



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 5/2/2023

File #: 23-135

To: Board of Supervisors
From: County Administrative Office
Agenda Section: Consent

Vote Requirement: 4/5th

SUBJECT:

Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Quality Jobs, Equity, Strategy, and Training (QUEST) Disaster Recovery National Dislocated Worker Grant Acceptance of Funds (NDWG) and Supplemental Budget (4/5 Vote Required)

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the following supplemental budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23 in Fund 1120, Budget Unit 287105 to accept grant funding (4/5 vote required); and
2. Approve and authorize the Workforce Development Board's Executive Director to sign the Professional Services Agreement and subsequent amendments between the County of Humboldt and the Humboldt State University Sponsored Programs Foundation relating to Quest NDWG grant activity.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Economic Development (1120) - Workforce Development QUEST NDWG (1120-287105)

DISCUSSION:

While global economies work to rebound from the COVID-19 pandemic, many US economies face a slower recovery period. Of note, members of under-resourced communities (i.e., women, justice-involved persons, indigenous communities, communities of color) face chronic unemployment and some of the hardest economic impacts. While there are a variety of solutions, all are consistent in that they require collaboration between employers and those seeking employment, rigorous community resiliency and stable growth for impactful sectors (infrastructure, care economy and climate resiliency).

On July 5, 2021, the Department of Labor's (DOL) Employment and Training Administration (ETA) Advisory System released Training and Employment Guidance Letter No. 2-22 providing funding under the DOL's Good Jobs initiative. The County of Humboldt has been awarded \$250,000 to work

with Blue Lake Rancheria and Cal Poly Humboldt, DBA Humboldt State University Sponsored Programs Foundation (HSUSPF) to promote engagement for underserved communities and businesses as well as employment training activities.

Direct program implementation will occur through subcontracting these grant funds with HSUSPF to engage populations including women, justice-involved persons, indigenous communities, communities of color and the unemployed. HSUSPF will assist in job placement, program enrollment and retention, skill-based hiring, work-based learning opportunities, career path development and opportunity mapping. This program will also continue to engage with businesses by providing technical assistance on improving job quality, equity, update training priorities, solution-based coaching on industry standards and promotion of employee voice in the workplace. Lastly, these funds will also be used to perform analyses of high-performing employer needs, dislocated worker needs and gap analyses on equity deficits in the workforce.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Expenditures (1120, 287105)	FY22-23	FY23-24 Projected	FY24-25 Projected
Budgeted Expenses	0	100,000	100,000
Additional Appropriation Requested	50,000	0	0
Total Expenditures	50,000	100,000	100,000
Funding Sources (1120, 287105)	FY22-23 Adopted	FY23-24 Projected*	FY24-25 Projected*
State/Federal Funds	50,000	100,000	100,000
Total Funding Sources	50,000	100,000	100,000

**Projected amounts are estimates and are subject to change.*

Narrative Explanation of Financial Impact:

The requested supplemental budget will increase Economic Development’s Workforce Development funds by \$250,000

STAFFING IMPACT:

Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impact:

This grant will not increase staffing levels but will increase staff workload though reporting, monitoring, and programmatic implementation.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:

This action supports the following areas of your Board’s Strategic Framework.

Core Roles: Support business, workforce development and creation of private-sector jobs

New Initiatives: Build interjurisdictional and regional cooperation

Strategic Plan: 3.1 - Improve the economy of Humboldt County

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Cal Poly Humboldt, DBA Humboldt State University Sponsored Programs Foundation and Blue Lake Rancheria

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board could choose not to approve this agenda item. This alternative is not recommended as the activities conducted under these funds support the local and regional plan set forth by the Humboldt County Workforce Development Board. Furthermore, these funds bring much needed services to members of the community who face barriers to employment.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. QUEST NDWG Supplemental Budget
2. QUEST NDWG DRAFT Professional Services Agreement

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: N/A

Meeting of: N/A

File No.: N/A