



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Human Services Agency



Date: February 2, 2013
Board Meeting Date: February 26, 2013
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Beverly Beasley Johnson, JD, Director, Human Services Agency

Subject: Agreement with WestEd

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing an Agreement with WestEd to design and implement an evaluation plan that analyzes the process, output, and outcome data for both model system-building and for participant activities, for the term of October 22, 2012 through June 30, 2015, in the amount of \$365,000.

BACKGROUND:

In December 2011, the Employment and Training Administration (ETA), of the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), announced the availability of approximately \$98.5 million in Workforce Innovation Fund grants authorized by the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 (P.L. 112-10). These funds support pilot programs and innovative approaches to the design and delivery of employment and training services that generate long-term improvements in the performance of the public workforce system. Workforce Development of San Mateo County, in partnership with the Alliance for Language Learners' Integration, Education, and Success (ALLIES), Work2future, and NOVA, submitted the Silicon Valley (SV) ALLIES Innovation Initiative proposal to address a dual problem: 1) the need for English language instruction for working age immigrants in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, 2) the need for a decentralized delivery system with coordinated infrastructure to meet the needs of 20,000 adult English language learners annually.

The receipt of the Workforce Innovation Fund grant from the U.S. Department of Labor for employment and training services in the amount of \$2,632,250 was approved by San Mateo County Board of Supervisors on November 6, 2012 by Resolution Number 072254. These funds support long-term improvements in the performance of the public workforce system. A high level goal of the grant is the development and administration of a well thought-out and managed evaluation plan. The County's evaluation process must employ developmental, formative, and outcome evaluation methods to achieve the

overall goal of the grant – accelerating adult immigrant English language learners’ success in education and career options.

DISCUSSION:

The overarching goal of this grant is to develop a model that connects workers requiring English-language acquisition, work readiness, and career-technical training to high-need regional career pathways through a structured and coordinated multi-sector network across workforce development, education, business and labor, and support organizations. The eventual outcome of this grant is the education and placement of immigrants into higher-paying, more productive careers. After a rigorous selection process, WestEd has been chosen to assist the County to design and implement an evaluation plan that analyzes the process, output, and outcome data for both model system-building and for participant activities.

The evaluation plan consists of a combination of three types of evaluations: developmental evaluation, formative evaluation and summative evaluation.

The context of the evaluation will be developed from the goals established by the Silicon Valley ALLIES Steering Committee. The Steering Committee is comprised of the WIB Directors from NOVA, work2future, and Workforce Development San Mateo County, and various business, labor, community organization and education leaders. Their function is to develop the strategic direction for the SV ALLIES initiative and develop common goals and metrics.

The Contractor has assured compliance with the County's Contractor Employee Jury Service Ordinance, as well as all other contract provisions that are required by County ordinance and administrative memoranda, including but not limited to insurance, hold harmless, non-discrimination and equal benefits. County Counsel has reviewed and approved this Agreement and Resolution as to form and the Contractor meets insurance certification requirements. This Agreement was delayed due to changes in the Workforce Investment Board and reorganization of Workforce Development staff along with complex negotiations.

Acceptance of this Agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Prosperous Community by connecting workers to higher-paying, more productive careers. It is estimated that an additional 2,000 immigrant workers will be impacted by the evolving model beginning in FY 2014-15 and 40 percent will utilize at least one work readiness/skill development service at one of the three one-stop systems in San Mateo and Santa Clara County. It is anticipated that the number of participants utilizing at least one work readiness/skill development service will increase over time, after closeout of the grant-funded period.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2013-14 Projected	FY 2014-15 Projected
Percent of participants who received English as a Second Language (ESL)	N/A	49%

training through the integrated SV ALLIES program that go on to complete a vocational training program and/or earn an industry-recognized credential.		
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*The program model will be developed over the first two years of the grant and implementation in the third fiscal year.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of the Agreements is October 22, 2012 through June 30, 2015. The Agreement is in the amount of \$365,000. This Agreement is funded by the U.S. Department of Labor. Expenses incurred in association with this Agreement are 100% claimable and refundable. Appropriations have been included in the FY 2012- 2013 Adopted Budget, and will be included in the FY 2013-14 and FY 2014-15 Recommended Budgets. There is no Net County Cost.