

July 19, 2021

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
825 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Re: Request for ARPA funding to support technology needed for the Job Market

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am writing on behalf of the Humboldt Workforce Coalition (HWC) to urge your support for a one-time grant of \$69,146.54 from the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds for the purpose of readying the Job Market for reopening and supporting community members who need assistance entering the workforce.

As you know, on June 29, 2021, your Board directed staff to advance the reform of workforce programs in Humboldt County, and directed staff to form a new workforce coalition with local community partners. We thank you for your trust in us during the transition.

As directed by your Board, the new HWC is preparing to become both the AJCC Operator and the Adult and Dislocated Worker Career Services Provider, and to assume all other services and responsibilities from SMART.

However, upon recovering access to the Job Market and taking an inventory of the equipment and resources left behind, it was determined that the computers and other equipment were antiquated and not useful for the coalition or recipients of workforce programs. In some cases, computers were 8+ years old, and we have been told that computers have been malfunctioning during workforce trainings.

Having a well-funded and -equipped Job Market facility is crucial as we seek to address the career-service needs of those in the community—particularly those who lost their jobs due to COVID. The Job Market, once reopened to the public daily, will need working, state-of-the-art computers to provide workshops on a variety of software programs that industry leaders expect employees to be able to use. Computers are also needed for community members to stop in and build resumes and use Cal Jobs to search for employment.

The purpose of the Job Market includes providing basic career services, including (but not limited to) participant intake, orientations, initial assessments, employment services, and referrals to other partners and services. Through the Job Market, the new Coalition will also provide individualized career services to youth and adults—including (but not limited to) comprehensive and specialized assessments, case management, individual employment plans, career planning, and vocational counseling.

Job Market Technology Needs

Equipment Needed	Number	Total Cost (\$) (includes tax, shipping)
Dell Optiplex 3080 Computers	32	30,821.76
Dell P2419H 27" Monitors	40	11,397.77
HP LaserJet Enterprise M712dn Laser Printer	5	12,694.50
Projectors	3	3,000.00
Computers Chairs	17	2,213.40
Subtotal		60,127.43
Indirect cost (15%)		9,019.11

Total Cost	69,146.54
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Thank you in advance for considering this one-time grant request of \$69,146.54 from the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds for the purpose of readying the Job Market for reopening, and for supporting community members who need assistance entering the workforce.

Respectfully,



Connie Stewart
Executive Director of Initiatives