



lacounty.gov

Hilda Solis
Mark Ridley-Thomas
Sheila Kuehl
Don Knabe
Michael D. Antonovich

County of Los Angeles COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SERVICES

3175 West Sixth Street • Los Angeles, CA 90020
Tel: 213-738-2600 • Fax 213- 487-0379

Enriching Lives Through Effective And Caring Service



css.lacounty.gov

Cynthia D. Banks
Director

Otto Solórzano
Chief Deputy

February 10, 2015

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

APPROVAL OF A BUDGET APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT TO THE COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SERVICES (CSS) FY14-15 BUDGET TO PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES TO CALWORKS TEENS (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3-VOTES)

SUBJECT

Community and Senior Services (CSS) requests approval for a budget appropriation adjustment to increase by \$6.5 million the Services and Supplies (S&S) appropriation to provide subsidized employment services to CalWORKs teens through funding made available from the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) using CalWORKs Single Allocation funds.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Approve the attached budget appropriation adjustment (Attachment A) in the amount of \$6,500,000 and the process to distribute those funds and permit CSS to exceed the normal 10% maximum increased allowed to commit the DPSS funds for use.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

DPSS has identified \$6.5 million in CalWORKs funding for the establishment of a year-round subsidized employment program for CalWORKs teens. The intent of the program is to provide transitional subsidized year-round employment opportunities that go beyond summer work experience through June 30, 2015, for certain CalWORKs teens, ages 16 – 18. CalWORKs teens that participated in the 2014 Los Angeles County Youth Jobs (LACYJ) program will be given priority enrollment and may begin the program in February 2015. This funding also gives CSS an opportunity to begin outreach efforts to other CalWORKs teens for shorter term summer work

experience that could start as early as May 2015. The most recent unemployment data for California (November 2014) indicates that teens ages 16-19 continue to experience a high unemployment rate of 26.6%. Chronic youth unemployment has long term implications that impede individual and regional prosperity. Youth who do not engage in work experience or skills attainment early on, will experience lower wages in the future.

To mitigate these shortcomings, youth must be given the opportunity to increase skills attainment and connect early in life to the workforce through work-based learning opportunities. The LACYJ program provides teens with the needed, valuable access to paid work readiness preparation and work experience through subsidized employment.

In September 2014, there were roughly 31,000 CalWORKs teens in the County between the ages of 16-18 that could potentially benefit from subsidized employment. As of November 24, 2014, the County has been able to provide employment opportunities for 6,249 CalWORKs teens. Of these, 3,651 (58%) are between the ages of 16-18 years old. With the \$6.5 million, approximately 1,500 CalWORKs teens, prioritizing those who participated in the 2014 LACYJ program, will have an opportunity to participate in up to 8 hours per week of paid work experience when school is in session and up to 30 hours per week when school is not in session for up to 21 weeks.

Program Design

Using the "Earn & Learn" model, Los Angeles County CalWORKs teens, ages 16 to 18, are transitioned from fundamental work readiness activities and limited work experience to enhanced career exploration through more work experience hours and work-based learning activities. During their participation in the Program, the teens may:

- o Participate in up to 25 hours of paid Personal Enrichment and Work Readiness (PET) training (only if the teen has not participated in this training in the last 6 months. All teens are required to participate in the paid 5 hour Enhanced Career Exploration module of PET);
- o Obtain a library card to develop a digital portfolio;
- o Participate in up to 8 hours per week of paid work experience when school is in session and up to 30 hours per week when school is not in session for up to 21 weeks; and
- o Earn about \$3,000.

CSS is working with various employers throughout the county to provide teens with training and work experience. As appropriate, eligible teens will be co-enrolled into the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program in July 2015. DPSS will continue to provide CSS with monthly listings of eligible CalWORKs teens to verify eligibility for the program.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The success of the LACYJ year-round program will be measured and includes: attainment of a library card, AND one of the following: work readiness skills attainment, or continuation of high school, or enrollment into post-secondary education, or placement into unsubsidized employment.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions support the Countywide Strategic Plan Goals: Goal 1 – Service Excellence and Goal 2 – Job Creation: Through the "Earn & Learn" models of On-the-Job-Training and subsidized employment this program will expand the number of CalWORKs participants and other vulnerable populations participating in meaningful work experience. In addition, youth will also

be introduced to potential career pathways in high-growth industries in the fields of: Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) that may lead to permanent employment for older youth.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is no fiscal impact. DPSS has identified the availability of CalWORKs Single Allocation funds in their current budget to expand subsidized employment services to CalWORKs teens. CSS will receive these funds via Intrafund Transfers from DPSS and will budget in Services and Supplies. The funds must be spent by June 30, 2015. There is no net County cost.

