

**Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Rules
CONCEPT FORM**

Enclosure C

Vendor name	Ability Now Bay Area, Inc. (ANBA)
Vendor number(s)	H04568
Primary regional center	Regional Center of the East Bay
Service type(s)	Adult Development Center
Service code(s)	510
Number of consumers currently serving	79
Please describe your person-centered approach ¹ in the concept development process; how did you involve the individuals for whom you provide services?	At Ability Now Bay Area currently, families/caregivers and Regional Center staff (IPP team) meet to determine goals and objectives through the purchase of selected services and supports. Individuals agree to receive services with regards to their plan, the site, and types of services. Individuals have personal choice with respect to class selections, interest in self-employment, and/or community access. Additionally, they identify immediate and long-term needs and develop appropriate options. Throughout the development of this concept, individuals were surveyed on their wishes, preferences and suggestions about programming. It became evident that Ability Now could be more successful with person-centered planning with the addition of a staff person with family counseling training to facilitate individual, person-centered and Futures Planning for our consumers. These services could also be vendored for others not served by Ability Now in the catchment area.
Does the concept address unmet service needs or service disparities? If so, how?	The concept proposal would address unmet service needs as the addition of a person-centered planner would more deeply explore individual preferences, interests, and needs and ask what an individual wants versus what we can do for them. Service disparities would also be identified through the person-centered planning process. Futures planning would be provided and it would allow for a number of needs that would have otherwise remained unmet to be addressed as individuals and families age and needs change.
Barriers to compliance with the HCBS rules and/or project implementation	Program funding is a barrier to compliance in implementing a fully integrated community program in lieu of onsite services and implementing person-centered planning.
Narrative/description of the project. Identify which HCBS federal requirements are currently out of compliance; include	Ability Now is currently out of compliance with Federal Requirement #1 regarding access to competitive integrated settings. ANBA is also out of compliance with Federal Requirement #2 with respect to Person-Centered Planning. ANBA proposes the expansion of our Community Integration Program to address Federal Requirement #1. If individuals choose,

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.nasdds.org/resource-library/person-centered-practices/>

justification for funding request	<p>they could spend time in the community to focus on the development and practice of independent living skills, socialize, and explore competitive integrated employment. The current Community Integration program provides our participants the opportunity to go into the community on a limited basis. However, these outings are objective-based and individualized for each person with an emphasis on things such as money management, accessing community resources, transportation and communication and do not meet the compliance requirements. To support ANBA participants to integrate into the community per their request and meet HCBS compliance requirements, our Community Integration Program will integrate the classroom and expand individual trips into the community. Class choice and individual activities are selected by the individual. For example, our Independent Living skills class may offer participants options to tour apartments and housing, giving them the opportunity to ask questions of landlords that are applicable to their needs as well as understand budgeting, leases, and renters' rights. Or a Global Ecology class may visit the Marine Mammal Center or a local farm to study different animals and their environments, ecology, and how nature is affected by the actions of humans and natural events, such as droughts.</p> <p>Many of our participants have expressed the desire to socialize with others outside of ANBA and in broadening their opportunities to date. As part of our Social Activities/Socialization – Body Language in Social Settings class, individuals would go to social mixers and other social activities that provide the opportunity to meet and socialize with others.</p> <p><u>Need for Financial Support</u></p> <p>As these outings will occur throughout the Bay Area, having safe, comfortable, accessible vehicles that can transport participants is critical for the success of the program. However, vehicles that ANBA currently own are over 20 years old, break down frequently, and are not properly equipped for people with physical disabilities. Please note we support more than 70 individuals who use wheelchairs. In order for the program to be successful, we would need three new accessible vans. Additional costs would including creating van storage, insurance, maintenance and repair, and Vehicles for Developmentally Disabled Persons (VDDP) certificates for 6 drivers. Ability Now would also need to hire 2 additional staff to assist in the Community Integration program as well as cover the expenses related to outing costs, hygiene and emergency supplies, and administrative costs. At the current reimbursement rate, ANBA is not in a financial position to expand the Community Integration Program to meet the HCBS requirements. With additional funding that would cover the costs to implement the program, we would be able to</p>
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	<p>create a fully integrated learning experience, increase the number of hours of community access, increase personal choice, self-sufficiency, autonomy, and independent living skills for participants and thus meet HCBS Federal Requirement #1.</p> <p>ANBA also proposes hiring a Person-Center Planner on staff and accessing training on Person Centered Thinking to address Federal Requirement #2. The Lanterman Act emphasizes the importance of person-centered planning for individual consumers. Currently, families/caregivers and Regional Center staff (IPP team) meet to determine goals and objectives through the purchase of selected services and supports. Additionally, they identify immediate and long-term needs and develop appropriate options. This process often triggers issues within the family requiring the assistance of a trained counselor. The overall process mirrors much that is involved in Futures Planning. There is a growing demographic of aging consumers and their caregivers, facing issues such as declining health, retirement and changing roles within the family. A Futures Plan details the needs and wants of the consumer and current caregiver and identifies the future primary caregiver. Research shows that absent advance planning, consumers often face disruptive transitions, when aging caregivers can no longer provide support. This can increase the prospect of emergency placement, which may result in the consumer being placed in an inappropriate setting with inadequate financial and legal safeguards. Additionally, lack of planning impacts unprepared siblings, relatives and the Regional Center. We see the need for a staff person with family counseling training to facilitate individual, person-centered and Futures Planning for our consumers. These services could also be vendored for others not served by Ability Now in the catchment area.</p> <p>With additional funding that would cover the costs to provide Person-Centered Thinking Training and hire a Person-Centered Planner, we would be able to ensure that individuals are always being asked what is important to them and thus meet HCBS Federal Requirement #2.</p>
<p>Estimated budget; identify all major costs and benchmarks — attachments are acceptable</p>	<p>Please see attached estimated budget/summary of costs for 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020. The 2017-2018 costs reflect our requested funding for this fiscal year. Additional fiscal years are listed in the attached summary.</p>
<p>Requested funding for 2017-18</p>	<p>\$313,000 for fiscal year 2017-2018. Costs of primary importance include the purchase of vans, fencing, and training and hiring of a person-centered planner.</p>
<p>Estimated timeline for the project</p>	<p>Fiscal year 2019-2020</p>

