

1                   **Certification and Recertification of Community Rehabilitation Programs**  
2                   **to Participate in the Purchasing from People with Disabilities Program**  
3                   **Discussion Paper**

4   **Background**

5 Texas Human Resources Code §122.013 requires the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) to  
6 establish rules for the certification of Community Rehabilitation Programs (CRPs) to participate  
7 in the Purchasing from People with Disabilities (PPD) program. TWC Chapter 806 Purchases of  
8 Products and Services from People with Disabilities rule §806.41 establishes requirements for  
9 participation in the program and subsequent adherence to those requirements once a CRP has  
10 been certified. A CRP must reapply every three years before the expiration date listed on its  
11 certification in order to continue participating in the program. PPD staff reviews each completed  
12 application and all required documentation and, once the materials are deemed acceptable,  
13 presents the application to TWC’s three-member Commission for approval.

14 **Issue**

15 The PPD program has reviewed the applications of two new CRPs seeking certification and three  
16 CRPs seeking to continue participation in the program through recertification. All CRPs seeking  
17 certification and recertification will pay or currently pay minimum wage or higher.

18 **New Certifications**

19 **1. Launch Point Community Development Center, Inc. (Houston)**

- 20       ➤ Services: Janitorial, Grounds Maintenance, Landscaping, Construction
- 21       ➤ Current number of employees: 5
- 22       ➤ Hourly wages that are paid to individuals with disabilities will be at least minimum wage  
23       on PPD contracts.
- 24       ➤ In operation since 1993

25 **2. United Resource Group US (Houston)**

- 26       ➤ Services: Custodial, Lawn Maintenance
- 27       ➤ Current number of employees: 0
- 28       ➤ Hourly wages that are paid to individuals with disabilities will be at least minimum wage  
29       on PPD contracts.
- 30       ➤ New business

31 **Recertifications**

32 **1. Goodwill Industries of Northeast Texas (Sherman)**

- 33       ➤ Services: Temporary Services, Janitorial Services
- 34       ➤ Products: N/A
- 35       ➤ Current number of employees on PPD contracts: 169
- 36       ➤ Wages and benefits: Averaging \$15.89 per hour
- 37       ➤ Certification date: 5/2016
- 38       ➤ Cumulative integrated employee placements for fiscal year prior to application: 44
- 39       ➤ CRP is current on state Unemployment Insurance taxes.

40 **2. E.Q.U.I.P. Enterprises, Inc. (San Antonio)**

- 41       ➤ Services: Janitorial, Mowing, Temporary Staffing, and Landscaping

- 1 ➤ Products: N/A
- 2 ➤ Current number of employees on PPD contracts: 92
- 3 ➤ Wages and benefits: Averaging \$12.45 per hour
- 4 ➤ Certification date: 9/2008
- 5 ➤ Cumulative integrated employee placements for fiscal year prior to application: 0
- 6 ➤ CRP is current on state Unemployment Insurance taxes.

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8 **3. Cen-Tex A.R.C. (Mexia)**

- 9 ➤ Products: N/A
- 10 ➤ Services: Litter Removal, Mowing, Janitorial
- 11 ➤ Current number of employees on PPD contracts: 30
- 12 ➤ Wages and benefits: Averaging \$8.04 per hour
- 13 ➤ Certification date: 9/2003
- 14 ➤ Cumulative integrated employee placements for fiscal year prior to application: 0
- 15 ➤ CRP is current on state Unemployment Insurance taxes

16 **Recommendation**

17 Staff recommends the certification of two new CRPs and the recertification of three existing  
18 CRPs for participation in the PPD program.