



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 3/26/2024

File #: 24-265

To: Board of Supervisors

From: DHHS: Social Services

Agenda Section: Consent

Vote Requirement: Majority

SUBJECT:

Report to California Department of Social Services (CDSS) from Humboldt County California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Welfare to Work (WTW) Regarding Implementation of Required California Outcomes and Accountability Review (Cal-OAR) System-Improvement Plan (Cal-SIP).

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute the attached Cal-SIP for submission to CDSS regarding implementation of additional measures to improve self-sufficiency outcomes for CalWORKs participants, to be effective May 1, 2024, to June 30, 2026.
2. Direct the Clerk of the Board to return one fully executed original copy of the attached Cal-SIP to the Department of Health and Human Services- Social Services Branch (DHHS - Social Services) for further processing by the CDSS.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

CalWORKs (1160-511005)

DISCUSSION:

Pursuant to Senate Bill 89 (Chapter 24, Statutes of 2017) and Assembly Bill 79 (chapter 11, Statutes of 2020) California CalWORKs programs are mandated to participate in the Cal-OAR continuous quality improvement process 5-year cycle including development and implementation of a county specific system-improvement plan with performance and equity goals.

Humboldt County CalWORKs used state-supplied data, focus group feedback, survey results, and county peer feedback to develop a Cal-SIP centered around local needs. Humboldt County's Cal-SIP seeks improvements in CalWORKs participants' employment retention and wage progression post-CalWORKs over two and four quarters incorporating equity goals for female, Hispanic, and Native American/Pacific Islander CalWORKs populations. These goals align with the CalWORKs program mission to assist families in being self-sufficient and Humboldt County efforts around Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Approval of the attached Cal-SIP will allow the CalWORKs WTW program to implement action items to achieve continuous quality improvement goals to improve post-CalWORKs employment outcomes for participants. Progress on these goals will be tracked by the WTW program using internal and state supplied data including the completion of two progress reports due to CDSS May 9, 2025, and June 12, 2026.

It is the recommendation of DHHS - Social Services that the Board approve and authorize the Chair of the Board to execute the attached Cal-SIP for submission to CDSS to meet the state continuous quality improvement mandate.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Expenditures (Fund, Budget Unit)	FY23-24	FY24-25 Projected	FY25-26 Projected
Budgeted Expenses	\$359,402.00	\$368,962.00	\$378,776.00
Total Expenditures	\$359,402.00		
Funding Sources (Fund, Budget Unit)	FY23-24 Adopted	FY24-25 Projected*	FY25-26 Projected*
State/Federal Funds	\$359,402.00	\$368,962.00	\$378,776.00
Total Funding Sources	\$359,402.00	\$368,962.00	\$378,776.00

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

Narrative Explanation of Financial Impact:

Funding for Cal-OAR is through a state allocation specifically for this purpose. This allocation was \$359,402.00 for fiscal year 2023-2024 and is projected to be increased by 2.66 percent for fiscal year 2024-2025, budget unit 1160-511005. Continuing funding from the state is anticipated for future years. Should this funding be reduced, implementation of the Cal-SIP may be funded through the CalWORKs single allocation. As a result, approval of the attached agreement with the CDSS will not impact the Humboldt County General Fund.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impact:

Approval of the attached Cal-SIP will not impact staffing levels. Cal-SIP implementation will be done by existing staff.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:

The recommended action supports the Board’s Strategic Framework by:

Core Roles: Protect vulnerable populations

New Initiatives: Provide community-appropriate levels of service

Strategic Plan: 3.1 - Improve the economy of Humboldt County

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

CalWORKs is partnered with Employment and Training for employment services for CalWORKs participants.

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board may choose not to approve the attached Cal-SIP or the implementation of the continuous quality improvement plan. However, this alternative is not recommended because it would put Humboldt County out of compliance with state mandate and would not support improving outcomes for local CalWORKs families.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. CalWORKs County System Improvement Plan Report
2. California Outcomes and Accountability Review Report Signature page regarding the Humboldt County System-Improvement Plan.

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: N/A

Meeting of: N/A

File No.: N/A