

1 **Approval 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 three CRPs seeking to continue participation
16 in the program through recertification. All three CRPs currently pay minimum wage or higher.

17 **Recertifications**

18 **1. Open Wings Independent Living, Inc. (Houston)**

- 19 ➤ Services: Janitorial, Litter Removal, Logistics
- 20 ➤ Products: N/A
- 21 ➤ Current number of employees on PPD contracts: 21
- 22 ➤ Wages and benefits: Averaging \$14.38 per hour
- 23 ➤ Certification date: 7/2019
- 24 ➤ Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for fiscal year prior to
25 application: 0
- 26 ➤ CRP is current on state unemployment insurance taxes.

27
28 **2. Goodwill Industries of Central East Texas, Inc. (Lufkin)**

- 29 ➤ Services: Janitorial, Temp Staffing
- 30 ➤ Products: N/A
- 31 ➤ Current number of employees on PPD contracts: 10
- 32 ➤ Wages and benefits: Averaging \$24.97 per hour
- 33 ➤ Certification date: 9/2014
- 34 ➤ Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for fiscal year prior to
35 application: 8
- 36 ➤ CRP is current on state unemployment insurance taxes.

37
38 **3. Nueces Center for Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities (Corpus Christi)**

- 39 ➤ Services: Grounds Maintenance, Litter Removal
- 40 ➤ Products: N/A
- 41 ➤ Current number of employees on PPD contracts: 9
- 42 ➤ Wages and benefits: Averaging \$8.73 per hour
- 43 ➤ Certification date: 9/2003

- 1 ➤ Cumulative competitive integrated employment positions for fiscal year prior to
- 2 application: 0
- 3 ➤ CRP is current on state unemployment insurance taxes.

4 **Recommendation**

5 Staff recommends the recertification of three existing CRPs for participation in the PPD

6 program.