



# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 19-848, **Version:** 1

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**To:** Board of Supervisors

**From:** County Administrative Office

**Agenda Section:** Consent

**SUBJECT:**

Contract Agreement with the Humboldt County Office of Education for use of Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act SlingShot Funds

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to sign two copies of the contract between the County of Humboldt and Humboldt County Office of Education relating to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act SlingShot funds; and
2. Direct the Clerk of the Board to return all executed copies of the attached contracts to the Executive Director of the Humboldt County Workforce Development Board.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

United States Department of Labor and State of California Employment Development Department

**DISCUSSION:**

The County Administrative Office - Economic Development Division was awarded an 18-month grant from the California Workforce Development Board to improve the oral healthcare workforce and to retain the services of a qualified professional to serve as the managing entity for what is known as the local SlingShot 2.0 Initiative project. SlingShot represents a critical mechanism to help align industry, education, and economic development to improve career pathways, training programs and develop a healthcare pipeline to fill local healthcare jobs.

This agenda item will award a contract to the Humboldt County Office of Education (HCOE) to manage SlingShot 2.0. As the project manager, HCOE will provide the following services:

- implement seminars that provide youth access to health education, with an emphasis on dental and oral health careers,
- hire an industry/education liaison to provide coordinated efforts between industry and education, and support a regional model,
- support professional development for those involved in the program,
- develop marketing and outreach materials to local distribute to school districts,

- purchase supplies curriculum and materials necessary to promote and operate the career pathway sections of the program, as well as the spring healthcare seminar, and
- develop and implement the Oral and Dental Health Careers Exploration Summer Institute by June, 2020.

## **Background**

The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD), 2012 reported that Humboldt County ranked 47th worst out of 58 counties for its rate of preventable dental emergency department visits. Humboldt's rate was more than double that of the state of California as a whole. According to the Status of Oral Health in California: Oral Disease Burden and Prevention report by the California Department of Public Health in 2017, "routine and timely preventative care would reduce the need for emergency department visits for dental conditions."

In the summer of 2018, a local Oral Health Leadership Team (OHLT) was formed, and the Humboldt County Workforce Development Board (WDB) became a member. The team has developed four recommendations to improve access to care:

- 1) Implement strategies to engage private dentists in providing care to low-income populations and advocate for state-level improvements to the Denti-Cal system;
- 2) Explore opportunities to increase capacity of mid-level oral health professionals, and develop local career pathways to encourage youth to pursue oral health-related professions;
- 3) Examine no-show trends and implement strategies to reduce the rate of no-shows at existing Denti-Cal providers to increase capacity to provide routine preventive care to more residents; and
- 4) Explore strategies to reduce emergency dental clinics and emergency rooms and increase the percent of patients that receive routine preventive care across all age groups.

The Humboldt Dental and Oral Health Project aligns with objectives and goals set forth in the WDB Regional Plan and the Healthcare SlingShot Project. This project will clearly demonstrate that it is an expansion of the Healthcare SlingShot Project with a heavy industry focus to promote careers in dental and oral health. The OHLT will continue to play a role, but an additional committee will be formed to include Dental Assistants and Hygienists, a Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS), a DDS with a Master of Science in Orthodontic Surgery, the Chamber of Commerce, and College of the Redwoods Dental program staff. The Regional Healthcare Liaison will lead this effort.

This agreement comes to the Board after the effective date of June 1, 2019, due to delays in obtaining the necessary signatures.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

The overall grant award is \$150,000, with 10% allocated towards administrative costs. These funds have been included in fiscal year 2018-19 and 2019-20 budgets in budget unit 1120-287 - Workforce Development.

The total amount of this contract is not to exceed \$135,000. Providing these funds to HCOE will have no impact on the General Fund. These funds are made available through grants provided by the California Workforce Development Board.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:

This action supports your Board's Strategic Framework by managing our resources to ensure sustainability of services, supporting business, workforce development and creation of private-sector jobs

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Humboldt County Office of Education

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Your board could choose to not approve this contract. This alternative is not recommended because the strategies, actions and outcomes have been determined by industry and are included in the budget submitted to the state.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Contract with the Humboldt County Office of Education for SlingShot 2.0 Dental/Oral Health Initiative

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: N/A

Meeting of: N/A

File No.: N/A