



NEVADA COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Ryan Gruver
Agency Director

Department of Social Services

Rachel Roos, LCSW
Department of Social Services
Director

950 Maidu Ave., PO Box 1210
10075 Levon Ave., Ste 202
988 McCourtney Road

Nevada City, CA 95959
Truckee, CA 96161
Grass Valley, CA 95949

Telephone (530) 265-1340 FAX (530) 265-9860
Telephone (530) 582-7803 FAX (530) 582-7729
Telephone (530) 265-1340 FAX (530) 274-1049

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: February 8, 2022

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Rachel Roos

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing execution of Amendment 1 with Nevada-Sierra Connecting Point Public Authority for the provision of services related to the administration of employment services through their Employment Services program for Nevada County CalWORKs participants utilizing the Employability Barrier Removal Program, Work Experience (WEX) and Expanded Subsidized Employment (ESE) Programs to incorporate an additional navigator and add incentives to the customers for participating in work study or job training and educational activities and amend Exhibit "B" Schedule of Charges and Payments to reflect the shift in the budget line items for the contract term of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. (Res21-234)

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: Funds for services are derived from Department of Social Services CalWORKs Single Allocation dollars; CalWORKs Expanded Subsidized Employment Program allocation, available to the department from the passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 74. Services are included in the Department's FY 2021/22 budget and there are no county general fund dollars required in the Agreement.

BACKGROUND: On June 15, 2021, per Resolution 21-234, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors approved execution of the Professional Services Contract with Nevada-Sierra Connecting Point Public Authority for the provision of services related to the administration of employment services. Under this Agreement, the Contractor will continue to provide employment services through their Employment Services program for CalWORKs participants in the Nevada County Welfare-to-Work Program. This amendment allows for additional navigator assistance to support the participants. This amendment also allows contractor to incentivize work and educational training.

CalWORKs participants will be able to avail themselves of these programs which will help increase their employability while helping the Department of Social Services meet its Federal Work Participation Rate (WPR), thereby avoiding possible financial penalties for not reaching established performance standards.

The Employment Services program is a career-focused program which helps participants maximize their CalWORKs time and benefits in the pursuit of a sustainable career that fits their skills and interests. Employment Services encourages long-term planning in the pursuit of a lifetime of self-sufficiency. A team approach is used to provide each participant with intensive case management services.

Each referred CalWORKs participant will be assessed to identify their interests, long-term career goals, education, relevant work experience, strengths, weaknesses, and barriers to achieving their employment goals. Participants will work with a Career Counselor to create individualized plans outlining the steps necessary to reach their goals. Participants will also take part in structured counseling sessions to assist in identifying and overcoming personal challenges. Participants shall be required to participate in Essential Skills classes to address skills such as boundaries, communication (verbal and nonverbal), critical thinking, decision making, work etiquette, flexibility, personal hygiene, organization, problem solving, self-awareness, self-confidence, self-control, self-motivation, self-reflection, teamwork, and time management. Vocational training will be provided if the need for it is identified in career planning.

Employment Services staff will work closely with participants to address the barriers to employment identified in the initial assessment. Training and support to improve participants' résumé writing, interviewing, and networking skills and resources and assistance for participant job search will be provided. Employment Services will place at least 50% of active participants in either WEX or ESE placements with local businesses and organizations.

Contractor will provide subsidized work experience activities. Contractor will provide work study/ training and educational incentives to promote successful employment and self-sufficiency. Contractor will conduct all activities related to payroll, benefits, workers' compensation, drug screening, and sick leave requirements.

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

Item Initiated and by: Rachel Roos, LCSW, Director of Social Services