

TO: Workforce Investment Board

DATE: 03/11/10

FROM: WIB Staff

For Discussion

For Action

For Information

SUBJECT: Disability Navigator Grant Awarded

PROPOSED MOTION(S): For Information Only.

DISCUSSION: On September 3, 2009, the WIB approved the submission of the Disability Program Navigator grant application to the State. On March 4, 2010, The Department of Workforce Investment (WI) was informed by the Employment Development Department (EDD) that they were awarded the Disability Program Navigator Grant.

The grant will be awarded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding initiated by the President. The grant application requested funding in the amount of \$615,512 but will be awarded \$465,521.

The Social Security Administration and the Department of Labor jointly established the Disability Program Navigator (DPN) position. DPNs are located in the One-Stop Career Centers. The goals of the DPN Program include: Facilitation of integrated, seamless and comprehensive services to persons with disabilities in One-Stop Career Centers; improving access to programs and services; facilitating linkages to the employer community and developing demand responsive strategies to meet recruitment and retention needs; increasing employment and self-sufficiency for Social Security disability beneficiaries and other people with disabilities.

Navigators train One-Stop staff to help individuals with disabilities access and navigate the programs and services needed to maintain and gain employment. Navigators conduct outreach to organizations that serve people with disabilities. Navigators are not case managers, rather the position focuses on expanding the capacity of the One-Stop Career Center to serve customers with disabilities.

WI is still awaiting details on the grant administration criteria from the State. The State may request a revised scope of work or lined item budget, if applicable.

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A