Chromebook computers & accessories: \$6,750 3 Two-line telephone systems & installation: \$1,500 1 Coordinator Staff Position @\$13 per hour for 1 year: \$36,700</p>
<p>Requested funding for 2017-18</p>	<p>\$102,950</p>
<p>Estimated timeline for the project</p>	<p>6 months from time approval to train and integrate into the existing day program settings</p>