

In addition, proposals will be rated based upon the quality of the applicant's response in addressing the four criteria (A–D) described below in terms of a comprehensive strategic approach that addresses the various considerations noted in this SGA. The criteria below **MUST** be addressed and the applicant's capabilities or potential with regard to each item described.

The ODEP, however, does not expect the applicant to fully incorporate, unless otherwise noted, every individual sub-part listed in each lettered (A–D) criteria below as part of their strategy and proposal design. The ODEP recognizes that the needs and requirements of each state and community may be different, and therefore, some of the options identified may be more relevant than others in a particular state. The narrative in this section should include narrative descriptions for the following six criteria:

#### A. Project Design and Project Management (15 Points)

Under this section, the applicant must describe the project design and its management plan. The proposed project design must address the proposed design for the Ending Chronic Homelessness through Employment and Housing Cooperative Agreement including its response to the requirements outlined in Part V (Eligible Applicants and Required Partnerships) of this Solicitation.

In addition, the project design must address the movement of individuals into integrated community employment opportunities; coordination with the state's lead agency implementing the Olmstead decision as well as their state's overall Olmstead plan, describing how the project will contribute to the development of their state's plan and implementation strategy related to employment; and integration of customized employment strategies with the state's employment programs and services, including existing services available through the One-Stop Centers, the state and local Workforce Investment Boards, and their partners. Additional considerations under this section are to:

(a) Coordinate efforts with existing homeless services, veterans organizations and employment programs for people with disabilities;

(b) Develop customized employment opportunities in a variety of occupations and industries based on the strengths, needs, and desires of persons who are chronically homeless, including self-employment and entrepreneurship where appropriate. Services and

supports must be organized in ways that provide informed choice and promote self-determination;

(c) Establish employer involvement, track and respond to customer service and satisfaction for both persons who are chronically homeless and employers, and provide services, including follow-up services, to ensure job retention and career development;

(d) Collaborate with community-based and faith-based and community organizations in their state in order to expand opportunities for customized employment for the target population. This includes facilitating the availability and use of customized employment strategies by such organizations as well as facilitating the organizations' registration as eligible training providers with their local One-Stop Career Centers;

(e) Educate relevant stakeholders and systems personnel about changes needed to increase customized community employment outcomes for persons who are chronically homeless;

(f) Consider the usefulness of increasing the availability of personal agents and job development personnel offering customized services through customer-controlled approaches that result in customized employment. One possible area of focus could include demonstrating the effectiveness of paying family members and/or other individuals with disabilities to serve as personal agents when selected by the individual with a disability to assist in negotiating and implementing employment plans and services;

(g) Incorporate use of funds leveraged across several systems available to people with disabilities through personal budgets and other forms of self-directed accounts.

Applicants must provide a detailed management plan which identifies the critical activities, time frames, and responsibilities for effectively implementing the project, including the evaluation process for assuring successful implementation of Cooperative Agreement objectives. The management plan will be evaluated to determine whether the applicant has developed an adequate management plan to effectively carry out the objectives and scope of the proposed project on time and within budget, to describe the predicted outcomes resulting from activities funded under this SGA, and to identify the "methods of evaluation" that will be used by the applicant to determine success.

#### B. Staff Capacity (5 Points)

The applicant must describe the proposed staffing of the DOL

Cooperative Agreement project, including the key personnel and the roles each will play and the responsibilities each will assume. The applicant must also identify how it will ensure that trained staff with adequate knowledge of diverse disabilities, knowledge of/experience with diverse customized employment strategies, and employment-related experience for the target population will be available to manage and provide employment-related services. The staffing plan should:

(a) Summarize the qualifications, including relevant education, training, and experience of both key project personnel and project consultants or subcontractors, including their qualifications, relevant training, and experience. Attach copies of resumes in the Appendices.

(b) Describe the experience in serving persons who are chronically homeless and in providing customized employment services.

(c) Describe the extent to which the time commitments of the project director and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.

#### C. Evaluation and Continuous Improvement Strategies (10 Points)

The proposal must demonstrate how the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable; the extent to which performance feedback and continuous improvement are integral to the design of the proposed project; and the extent to which the applicant encourages involvement of people with disabilities and their families, experts and organizations, and other relevant stakeholders in project activities that lead to stronger evaluation and continuous improvement strategies. The proposal will be evaluated on:

(a) The extent to which the design of the proposed project is appropriate to, and will successfully address, the needs of the target population and other identified needs and the quality of the applicant's plans for recruiting and retaining the target population;

(b) The extent to which the design of the proposed project provides clear understanding of, and experience with, utilization of customized employment strategies for increasing employment, choice, and earnings of persons who are chronically homeless;

(c) The extent to which the proposed project will be coordinated, including demonstrated support from the state governor or designated agency implementing the Olmstead decision