



COUNTY of VENTURA

MELISSA LIVINGSTON
Director

November 7, 2023

HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

855 Partridge Drive
Ventura, CA 93003
805-477-5100

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

JENNIE PITTMAN
Deputy Director
Administrative Services

VICTORIA JUMP
Deputy Director
Aging & Disability Services

Subject: Authorization to Submit Two Grant Applications to the Foundation for California Community Colleges and to the California Department of Housing and Community Development in the Total Amount of \$6,430,215 for Employment Training Programs; and Authorization to Accept Funding and Sign Any Related Grant Agreements.

DAVID SWANSON HOLLINGER
Deputy Director
Children & Family Services

MARISSA MACH
Deputy Director
Community Access & Engagement

ELAINE MARTINEZ
Deputy Director
Community Services

Recommendations:

1. Authorize the Workforce Development Board of Ventura County (WDBVC) to submit an application to Foundation for California Community Colleges (FCCC) for a Breaking Barriers to Employment grant in the amount of \$500,000 to assist individuals with barriers to employment improve their academic and workforce readiness skills training.
2. Authorize the WDBVC to submit an application to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for a Disaster Recovery Workforce Development (DR-Workforce) grant in the amount of \$5,930,215 to increase economic opportunities through workforce training for individuals with low- to moderate-income.
3. Authorize the Human Services Agency (HSA) Director, or designee, to accept funding from and sign any agreements with FCCC and HCD related to these grants, subject to County Executive Office and County Counsel review and approval.

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

Mandatory:	No
Source of Funding:	State
Funding Match Required:	Yes, 20% for Breaking Barriers (\$100,000)
Impact on other Departments:	None

Summary of Revenue and Costs:

	<u>FY 2023-24</u>	<u>FY 2024-25</u>
Revenue:		
Direct	\$1,562,553	\$3,385,106
Total Revenue	\$1,562,553	\$3,385,106
Costs:		
Direct	\$1,562,553	\$3,385,106
Indirect	Minimal	Minimal
Total Costs	\$1,562,553	\$3,385,106
Net County Cost	\$0	\$0

There is no Net County Cost associated with these programs. If the Breaking Barriers to Employment program is selected for funding, the 20% matching funds will be provided through in-kind services of existing staff who will shift from other projects without incurring overtime or additional cost. There are sufficient revenues and appropriations in the HSA Adopted Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 and no budget adjustment is being requested. In addition to the amounts displayed above, \$1,482,556 will be realized in FY 2025-26.

FY 2023-24 Adopted Budget for HSA Workforce Development Division # 3450				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$10,047,682	\$10,047,682	\$10,047,682	\$0
Revenue	\$10,047,682	\$10,047,682	\$10,047,682	\$0
Net Cost	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Discussion

The Breaking Barriers to Employment initiative is a joint effort between the Foundation for California Community Colleges and the California Workforce Development Board, with the purpose of providing individuals who have barriers to employment with the services they need to enter, participate in and complete workforce preparation, training and education programs that are aligned with regional labor market needs. This initiative focuses on innovative approaches to, and proven practices for, addressing racial, ethnic and socioeconomic disparities in the labor market. Successful projects will create pipelines to quality jobs, upward mobility and income security for workers historically excluded from quality jobs and economic prosperity. The grant opportunity, for which WDBVC will apply for \$500,000, requires local collaboration with a community-based organization (CBO). If selected for funding, WDBVC will work with the County Purchasing Agent to secure a qualified CBO to collaborate with in delivering services. The deadline to submit grant applications to FCCC is December 8, 2023. The anticipated period of performance for this grant is one year.

The DR-Workforce Program supports local jurisdictions and workforce training programs to deliver job training and career services that address economic revitalization as a part of

disaster recovery in identified areas, such as Ventura County, that were impacted by the 2018 wildfires. Applicants are expected to work in collaboration with community colleges, training providers, local governments and state agencies to create or expand programs that address the unmet need for skilled labor and specialized training. HCD has identified program funds based on the impacts of the 2018 fires and the training needs in each eligible county, which includes \$5,930,215 specifically for the Ventura County Region. If selected for funding, WDBVC will work collaboratively with the various entities as specified by HCD. The deadline to submit grant applications to HCD is February 29, 2024. The anticipated period of performance for this grant is two years.

We request that your Board authorize WDBVC to submit the two grant applications and authorize the HSA Director to accept funding and sign any related grant agreements, subject to County Executive Office and County Counsel review and approval. The grants are in line with the County's Strategic Plan Priority of 'Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Vitality', Goal (2) Foster a thriving business ecosystem to create jobs, increase wages, and strengthen the local economy.

This item has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office and County Counsel. If you have any questions, please contact me at 805-477-5301, or Rebecca Evans, WDBVC Executive Director, at 805-477-5306.



Melissa Livingston
Director