Of the \$6,500,000 in CalWORKs funding that is being transferred into CSS' budget, approximately \$5,525,000 will be used for wages, supportive services, and case management provided by the contractors. The remaining \$975,000 or 15% of the total amount will cover costs associated with providing technical assistance to contractors and the 6 WIBs, reviewing and analyzing performance and working with each contractor to overcome barriers, working with School Districts and other County Departments to identify and outreach disconnected youth, maintaining and providing Help Desk Support for the program's MIS, developing performance reports and ad-hoc data requests, administrative costs, and monitoring conducted by the Auditor Controller.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Los Angeles County has been highly effective in exposing teens to first-time jobs and potential career pathways. This year, nearly 9,500 teens completed the PET and have been placed in part-time summer work experience in various industries throughout the County. In addition to providing part-time employment for economically disadvantaged teens such as those receiving public assistance, the LACYJ program has also proven to be an extremely powerful tool that incentivizes education. In the short-term, school age teens (16-17 year olds) are required to meet specific compulsory standards in order to receive a work permit and be allowed to work. In the long run, teens are also introduced to the notion that continued education beyond high school directly impacts one's future earning potential. CalWORKs teens also reported that the LACYJ program has transformed their lives. For instance, some teens conveyed that they immediately stopped using drugs after the Personal Enrichment Training and others have identified careers that they will pursue with continued education.

Each year, DPSS receives CalWORKs Single Allocation funds to provide services to CalWORKs participants. These funds expire at the end of every fiscal year. In the current fiscal year, DPSS is projecting lower than anticipated expenditures in Stage One Child Care. As a result, funds have become available that can be used for year-round subsidized employment for CalWORKs teens.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

DPSS has identified \$6.5 million in CalWORKs funding for the establishment of a year round subsidized employment program specifically for CalWORKs teens. With the \$6.5 million, approximately 1,500 CalWORKs teens will have an opportunity to participate in paid work experience for up to 21 weeks. The intent of the program is to provide transitional subsidized year-round

employment opportunities that go beyond summer work experience through June 30, 2015, specifically targeting CalWORKs teens, ages 16 – 18.

On March 25, 2014, via a Board Motion and again on June 24, 2014, via a Board letter, the Board of Supervisors approved delegated authority for CSS to enter into Intermediary Agreements (IA) for current and future funding amendments with the local area Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) and additional amendments, if needed with existing county contractors under the Master Agreement.

CSS exercised its authority to execute IA's with the WIBs for Phase I of DPSS funds to provide employment and training services to youth ages 14-21. Upon Board approval of the Budget Adjustment, CSS will execute new IAs specifically targeting CalWORKs Youth ages 16-18 with the six (6) WIBs in Los Angeles County. CSS will also amend the current Work Order for youth employment services; with the current contractors that were procured using the FY 2012 Youth Program Services Master Agreement list. These amendments will be in excess of 10 percent of the original contract amount depending on contract performance and capability.

MONITORING

CSS will ensure that all approved contractors are monitored for contract compliance and for adherence to administrative, programmatic, and fiscal requirements. The Auditor-Controller will monitor for programmatic and fiscal compliance for all County agencies providing LACYJ services to CalWORKs teens.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended actions will facilitate funding to provide CalWORKs teens with meaningful, part-time employment and training services.

CONCLUSION

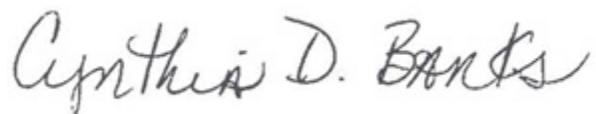
Upon Board approval, please e-mail one copy of the adopted Board Letter to Ms. Chris Frau at cfrau@css.lacounty.gov.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

2/10/2015

Page 5

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia D. Banks". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

CYNTHIA D. BANKS

Director

CDB:OS:JM:mdu

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

PINK

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICIAL COPY

BA FORM 03/13

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SERVICES

DEPT'S. NO. 325
[December XX, 2014]

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER:

THE FOLLOWING APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT IS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THIS DEPARTMENT. PLEASE CONFIRM THE ACCOUNTING ENTRIES AND AVAILABLE BALANCES AND FORWARD TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR HIS RECOMMENDATION OR ACTION.

ADJUSTMENT REQUESTED AND REASONS THEREFOR

FY 2014-15

3 - VOTES

SOURCES

USES

Table with 4 columns: Source Name, Source Amount, Use Name, Use Amount. Rows include DCSS-WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT and COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SERVICES-ADMINISTRATION. Totals are \$6,500,000 for both sources and uses.

JUSTIFICATION

The adjustment to the Department's budget will allow the use of CW single allocation dollars from Department of Public Social Services to increase subsidized employment services in the Department's LA County Youth Jobs Program. This year around youth program provides valuable access to paid work readiness preparation and work experience through subsidized employment.

ADOPTED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

17

FEB 10 2015

Authorized signature of Alfred Beyruti, Budget Director

BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S APPROVAL (AS REQUESTED/REVISED)

Signature of Patricia Cervantes, Acting Executive Officer

Approval checkboxes: ACTION, RECOMMENDATION, APPROVED AS REQUESTED, APPROVED AS REVISED. Includes signatures and dates for Auditor-Controller and Chief Executive Officer.