



**NEVADA COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
AGENCY**

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January 5, 2015

Honorable Board of Supervisors
Eric Rood Administrative Center
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

DATE OF MEETING: February 10, 2015

SUBJECT: Resolution approving execution of a contract with Nevada-Sierra Regional In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority for the provision of services related to the Expanded Subsidized Employment (ESE) Program for CalWORKs participants in the maximum amount of \$219,976 for the term of January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: Contract services are supported by the CalWORKs Expanded Subsidized Employment (ESE) Program allocation available to the department as derived from the passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 74. The contract maximum is \$219,976 for the term of January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015, and there are no county general fund dollars required in the Agreement.

BACKGROUND: As a result of the passage of AB74, the Expanded Subsidized Employment (ESE) Program was created to build upon the success of the existing Subsidized Employment Program (SEP) (AB98) which has proven to be beneficial in transitioning CalWORKs clients into the labor market.

Under this Agreement, Public Authority will provide an Expanded Subsidized Employment Program that will center on providing participants with the training and supports they need to become successful in both their lives and their work. The Public Authority's ESE program will serve all clients referred by CalWORKS staff, but will be specifically designed to serve Tier 1 CalWORKS participants who "have limited work experience, barriers to employment, and/or need basic 'soft' skills training ." The program will have eight full-time (40 hour per week) slots, which can serve up to twelve participants at a time. Participants will receive intensive hands-on training in soft skills while learning best practices for in-home care. Each participant will also create an individualized plan to identify and address personal issues that create barriers to successful employment. Staff will assist each participant in setting short-term and long-term personal goals and help to connect them with local resources to address their needs.

All participants will be required to attend soft skills trainings each week. In addition to soft skills training, each participant will choose one of two focus tracks. Track 1, the Home Care Track, will consist of both hands-on and online training in the best practices of providing in-home care. This track will include classes such as CPR/First Aid, Cooking on a Budget, Dementia Care, Infectious Disease Control, Lifting and Transferring, Mental Health First Aid, and Job Skills for In-Home Care Providers. Soft skills will be emphasized throughout all Home Care Track in-person trainings and it is expected that successful participants will find work in the home care field.

Track 2, the Production Track will include hands-on assembly work (projects may include assembling home-care toolkits, hygiene kits, or emergency kits, for example). The Production Track will focus on planning, organizational skills, and teamwork and will serve participants who face the most significant barriers to employment and who will need instruction in the most basic of job skills. This track will be a place where participants can work on their soft skills and begin to put their training into practice in a work environment. It is expected that successful participants in this track will be able to go on to do unskilled manual labor.

It is recommended that the Board approve this Agreement, as the services provided assist CalWORKs participants in their efforts to become financially self-sufficient.

Respectfully submitted,



Mike Dent, Director
Department of Social Services

