



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Social Services  
**Department No.:** 044  
**For Agenda Of:** November 5, 2024  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** 4/5

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Daniel Nielson, Social Services Director  
Director(s) (805) 346-7101  
Contact Info: Luis F. Servin, Executive Director, Workforce Development Board  
(805) 614-1543  
**SUBJECT:** Approve Federal Funding for National Farmworker Jobs Program Grant and  
Memorandum of Understanding with the Employment Development Department  
Monitor Advocate Office

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: CEO Budget, Human  
Resources

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Director of Social Services or designee, to accept a \$1,999,999 National Farmworker Jobs Program Grant from the Department of Labor Employment Development Department for the budget period of July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025;
- b) Approve Budget Journal Entry No. 0010175 to increase appropriations in the amount of \$1,500,000 in the Social Services Department, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act-Workforce Development Board Fund for Salaries and Employee Benefits funded by the National Farmworker Jobs Program Grant funds;
- c) Authorize the Director of Social Services, or designee, to execute the Memorandum of Understanding, including Attachments with the Employment Development Department Monitor Advocate Office for the budget period of July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025;
- d) Authorize the Director of Social Services, or designee to accept the grant award from the Department of Labor for the National Farmworker Jobs Program for the term of July 1, 2024

through September 30, 2028, and to accept subsequent funding for three subsequent program years not to exceed \$7,999,996;

- e) Authorize the Director of Social Services, or designee, to extend the period of performance with the Department of Labor for the National Farmworker Jobs Program and allocate the amount of unused funds from the previous Fiscal Year budget to the next Fiscal Year Budget, subject to appropriations and budget approval;
- f) Adopt a resolution amending the Salary Resolution to allocate five (5) legal positions to the Department of Social Services, effective November 11, 2024; and
- g) Determine that the approval of the recommended action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5), since the recommended action is a government administrative activity, which does not involve commitment to any specific project which may result in potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

**Summary Text:**

The U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration (DOLETA) awarded Santa Barbara County Workforce Development Board (WDB) a grant for \$1,999,999 under the National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP) for the period of July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025.

Under the NFJP grant award, grant recipients are eligible to receive one grant award annually for three subsequent program years, subject to appropriated funding. The funding amounts will be commensurate with year one funding. The total funding level requested for FY 2024-2025 through FY 2027-2028 was \$7,999,996.

This grant will allow the Farmworker Resource Center (FRC), Proyecto Campesino, the opportunity to enhance service offerings and empower migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their dependents by offering comprehensive career services and skills training. The program will provide services, such as comprehensive needs assessments and personalized career planning, sector-based training and certification programs, supportive services – including childcare, and transportation, and work-based learning opportunities in collaboration with local employers.

The FRC was established on February 15, 2023 through a grant provided by the State of California, Department of Community Services and Development (CSD). This grant funding ended May 15, 2024 with no additional funding available through CSD. Since then, the FRC has received additional competitive grants, including \$900,000 from the Employment Development Department’s Farmworker Advancement Program and this DOLETA National Farmworker Jobs Program for \$1,999,999 (with potential funding for three additional years). These grants have allowed us the opportunity to secure the funding necessary to retain the three staff originally hired in 2023 to support the FRC. Additionally, these new grants (and potential future grants) allow us to broaden our service offerings and expand the FRC team, temporarily, in order to meet grants’ goals and objectives, while serving our community more effectively.

The WDB, under the Department of Social Services (DSS) umbrella, will implement the NFJP grant-funded program in Santa Barbara County. The recommended action authorizes the acceptance of the

grant award and requests approval of Budget Journal Entry No. 0010175 to increase Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 appropriations by \$1,500,000.

Additionally, it is requested that the Board approve amending the Salary Resolution to allocate five (5) positions to DSS effective November 11, 2024.

**Background:**

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) announced the award of \$90 million in grants to provide training and career services and related support services, and work-based learning to help migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their dependents develop skills to pursue careers in agriculture or non-agriculture sectors.

Overseen by the department's Employment and Training Administration, the NFJP will support 51 organizations with career services and training grants. The grants support worker-centered, sector-based training that incorporates industry partnerships and produces positive outcomes for workers and employers.

The NFJP helps organizations provide quality career services and training opportunities to migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their dependents – including youth and adults – that enable them to obtain industry-recognized credentials in agriculture and non-agriculture industries.

