

**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 five CRPs seeking to continue in the program through recertification. All CRPs pay minimum wage or higher.

Recertifications

1. Camp County Developmentally Disabled Association, Inc. (Pittsburg)

- Services: Litter pickup, grounds maintenance, janitorial
- Products: N/A
- Number of employees on PPD contracts for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025: 33
- Wages and benefits paid September 2024–August 2025: Averaging \$10.57 per hour
- Original certification date: September 2003
- Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for FY 2025: 0
- State Unemployment Insurance (UI) tax status: Current

2. Goodwill Industries of Central East Texas, Inc. (Lufkin)

- Services: Temporary employee services, janitorial
- Products: N/A
- Number of employees on PPD contracts for FY 2025: 13
- Wages and benefits paid September 2024–August 2025: Averaging \$15.11 per hour
- Original certification date: September 2014
- Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for FY 2025: 0
- State UI tax status: Current

3. West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind (San Angelo)

- Services: N/A
- Products: Pens, textiles, beverages
- Number of employees on PPD contracts for FY 2025: 57
- Wages and benefits paid September 2024–August 2025: Averaging \$15.87 per hour
- Original certification date: September 2003

- 1 • Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for FY 2025: 0
- 2 • State UI tax status: Current
- 3 4. **Nueces Center for Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities (Corpus Christi)**
- 4 • Services: Grounds maintenance, litter pickup
- 5 • Products: N/A
- 6 • Number of employees on PPD contracts for FY 2025: 17
- 7 • Wages and benefits paid September 2024–August 2025: Averaging \$11.14 per hour
- 8 • Original certification date: September 2003
- 9 • Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for FY 2025: 0
- 10 • State UI tax status: Current
- 11 5. **Open Wings Independent Living, Inc. (Houston)**
- 12 • Services: Janitorial, day porter
- 13 • Products: N/A
- 14 • Number of employees on PPD contracts for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025: 15
- 15 • Wages and benefits paid September 2024–August 2025: Averaging \$13.56 per hour
- 16 • Original certification date: July 2019
- 17 • Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for FY 2025: 1
- 18 • State Unemployment Insurance (UI) tax status: Current
- 19 **Recommendation**
- 20 Staff recommends recertifying five CRPs for continued participation in the PPD program.