

**Approval of Community Rehabilitation Programs
to Participate in the Purchasing from People with Disabilities Program
Discussion Paper**

Background

Texas Human Resources Code §122.013 requires the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to establish rules for the certification of Community Rehabilitation Programs (CRPs) to participate in the Purchasing from People with Disabilities (PPD) program. Title 40, Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Part 20, Chapter 806, Purchases of Products and Services from People with Disabilities §806.41, establishes the requirements for program participation and for maintaining compliance once a CRP has been certified. To continue participating in the program, a CRP must reapply every three years before its certification expiration date. PPD staff reviews each completed application and all required documentation. Once the materials are deemed acceptable, staff presents the application to TWC's three-member Commission for approval.

Issue

PPD staff reviewed the applications of one new CRP seeking first-time certification and seven CRPs seeking to continue in the program through recertification. All CRPs will pay minimum wage or higher.

New Certification

1. InspiriTec, Inc. (Killeen)

- Current PPD contracts: None
- Services to be offered: Call center services

Recertifications

1. A Brother's Keeper (Arlington)

- Services: Grounds maintenance, litter cleanup, janitorial
- Products: N/A
- Number of employees on PPD contracts for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025: 28
- Wages and benefits: Averaging \$16.59 per hour
- Original certification date: June 2020
- Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for FY 2025: 2
- State Unemployment Insurance (UI) tax status: Current

2. Heart of Texas Goodwill (Waco)

- Services: Temp services, janitorial
- Products: N/A
- Number of employees on PPD contracts for FY 2025: 30
- Wages and benefits: Averaging \$26.21 per hour
- Original certification date: April 2011
- Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for FY 2025: 0
- State UI tax status: Current

1 **3. HIP Healthy Innovative Processes (San Antonio)**

- 2 • Services: N/A
- 3 • Products: School supplies, backpacks
- 4 • Number of employees on PPD contracts for FY 2025: 0
- 5 • Wages and benefits: N/A
- 6 • Original certification date: June 2020
- 7 • Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for FY 2025: 0
- 8 • State UI tax status: Current

9 **4. Oak Creek Day Habilitation/Vocational Center (Lufkin)**

- 10 • Services: Litter, grounds maintenance, janitorial
- 11 • Products: Protective gear
- 12 • Number of employees on PPD contracts for FY 2025: 28
- 13 • Wages and benefits: Averaging \$7.80 per hour
- 14 • Original certification date: September 2003
- 15 • Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for FY 2025: 0
- 16 • State UI tax status: Current

17 **5. Vocational Opportunities Center Northeast Texas (Mount Pleasant)**

- 18 • Services: Roadside litter pickup
- 19 • Products: N/A
- 20 • Number of employees on PPD contracts for FY 2025: 9
- 21 • Wages and benefits: Averaging \$8.73 per hour
- 22 • Original certification date: March 2017
- 23 • Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for FY 2025: 0
- 24 • State UI tax status: Current

25 **6. Work Services Corporation (Wichita Falls)**

- 26 • Services: Linen folding, rest area maintenance, litter pickup
- 27 • Products: Paper clips, wood tent poles, safety ribbons
- 28 • Number of employees on PPD contracts for FY 2025: 117
- 29 • Wages and benefits: Averaging \$14.70 per hour
- 30 • Original certification date: September 2003
- 31 • Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for FY 2025: 0
- 32 • State UI tax status: Current
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34 **7. Austin State Supported Living Center (Austin)**

- 35 • Services: N/A
- 36 • Products: Toothbrushes, CDRs, CDRWs, Back Up Horns
- 37 • Number of employees on PPD contracts for FY 2025: 53
- 38 • Wages and benefits: Averaging \$7.20 per hour
- 39 • Original certification date: September 2003
- 40 • Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for FY 2025: 1
- 41 • State UI tax status: Current

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2 **Recommendation**

3 Staff recommends certifying one new CRP and recertifying seven existing CRPs for participation
4 in the PPD program.