



**Contra
Costa
County**

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Kathy Gallagher, Employment & Human Services Director

Date: June 14, 2016

Subject: Expanded Subsidized Employment Program

RECOMMENDATION(S):

APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Employment and Human Services Director, or designee, to continue the Expanded CCWORKS (Contra Costa Works) Subsidized Employment Program. The Workforce Services Bureau will continue to work with County, Public, non-profit, and private sector employers to make employment slots available to eligible Welfare-to-Work participants, focusing specifically on participants who are limited English proficient, challenged by domestic violence, veterans, have a criminal or arrest history, disabled, pregnant and parenting teens, and those participants completing the Family Stabilization component of the Welfare-to-Work Program.

Expanded CCWORKS participants will be allowed to work between 20 and 40 hours per week for a maximum of six months. The contractual/financial agreement with employers is to reimburse not less than \$10 per hour but not to exceed \$20 per hour, with an employer bonus opportunity not to exceed \$1,000 per bonus following the subsidy program if the employer continues to employ the participant. The total expanded subsidized employment program amount is not to exceed \$1,000,000 from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

☒ APPROVE

☐ OTHER

☒ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY ADMINISTRATOR

☐ RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD COMMITTEE

Action of Board On: **06/14/2016** ☒ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER

Clerks Notes:

VOTE OF SUPERVISORS

AYE: John Gioia, District I Supervisor
Candace Andersen, District II Supervisor
Mary N. Piepho, District III Supervisor
Karen Mitchoff, District IV Supervisor
Federal D. Glover, District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: June 14, 2016

David Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: Stephanie Mello, Deputy

Contact: Elaine Burres,
313-1717

cc:

FISCAL IMPACT:

\$1,000,000: CalWORKs Expanded Subsidized Employment allocation (100% Federal) for subsidized employment wages for CalWORKs participants. (No County match)

BACKGROUND:

Based upon the success of the subsidized employment programs operated in response to Senate Bill 72 which extended the State reimbursement to counties for subsidized employment programs as authorized the Assembly Bill 98, the Employment and Human Services Department (EHSD) developed and implemented a subsidized employment program, known as CCWORKS (Contra Costa Works). Employers hire eligible CalWORKs CCWORKS participants and train the participants to the appropriate skills for the position in which they are placed. CCWORKS participants receive a wage comparable to those workers performing the same or like duties at the employer's worksite. Monthly reimbursement invoices are submitted by the participating employers for each CalWORKs participant in the CCWORKS program. Invoices are reviewed by EHSD staff for accuracy and submitted to the EHSD Fiscal Unit for payment to the employer.

Assembly Bill 74 provided for the expansion of existing county subsidized employment programs. The expansion of the program allows additional services for the populations referred to above through June 30, 2017.

CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Without authorization to continue the Expanded CCWORKS Program, the CalWORKs participants will have fewer employment opportunities and will have continued reliance on public benefits.

CHILDREN'S IMPACT STATEMENT:

Not Applicable.