



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: 9/12/23
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

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: Contract with the Workforce Development Board of Ventura County and Agreement with Managed Career Solutions, SPC for High Road Construction Careers: Resilient Workforce Fund Program

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Director of the Santa Barbara County Department of Social Services, or designee, to accept the High Road Construction Careers: Resilient Workforce Funds on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Workforce Development Board, and execute the contract with the Workforce Development Board of Ventura County to receive \$1,118,665 to provide High Road Construction Careers: Resilient Workforce Fund Program for the period starting October 1, 2023 and ending March 31, 2026;
- b) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Managed Career Solutions, SPC (not a local vendor), to provide High Road Construction Careers: Resilient Workforce Fund Program services for a total contract amount not to exceed \$582,392.69 for the period of October 1, 2023 through March 31, 2026;
- c) Authorize the Director of Social Services or designee to adjust the Line Item Budget of the Managed Care Solutions, SPC for High Road Construction Careers: Resilient Workforce Fund, without exceeding the total contract amounts;

- d) Authorize the Director of the Santa Barbara County Department of Social Services, or designee, the authority to adjust the term start date, pursuant under the terms of the High Road Construction Careers: Resilient Workforce Fund contract with Workforce Development Board of Ventura County and the Agreement with Managed Career Solutions, SPC as amended, so long as there is no change to the maximum contract amount;
- e) Authorize the Director of Social Services, or designee, to extend the High Road Construction Careers: Resilient Workforce Fund contract with Workforce Development Board of Ventura County and Agreement with Managed Career Solutions, SPC to allocate the amount of unused funds from the previous Fiscal Year budget to the next Fiscal Year budget, subject to appropriations and budget approval; and
- f) Determine that the activity is not a “Project” subject to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review per CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(4), the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment; and 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:

- 1. Approve and authorize the Department of Social Services (DSS) Director, or designee, to accept funds on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Workforce Development Board (SBWDB), and execute the contract with the Workforce Development Board of Ventura County (WDBVC) to provide High Road Construction Careers: Resilient Workforce Fund Program (HRCC: RWF). WDBVC in partnership with the SBWDB and Workforce Development Board of San Luis Obispo County applied for and was awarded \$4,246,962 in State general funds, of which SBWDB is being allocated \$1,118,665 for the period starting October 1, 2023 and ending March 31, 2026; and
- 2. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with Managed Career Solutions, SPC (MCS), to provide HRCC: RWF Program services for a total contract amount not to exceed \$582,392.69 for the period of October 1, 2023 through March 31, 2026.

Background:

The California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) oversees a suite of investments and policy initiatives to advance construction careers as a reliable pathway to the middle class for disadvantaged Californians. The HRCC program prioritizes partnerships that link local building and construction trades councils to workforce boards, community colleges, and community-based organizations, creating structured pathways with a standard core curriculum and critical supportive services to state-certified apprenticeships in a variety of crafts.

These efforts build systems and policies that directly advance the State Plan goals of equity (access to skills and economic opportunity) and job quality (connections to careers with decent wages and benefits). Through various state funding sources (e.g., California Clean Energy Jobs Act/Prop 39, the Road Repair and Accountability Act/Senate Bill 1 (SB1) and California Climate Investments (CCI)), the

CWDB has invested and continues to invest millions of dollars in pre-apprenticeship partnerships across California.

The WDBVC, SBWDB, along with the Workforce Development Board of San Luis Obispo County applied for these funds and were awarded \$4,246,962 in HRCC: RWF. This contract is intended to provide the framework for reimbursing the entities (including SBWDB in the amount of \$1,118,665) for the costs of implementing and administering the HRCC: RWF in Santa Barbara County. WDBVC is the designated fiscal agent for the contract as they are the grant recipient for the special funds for the regional projects of this contract.

The HRCC: RWF program intends to support and expand the work of the past and present HRCC programs, and its goals to align and overlap with those of the HRCC: SB1 program and the HRCC:CCI program. These goals include:

- The development of a skilled construction workforce that ensures delivery of high-quality infrastructure projects.
- Increasing access to state-approved apprenticeships in the building and construction trades.
- Serving underrepresented and disadvantaged workers and increasing gender and racial diversity in the trades in the process.
- Establishing models of worker, management, government collaboration that jointly anticipates, plans for, and addresses the future of work.
- Promoting Community Workforce Agreements, local hire ordinances, and other relevant policies to ensure robust demand for apprentices and greater access to apprenticeships for disadvantaged communities and priority populations.

The HRCC: RWF program will focus outreach and apprenticeship services with women, English language learners, those who are homeless/housing insecure, veterans, people with disabilities, disadvantaged youth (aged 18-24 with barriers to employment and/or education), immigrants/refugees, formerly incarcerated individuals, and those from low-income households. Other populations are not excluded from the program.