**ABILITY NOW BAY AREA
COMMUNITY INTEGRATION AND PERSON CENTERED PLANNING
SUMMARY OF COSTS**

HCBS Req #1	2017 - 2018	2018 - 2019	2019 - 2020	Total
	1 Van	3 Vans	3 Vans	
Vans (a)	\$90,520			\$90,520
Fencing To House Vans	\$25,000			\$25,000
Staff Cost	\$99,800	\$133,000	\$135,700	\$368,500
Administrative Staff Cost	\$8,000	\$8,100	\$8,300	\$24,400
Insurance	\$1,479	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$13,479
Annual License Registration	\$216	\$5,010	\$5,010	\$10,236
Outings	\$3,600	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$18,600
Gasoline (b)/(c)	\$4,680	\$28,080	\$28,080	\$60,840
Maintenance & Repair	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$5,500
Cell Phones (d)	\$800	\$1,600		\$2,400
Cell Phones Service Plans (d)	\$960	\$2,880	\$2,880	\$6,720
Supplies	\$100	\$300	\$300	\$700
Other Small Equipment	\$100	\$300	\$300	\$700
VDDP Certificates (e)	\$114	\$114	\$114	\$342
VDDP Physicals	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$600
Other	\$273	\$700	\$700	\$1,673
Total HCBS Req #1	\$236,842	\$195,784	\$197,584	\$630,210
HCBS Req #2				
Person Centered Thinking Training (f)	\$1,100	\$0	\$0	\$1,100
Training Materials (g)	\$50	\$0	\$0	\$50
Person-Centered Planner Staff Cost (h)	\$75,000	\$76,500	\$78,030	\$229,530
Total HCBS Req #2	\$76,150	\$76,500	\$78,030	\$230,680
GRAND TOTAL	\$312,992	\$272,284	\$275,614	\$860,890
Round To	\$313,000	\$272,300	\$275,600	\$860,900

(a) Assumes 2 Additional Vans Purchased By September 2018/Only 1 Van For 2017-2018 Operating Costs

(b) \$90 Per Week

(c) \$90 x 2 Times Per Week Per Van

(d) 2 Phones Per Van + \$40/month Per Phone For Service Plans

(e) 2 In 2017-2018/2 Additional In Each Following Year

(f) PHP 2-day, 12 hour training for 10 people

(g) training materials, 10 people @\$5each

(h) 60k salary plus 25% benefit load with 2% Increase annually