Workforce investment activities supported by this grant for adult participants include but are not limited to career services such as outreach, job search, and workplace readiness; training services such as occupational skills and job training, workplace training with related instruction, reskilling and skills upgrading; related assistance services such as short-term direct assistance that helps retain agricultural employment; supportive services such as transportation, child care, dependent care, and needs-related payments that are necessary to enable an individual to participate in career services and training; and housing services such as emergency housing payments, case management, and referrals services. Workforce investment activities for youth participants include but are not limited to youth services such as tutoring, solutions to increase graduation rates, work experiences, training, leadership development, mentoring, and financial literacy. Additionally, the project design also enables the FRC to support local agricultural employers recruit, hire, and train agricultural workers who are available in our local area for good jobs.

On May 3, 2024, the WDB submitted a grant application to DOL with the goal of securing funding that would allow the opportunity to enhance the services provided through the FRC.

On August 30, 2024, the WDB was awarded the NFJP Grant for \$1,999,999. Under the NFJP grant award, grant recipients are eligible to receive one grant award annually for three subsequent program years, subject to appropriated funding. The funding amounts will be commensurate with year one funding. The total funding level requested for FY 2024-2025 through FY 2027-2028 was \$7,999,996.

The total budget for the NFJP Grant program includes the salaries and employee benefit costs for five (5) positions, one full-time permanent Human Services Manager I, three full-time limited term Career Employment Specialists and one full-time limited term Department Business Specialist who will function as the Business Services Strategist, and will work directly with the agriculture employers. The

FRC Program will absorb the Human Services Manager I position at the end of the grant term, if no more grant funding becomes available.

**NFJP Performance Measures:**

- Participants to be Served: 150 Adults and 50 Youth
- Outreach Goal: 4,000 farmworkers
- Adult Program Goals:
  - Employer Effectiveness: 60.65%
  - Employed at 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter after program exit: 64.74%
  - Employed at 4<sup>th</sup> quarter after program exit: 60.56%
  - Median Earnings: \$4,949
  - Credential Rate: 53.33%
  - Measurable Skills Gain: 59.03%
- Youth goals:
  - Employer Effectiveness: 60.85%
  - Employed at 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter after program exit: 64.80%
  - Employed at 4<sup>th</sup> quarter after program exit: 60.91%
  - Median Earnings: \$5,254
  - Credential Rate: 53.25%
  - Measurable Skills Gain: 59.11%

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No. Budget revision included.

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY</u>	<u>FY 2025-26</u>	<u>FY 2026-27</u>	<u>FY 2027-28</u>	<u>FY 2028-29</u>	<u>Total</u>
General Fund						
State						
Federal-Initial Award	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 499,999				\$ 1,999,999
Federal-Subsequent Award*		\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,999,999	\$ 1,999,999	\$ 499,999	\$ 5,999,997
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,500,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,999,999</b>	<b>\$ 1,999,999</b>	<b>\$ 1,999,999</b>	<b>\$ 499,999</b>	<b>\$ 7,999,996</b>

\*Subject to funding availability

**Narrative:**

DOLETA awarded the Santa Barbara County WDB federal funds in the amount of \$1,999,999 for the period of July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025. As mentioned above, under the NFJP grant award, grant recipients are eligible to receive additional annual allocations of \$1,999,999 per year for three subsequent program years covering October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2028, for a total possible grant award of up to \$7,999,996. This federal grant requires no local match and the recommended action has will result in no impact to the General Fund.

For FY 2024-25, DSS is requesting a Budget Revision (Budget Journal Entry No. 0010175) to increase WDB budget appropriations by \$1,500,000. The Budget Revision will allow for \$702,211 in direct WDB expenditures (\$501,211 for staff salaries and benefits, \$2,250 for travel, \$7,500 for equipment, and \$191,250 for direct job seeker costs) and \$797,789 in pass-through contractual costs.

Appropriations for the remaining \$499,999 of the grant will be built into the department's FY 2025-26 budget. Any subsequent annual awards will be incorporated into the department's future FY budgets, as needed.

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**

5

**FTEs:**

5.0

**Special Instructions:**

Please scan, email and send a copy of the minute order and fully executed salary resolution to:

1. DSS Procurement and Contracts Unit  
C/O Nereida Zarate  
nzarate@countyofsb.org
  
2. Stefan Brewer, Workforce Planning Division  
Human Resources  
[SBrewer@countyofsb.org](mailto:SBrewer@countyofsb.org)

**Attachments:**

1. Attachment 1 – MOU – Monitor Advocate Office
2. Attachment 2 – Budget Journal Entry No. 0010175
3. Attachment 3 – Amendment to Salary Resolution

**Authored by:**

Luis F. Servin, Executive Director, Workforce Development Board  
Nereida Zarate, Procurement and Contracts Coordinator