

**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 rule §806.41 establishes requirements for participation in the program and subsequent adherence to those requirements once a CRP has been certified. A CRP must reapply every three years before the expiration date listed on its certification to continue participating in the program. PPD program staff reviews each completed application and all required documentation, and, once the materials are deemed acceptable, staff presents the application to TWC's three-member Commission for approval.

Issue

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

New Certifications

1. Hild Foundation Corp. (Texas City)

- No current contracts
- Services to be offered: Lot maintenance
- Products: N/A

2. Veterans Advocates Services and Training (Houston)

- No current contracts
- Services to be offered: Document shredding, garage cleaning, and call center services
- Products: N/A

Recertifications

1. Goodwill Industries of San Antonio (San Antonio)

- Services: Temp services, administrative services
- Products: N/A
- Cumulative number of employees on PPD contracts in Fiscal Year 2024 (FY 2024): 3
- Wages and benefits: Averaging \$26.96 per hour
- Certification date: September 2013
- Cumulative competitive employment positions for FY prior to application: 0
- The CRP is current on state unemployment insurance taxes.

1
2 **2. On Our Own Services, Inc. (Houston)**

- 3 • Services: Janitorial services, grounds and facility maintenance
4 • Products: N/A
5 • Cumulative number of employees on PPD contracts in FY 2024: 221
6 • Wages and benefits: Averaging \$14.91 per hour
7 • Certification date: September 2003
8 • Cumulative competitive employment positions for FY prior to application: 26
9 • The CRP is current on state unemployment insurance taxes.

10
11 **3. The EB Foundation (Corpus Christi)**

- 12 • Services: Temp services
13 • Products: N/A
14 • Cumulative number of employees on PPD contracts in FY 2024: 16
15 • Wages and benefits: Averaging \$10.95 per hour
16 • Certification date: September 2010
17 • Cumulative competitive employment positions for FY prior to application: 0
18 • The CRP is current on state unemployment insurance taxes.

19 **Recommendation**

20 Staff recommends certifying two new CRPs and recertifying three existing CRPs for
21 participation in the PPD program.