



## Commission Update

# Draft Cooperative Agreement with Central Nonprofit Agencies

April 27, 2016



*Note to readers: The content of this presentation is a summary based on a draft Cooperative Agreement. Readers are cautioned that this content is subject to change, and that they should not consider this presentation to be an actionable or final document.*



# Environmental Considerations

- 2013 GAO recommendations
- 2016 Omnibus direction
- Operational environment
  - Commission staff resource limitations
  - Program sales growth
- Significant civil rights change (ADA, WIOA)
- Changes in Commission composition
- Desire to modernize on the part of internal and external stakeholders





# Informed Process

- **Stakeholder input obtained and considered**
  - CNAs responded to Request For Information
  - NPA CEO Sessions (over 50 participated)
  - Small groups ID “must haves”, whole group consensus
  - Met with Nat’l Disability Leadership Alliance advocates
    - Lead, not lag behind, in disability policy and change
  - Kept OMB and Congressional staff in the loop
  - Consistent consensus: grow employment, oversight, help NPAs succeed, rationalize fees in relation to value





# Cooperative Agreement Approach

- **Transformational initiative**

- Formalizes business relationship between Commission and CNAs
- Cooperative Agreement foundation (public purpose, significant Gov't involvement) with innovative design
- Uses principles of contracts and agreements to:
  - Drive more accountability
  - Incentivize exceptional performance
  - Optimize AbilityOne Program outcomes





# Mutual Benefits to Agreement

- **Applicable to Commission, CNAs and NPAs**
  - Meets Congressional Mandate
  - Enhances AbilityOne Program
  - Builds stronger public case for accountability
  - Improves transparency and stakeholders' line of sight
  - Defines value-added services provided for the fee
  - Strengthens relationships with Administration, Congress, NPAs and disability community
    - For NPAs, also strengthens relationships with Boards and local communities
  - Drives better outcomes for the people we serve





# Cooperative Agreement Elements

- **Performance-based Work Statement (PWS)**
  - **Objective:** To establish the governing relationship between the Commission and the CNA by expressing the Commission's requirements in the form of the minimum quality standard to be met.
  - **Key Performance Indicators:**
    1. Employment Growth
    2. Program Administration, Oversight, and Integrity
    3. NPA Support, Assistance, and Development
    4. Training and Strategic Communications
  - **Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan:** Identifies the methods and procedures the Commission will use to ensure CNAs meet minimum performance standards outlined in PWS.





# Accountability for Performance

- **Rewards for performance above minimum standards through the Award Fee process**
  - Current fee ceiling (in effect now) will be NTE CNA fee
  - CNAs will be requested to provide fee proposals after the agreement is signed
  - CNAs will collect fees from NPAs as they already do and will establish a separate account for Award Fee portion
  - Award Fee Review Board determines how much Award Fee was earned based on Award Fee Plan
  - Commission approves access to Award Fee
  - Results in accountability and performance-based, mission-driven outcomes





# Alignment with GAO/Omnibus Report

GAO/Omnibus Reports	Cooperative Agreement
Roles and Responsibilities (Commission and CNAs)	Section C, PWS, 2.0 General Requirements
Expenditures of funds	Section C, PWS, 3.2.4.2 Financial and Accounting System; 4.0 Program Performance Deliverables
Performance goals and targets; Periodic evaluations	Section C, PWS, 3.1-3.4 Key Performance Indicators; Section E, Attachments 3 Award Fee Plan and 4 Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan
Governance standards and other internal controls to prevent fraud, waste and abuse	Section C, PWS, 3.2, AbilityOne Program Administration, Oversight, Integrity
Access to data and records	Section C, PWS, 3.2.3.3 and 3.2.3.4, Records Management and Inspection
Consequences for not meeting expectations	Section C, PWS, 6.0 Quality Control Plan; Section E, Attachment 4, Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan
Reporting (e.g., Congressional, Regulatory, Circulars, Routine)	Section E, Attachment 1, Deliverables Schedule
Provisions for updating the agreement	Section D, Agreement Administration





# Proposed Timeline

Action	NLT Completion
Issue RFI to CNAs	January 22, 2016
Responses to RFI Due	February 21, 2016
Evaluate Responses to RFI	March 10, 2016
Receive and Incorporate Feedback in CA	March 31, 2016
Modify PWS for CA	April 8, 2016
Transmit CA to CNAs	April 15, 2016
Questions and Answers Due	May 6, 2016
Oral Presentations from CNAs	May 16, 2016
Conclude Discussions	June 6, 2016
CA Signed by All Parties	June 15, 2016
Distribute CA	June 15, 2016
Request Fee Proposal	TBD

