



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: August 17, 2021
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Daniel Nielson, Social Services Director
Director(s) (805) 346-7101
Contact Info: Raymond L. McDonald, Executive Director, Workforce
Development Board (805) 681-4562
SUBJECT: **First Amendment to the Agreement with Arbor E&T, LLC dba Equus Workforce Solutions for Adult and Dislocated Worker Career Services for the 25% Additional Assistance Projects**

County Counsel Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence:

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute a First Amendment to the Agreement with Arbor Education & Training, LLC dba Equus Workforce Solutions (not a local vendor) for Adult and Dislocated Worker Career Services for the 25% Additional Assistance Projects for the period of July 14, 2020 through December 31, 2022; and
- b) Determine that the activity is not a "Project" subject to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review per CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(5), since the activity is an organizational or administrative activity of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda in order to approve the First Amendment to the Agreement with Arbor Education & Training, LLC dba Equus Workforce Solutions (Equus) for Adult and Dislocated Worker Career Services (ADWCS) for the 25% Additional Assistance (AA) Projects in Santa Barbara County for the period from July 14, 2020 through December 31, 2021. The projects include the COVID-19 Layoff Assistance Project and Underserved COVID-19 Impacted Individual Project. The Department of Social Services (DSS) recommends the approval of the First Amendment.

Background:

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) was signed into law on July 22, 2014. It supersedes the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 taking effect July 1, 2015 with the goal of providing job seekers access to employment, education, training and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with skilled workers they need to compete in a global economy.

WIOA authorizes the Governor to set aside up to 25 percent of the state’s Dislocated Worker funds to support California’s Rapid Response system in situations when Local Workforce Development Areas experience sudden and large increases of unemployment due to natural disasters, mass layoffs, or other events. The funds are available as discretionary grants and are to provide direct services to dislocated workers when local resources are inadequate to meet the demand for career and training services in the local America’s Job Centers of California.SM

On March 2020, Governor Newsom issued an emergency proclamation for the State of California due to the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic. To assist with the mass layoffs and business closures in our community, Santa Barbara County Workforce Development Board (SBCWDB) submitted two requests for 25% AA funding. In response to the SBCWDB grant applications, the State granted Santa Barbara County \$695,000 in special AA funding. This includes \$560,000 for the COVID-19 Layoff Assistance Project to serve recently laid off workers and \$135,000 for the Underserved COVID-19 Impacted Individuals Project to provide supportive services to individuals impacted by COVID-19. The AA projects will be operated by Equus, Santa Barbara County’s One Stop and Adult and Dislocated Worker Program contractor.

Performance Measure:

The following performance measures are maintained in the Agreement specifically for each project of the AA projects:

1. COVID-19 Layoff Assistance Project

Meet the following proposed performance goals:

I. Quarterly Participation (Cumulative)							
	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Quarter 5	Quarter 6	Quarter 7
A. Participants Enrolled	10	20	50	80	80	80	80
B. Participants Co-Enrolled in other WIOA Programs	0	0	0	5	5	5	5
C. Participants Exited	0	0	0	10	40	50	80
D. Employed at Exit	0	0	0	5	20	40	56
II. Program Services (Total participants to receive the following during the term of the project)							
A. Career Services				80			
B. Training Services				80			
C. Follow Up Services				80			
III. Performance Goals				WIOA Negotiated Local Goals Percentage	AA Project Goal Percentage		
A. Unsubsidized Employment at 2 nd Quarter				69.5%	69.5%		
B. Unsubsidized Employment at 4 th Quarter				66.5%	66.5%		
C. Credential Attainment Rate				58%	60%		
D. Median Earnings				\$8,000	\$8,000		
E. Measurable Skill Gains				Baseline	38%		

2. Underserved COVID-19 Impacted Individuals Project

- a. Utilize funding to provide services to existing and new clients (no less than 168, or as funding allows) receiving WIOA services.

Equus has been meeting the performance measures of its contract.

Key Contract Risks:

The risk assessment worksheet has been completed and DSS has determined that Equus is a high risk vendor. Equus is insured for General and Professional Liability. The County has experience with Equus and is confident of its ability to provide services.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

0

FTEs:

0

Special Instructions:

Please scan, email and send one (1) duplicate original Agreement, and a copy of the minute order to:
DSS Contracts Unit
C/O Tricia Beebe
2125 S. Centerpointe Parkway, 3rd Floor
Santa Maria, CA 93455

Attachments:

1. Attachment 1 – First Amendment – Equus – 25% AA Projects
2. Attachment 2 – Original Agreement – ResCare – 25% AA Projects

Authored by:

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Raymond L. McDonald, Executive Director, Workforce Development Board
Tricia Beebe, Contracts Coordinator