

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Human Services Division

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.
Placer County Health Officer and Director of Health & Human Services
Cheryl S. Davis, Director of Human Services

DATE: March 16, 2010

SUBJECT: Food Stamp Employment and Training Program and Wage Subsidies for the Welfare to Work Paid Work Experience Program

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve a contract with the Golden Sierra Job Training Agency in an amount not to exceed \$69,438, including:

- \$39,438 for the period of March 16, 2010 through September 30, 2010 to provide administration and case management for the Food Stamp Employment and Training Program; and
- \$30,000 for wage subsidies for the Welfare to Work Paid Work Experience Program through June 30, 2010.

Authorize the Director of Health and Human Services to sign the agreement and subsequent amendments up to 10 percent of the total contract amount.

The contract is funded with 100 percent Federal and State funds. No County General Fund match is required. These costs are included in the Department's FY 2009-10 Budget, and will also be budgeted in the FY 2010-11 Base Budget for the remainder of the contract term.

BACKGROUND:

Human Services has received \$39,438 from the California Department of Social Services to implement an employment and training program to assist 36 18- and 19-year olds who are "aging" out the foster care program.

The employment and training program is designed to:

1. Provide job readiness and placement services to 36 newly emancipated foster youth who are at high risk of unemployment and homelessness to secure work and become self sufficient;
2. Offer vocational training services provided by Golden Sierra to those lacking employable skills to better prepare them for the current job market; and
3. Coordinate the Food Stamp program, foster care system, housing assistance and employment services to provide comprehensive assistance to youth.

In response to the 60 percent increase in CalWORKs recipients that has occurred since 2008, Human Services is also requesting approval to utilize \$30,000 of Federal and State funding funds to provide Paid Work Experience opportunities for increasing numbers of Welfare to Work participants through the remainder of FY 2009-10. Doing so will more than double Golden Sierra's existing Paid Work Experience program that currently serves eight clients, adding the ability to serve 10 additional individuals.

Placer County will contract with Golden Sierra Job Training Agency to administer the programs and provide ongoing support to participants. Golden Sierra has experience in job placement and working with these specific populations, youth and welfare to work recipients. They currently operate the Paid Work Experience program for Human Services. Golden Sierra is able to implement these programs immediately, providing assistance with career assessment, job search, job readiness, vocational training, and working with employers to establish work experience sites. As a Joint Powers Agency, contracts with Golden Sierra may be exempt from competitive solicitation in accordance with Purchasing Policy section 1.3(e).

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Food Stamp Employment and Training program and the Paid Work Experience program are funded with 100 percent State and Federal monies. No County General Funds are required.

This contract is on file with the Clerk of the Board for your review.

