Contra Costa County

To: **Board of Supervisors** 

From: Kathy Gallagher, Employment & Human Services Director

Date: June 2, 2020

Subject: Contra Costa Works (CCWORKS) Expanded Subsidized Employment Program

## **RECOMMENDATION(S):**

APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Employment and Human Services Director, or designee, to continue the process of reimbursement to those employers participating in the Expanded Contra Costa Works (CCWORKS) Subsidized Employment Program whereby the Employment and Human Services Department (EHSD) will enter into worksite contractual/financial agreements with employers to allow for reimbursement of not less than \$14.00 per hour but not to exceed \$20 per hour for those CalWORKs clients worksited with employers during the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

Expanded CalWORKs participant wage reimbursements are funded with \$960,666 CalWORKs Single Allocation, 92% Federal and 8% State revenue. (CFDA #93.558)

# **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 by Assembly Bill (AB) 98 (now Assembly Bill 74), EHSD developed and implemented

	APPROVE	OTHER					
<b>✓</b> I	RECOMMENDATION OF C	ENTY ADMINISTRATOR RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD COMMITTEE					
Action	n of Board On: <b>06/02/2020</b>	✓ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER					
Clerks Notes:							
VOTE OF SUPERVISORS							
AYE:	John Gioia, District I Supervisor						
	Candace Andersen, District II						
	Supervisor Diane Burgis, District III 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 2, 2020					
	Karen Mitchoff, District IV Supervisor	David Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors					
	Federal D. Glover, District V Supervisor	By: June McHuen, Deputy					
Cont	act: Elaine Burres						

608-4960

### BACKGROUND: (CONT'D)

the subsidized employment program known as CCWORKS.

Following the guidelines and funding options of AB 98 and building upon the success of previous Subsidized Employment and Training (SET) programs operated under the American Recovery and Reimbursement Act (ARRA), the Expanded CCWORKS program has been designed very similarly to other programs operated in the Bay Area. CalWORKs participants will be screened into the program and placed with local employers (for-profit, non- profit, and public agencies) who will have the responsibility for (under contractual/financial worksite agreements) the payroll, associated taxes, and workers compensation for each Expanded CCWORKS program participant approved and worksited within their organization.

The employers will hire the eligible CalWORKs Expanded CCWORKS participants upfront and will train the participants to appropriate skills for the position in which they are placed and Expanded CCWORKS participants will receive a wage comparable to those workers performing the same or like duties at the worksite. Expanded Subsidized Employment Program targets Welfare to Work clients who are limited English proficient, challenged by domestic violence, have criminal arrest histories, disabled veterans, pregnant and parenting youth and those completing the family stabilization Component

The worksite agreement will be signed with the employer for each participant that is placed at the employer's worksite. Under the Expanded CCWORKS program, EHSD will reimburse no less than \$14.00 per hour and not to exceed \$20 per hour (due to the anticipated increase in minimum wage) for a minimum of 20 hours per week to a maximum of 40 hours per week (no overtime will be subsidized). The individual contracts with each employer will state the reimbursement process and those reimbursements will be paid on the contractual timeline of six months.

Monthly reimbursement services will be submitted by participating employers for each client employed through the Expended CCWORKS program. The invoices will be reviewed by EHSD CCWORKS staff and submitted to the EHSD Fiscal Unit for payment.

## **CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:**

Without funding, the Expanded CCWORKS Program participants will have fewer employment opportunities and will continue reliance on public benefits.