



St. Louis Office for Developmental Disability Resources
Minutes of the Program Committee
October 14, 2021

Board Members Present:

Cynthia Mueller, Committee Chairperson
Nina North-Murphy

Sherry Wibbenmeyer

Board Members Absent:

William (Bill) Siedhoff

Staff Members Present:

Shaelene Plank, Executive Director
Nate (Nathaniel) Head, Sr. Agency Relations Representative
Ebony Young, Agency Relations Representative

Rachel Shapiro, Executive Assistant
Samantha Montgomery, Director of Service Coordination

Guests Present: Staff from St. Louis Arc

The meeting was called to order by Cynthia Mueller at 4:03 pm.

Introductions:

1. RFE Recommendations - Nate Head – **Action Needed**
 - a. Sought proposals with the priority of expansion of technology in the St. Louis region. Projects to start January and go through June, and then agencies could request to go into FY23. Budget is \$56,000 for FY22. We received four proposals totaling over \$1 million. Due to limited funding, we first recommended only one proposal; however, shortly after we sent out the agenda, we received an update that a pre-employment program had to go on hold for another year because the host site is suspending visitors (accounts for \$83,000). Staff adjusted the recommendation to two proposals that we believe meet the need. Available funding in FY22, therefore, went from \$56K to \$139K.
 - b. The two proposals total \$111,000. The requested amounts are for six months and then they would need to re-request funding in FY23.
 - c. The first recommended project is St. Louis ARC's plan to increase access to assistive technology. The amount they are requesting is 1/3 of their total program cost (they requested the remainder from PLB and DDRB). Our grant is contingent on the other boards' approval. Will know their decision in November or December.
 - d. The second recommended project is Variety's project to administer adaptive equipment to eligible individuals up to age 21. They will use their existing model and relationships to act as an agency administrator of adaptive equipment to eligible individuals. We support this because it would address a need that is unmet by DDR's current provider. There is also potential that equipment needs would be met faster.
 - e. If both projects are approved, we would have three providers in our portfolio addressing adaptive equipment needs, home vehicle modifications, and emerging technology, supporting over seventy people. One provider focuses on children, others on individuals 18 and up, and the third will cover all ages.
 - f. Nate Head also explained why they are not recommending the other two proposals.

schools are doing. Data suggests there are not enough employment services for transitional ages and the older community. Committee agreed that is the direction they need to head in the next funding cycle.

Call for a motion to adjourn –

Nina North Murphy moved to close the meeting. Sherry Wibbenmeyer seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the meeting was closed at 4:32 pm.

DocuSigned by:

Cynthia Mueller

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Cynthia Mueller, Secretary

11/29/2021

Date Approved