It will provide pre-apprenticeship training to 500 individuals throughout the region including in-person and virtual training on Multi-Craft Core (MC3) curriculum that is focused on building and construction trades, such as carpentry, electrical, plumbing and pipefitters, sheet metal, etc. It is estimated that thirteen cohorts of 25-40 individuals will be trained.

Subcontracting the responsibilities outlined in the HRCC: RWF grant to MCS, allows the delivery of these services to the community efficiently and effectively. MCS previously served job seekers involved in the two prior HRCC projects, SB1 and CCI. MCS is also the America's Job Center of California (AJCC) operator and Title I Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Career Services provider. MCS has over 30 years of experience delivering workforce development services to adults, dislocated workers, youth and businesses in Los Angeles County, Ventura County and is the current AJCC and WIOA Operator for the SBWDB. MCS' size, maturity, established governance and performance based model demonstrates their ability to successfully implement this project. In addition, MCS services are provided by local staff with a proven record of providing services for similar grants.

MCS will enroll and provide ongoing support to individuals participating in the MC3 pre-apprenticeship trainings, including, but not limited to, career coaching, dissemination of local labor

market information on construction-related careers, connection to the local trades’ unions, as well as supportive services to aid individuals participating in the program. Upon completion of the MC3 training, MCS will help graduates apply for registered apprenticeships with the local trades, continue with further construction careers occupational training, obtain permanent employment, continue post-secondary training, and other career services as needed.

MCS will utilize 50% (\$288,486) of total contract funds of \$582,392.69 on direct job seeker services that includes supportive services and stipend payments for program participants. Supportive services enable an individual to participate in program activities. Supportive services include, but is not limited to, assistance with transportation, childcare, housing, health care, educational testing, interview attire, and work-related tools. A stipend is a fixed regular small payment made to participants during his/her enrollment to encourage the participant to complete program milestones.

MCS will utilize the remaining 50% of total contract funds (\$293,907) during the 30-month project for operating costs such as staff’s wages and benefits, other operating costs such as staff travel and office supplies.

As the HRCC: RWF grant recipient, SBCWDB is retaining \$563,272 of the grant funds to administer the grant and to cover other operating costs associated with the launch and expansion of the project.

Performance Measure:

The following performance measure is included in the Agreement with MCS:

1. MCS shall have performance measured against the required and allowable workforce and apprenticeship activities outlined in the CWDB HRCC guides, with benchmarks for success as set forth in the Agreement.

Participants by County	Santa Barbara
Enrolled in Training	125
Completion of MC3	75
Apprenticeship Placement	36
Postsecondary Education	5
Career Advancement	4
Non-Trades Employment	33

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Sources	Current FY 23-24			Total
	Cost	FY 24-25 Cost	FY 25-26 Cost	
General Fund				
State	\$ 335,600.00	\$ 447,466.00	\$ 335,599.00	\$ 1,118,665.00
Federal				
Fees				
Other:				
Total	\$ 335,600.00	\$ 447,466.00	\$ 335,599.00	\$ 1,118,665.00

Narrative: The SBWDB will receive a total of \$1,118,665 through reimbursement from the WDBVC, which is the Fiscal Agent for the HRCC program. There is no impact to General Fund. DSS will return to the Board of Supervisors with a Budget Journal Entry.

Key Contract Risks:

Because the County of Ventura is the fiscal agent for the funds and will allocate those funds to various partners including SBWDB, this contract contains indemnity provisions where SBWDB agrees to indemnify the County of Ventura for legal actions arising from SBWDB acts.

There are three indemnity provisions in the contract with WDBVC: section 9 of this contract, and sections 10 and 34 of the General Contract Conditions.

Section 9 provides that SBWDB will defend, indemnify and hold County of Ventura harmless for operations conducted or subsidized by SBWDB. Section 10 of the General Contract Conditions provides: SBWDB agrees to accept full responsibility for and agrees to exonerate, indemnify and hold harmless the County of Ventura from and against any and all claims for any damage whatsoever resulting from the use, misuse, or failure of such equipment. And Section 34 requires SBWDB to indemnify the County of Ventura for State and/or federal audit exceptions, whether resulting from contract non-compliance on the part of SBWDB or otherwise, and for claims made against the County of Ventura arising from SBWDB performance of this contract.

DSS has determined that MCS is a High-risk vendor. Per the completion of the Contract Risk Assessment Worksheet, the MCS Agreement was rated as “high-risk” primarily due to the contract size, contract type (cost reimbursable), and the percent of work that will be subcontracted. MCS has experience as an AJCC operator and provider of federally funded services. To mitigate risks, DSS will provide payments to MCS for costs incurred under the agreement after the satisfactory performance of services and demonstration that costs were eligible and appropriate.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:
0

FTEs:
0

Special Instructions:

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

Attachments:

- 1. Attachment 1 – Contract with WDBVC for HRCC:RWF Program
- 2. Attachment 2 – Agreement with MCS for HRCC:RWF

Authored by:

Luis F. Servin, Executive Director, Workforce Development Board
Tricia Beebe, Procurement and Compliance Supervisor