

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Social Services	(2) MEETING DATE 6/19/2012	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Trish Avery Caldwell (805) 781-1831	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve three renewal service contracts (Clerk's File) for CalWORKs Work-study, Bridge to Success, and the Independent Living Program (ILP)/Extended Foster Care (EFC) with San Luis Obispo County Community College District (Cuesta) for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 in the amounts of \$75,000, \$65,000 and \$372,594 respectively.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that your Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, three renewal service contracts with San Luis Obispo County Community College District (Cuesta) for CalWORKs Work-study, Bridge to Success, and the Independent Living Program (ILP)/Extended Foster Care (EFC) in the amounts of \$75,000, \$65,000 and \$372,594 respectively for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-2013.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Fed, State and County	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT CalWORKs Work-study \$ 75,000 Bridge to Success \$ 65,000 ILP/EFC <u>\$372,594</u> \$512,594	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT CalWORKs Work-study \$ 75,000 Bridge to Success \$ 65,000 ILP/EFC <u>\$372,594</u> \$512,594	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. _____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		(12) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(13) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) CalWORKs Work-study 19001147 Bridge to Success 19001148 IPL/EFC 19001149		(14) W-9 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	
(15) LOCATION MAP N/A	(16) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(17) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Date <u>Approved June 21, 2011</u>	
(18) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Emily Jackson			
(19) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Social Services / Trish Avery Caldwell
(805) 781-1831

DATE: 6/19/2012

SUBJECT: Request to approve three renewal service contracts for CalWORKs Work-study, Bridge to Success, and the Independent Living Program (ILP)/Extended Foster Care (EFC) with San Luis Obispo County Community College District (Cuesta) for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 in the amounts of \$75,000, \$65,000 and \$372,594 respectively.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that your Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, three renewal service contracts with San Luis Obispo County Community College District (Cuesta) for CalWORKs Work-study, Bridge to Success, and the Independent Living Program (ILP)/Extended Foster Care (EFC) in the amounts of \$75,000, \$65,000 and \$372,594 respectively for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-2013.

Discussion

In 1997 our federal/state public assistance program was drastically changed to focus on minimizing "welfare dependency" by increasing the number of working adults through expanded training and supportive services opportunities, and by giving states greater flexibility in the design and implementation of programs. The new Federal program was named Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). California's TANF program, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), includes detailed requirements and funding for supportive services to help families move into and succeed in the workforce. Specifically, education and training programs must be available to CalWORKs participants to assist them in overcoming employment barriers and moving toward self-sufficiency.

Cuesta first began providing services as a junior college in 1963 and later opened its office of Employment Training in 1997 in response to welfare reform (i.e., Welfare Reform Act of 1996). The Office of Employment Training, now known as the Workforce Economic Development Department, provides services to CalWORKs Cuesta College students and other low-income persons. Services include vocational training, work-study/subsidized employment, job placement, academic counseling, child care, and supportive services (i.e., study hall, tutoring, book vouchers, transportation, and crisis intervention referrals). Cuesta specifically assists students as they engage in activities that will lead directly to gainful employment and family self-sufficiency. Over the years Cuesta has expanded its programs to meet identified needs of CalWORKs participants and other low-income students.

Work-study Program:

The CalWORKs Work-study Program at Cuesta is dedicated to providing employment opportunities to TANF/CalWORKs recipients as they pursue their academic goals and strive to achieve self-sufficiency. The program places on or off-campus between twenty (20) and twenty-five (25) students in employment at various agencies and companies each year. These students work 20 hours per week while attending school full-time. Together Cuesta, the employer, and the student discuss class requirements, child care concerns, and personal barriers that may need to be addressed to ensure a successful work-study placement. The goal is to create a partnership that allows the student to succeed in the work environment and also provide a valuable service to the employer. In addition, the program provides an opportunity for participants to build a strong work history for individuals who have not worked for a period of time. Many work-study employers retain participants after the work-study program period expires, while other participants have directly accessed self-sufficiency level jobs through opportunities created by their placement. Since 1998, over six hundred (600) successful work-study placements have been realized.

Bridge to Success Program (Bridge):

The Bridge to Success Program (Bridge) is considered one of Cuesta's most highly effective outreach programs to area youth considered "at-risk." Youth served come from local high schools, continuation and community schools, probation, Independent Living Program (ILP), Teenage Academic Parenting Program (TAPP), CalWORKs and other youth-serving community agencies. Most students who enter the program are deficient in high school credits and can concurrently earn community college credits and up to ten (10) high school elective units, therefore increasing the number of students who complete high school. Classes are offered throughout the County and emphasize job readiness skills and strategies for succeeding both at school and work. The program serves an average of three hundred (300) kids per year by leveraging funds from both public and private sources.

Independent Living Program (ILP) and Extended Foster Care (EFC):

The Independent Living Program (ILP) is a state mandated program that provides services for our teens in foster care. Services focus on preparing youth in foster care for adulthood in four (4) key areas: employment, life skills, education and vocational training, and permanency. Employment services are designed to meet the special individual needs of ILP foster youth and offer access to subsidized employment, career resource centers, and an employment specialist dedicated to guiding and supporting each youth in employment related decisions. The Life Skills component includes teaching about budgeting, smart shopping, finding and keeping housing, and various health services. In addition, the Cuesta and ILP staffs work with youth to outline education and vocational training opportunities available to them. Educational services include comprehensive assessment testing, creating an individual education plan, availability of an academic counselor, and one-on-one guidance with vocational training programs.

The ILP contract also provides each foster youth with services aimed at identifying permanent adult relationships before exiting foster care. Research shows that youth connected to a positive and supportive adult upon leaving the foster care system are more likely to obtain stable housing, be employed and have life-long positive and supportive relationships. Annually, the ILP program

provides services to approximately two hundred (200) teens in foster care.

Effective January 1, 2012 services to foster youth have been expanded as outlined by AB 12 which was signed into law on September 30, 2010. The major impact of AB 12 is the extended foster care benefits for youth until they are age 21. The eligibility criteria for EFC program includes:

- Age
- Education and Employment Participation Conditions
- Transitional Independent Living Case Plan including the Transitional Independent Living Plan (TILP) updated each six months
- Authority for placement
- Eligible facilities

Each of these requirements is explained in detail in [ACL 11-61](#) which is located on the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) website under Letters and Notices ([CDSS](#)). Based on the expansion of services a Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued on January 17, 2012 and the contract was awarded to Cuesta College. The County combined the ILP and EFC programs as the aim of both programs are to prepare foster youth for adulthood by assisting them with education, employment goals, and connection to positive adult relationships. In addition, no additional funding was allocated for the EFC services. Cuesta was the provider of ILP services last FY so the transition of serving foster youth who elect to participate in the EFC program will be smooth.

Approval of these renewal contracts will ensure that Cuesta will continue to provide CalWORKs and other low-income participants, education and employment opportunities aimed at developing their work skills, securing employment and living independently. All services are intended to support long-term achievement and support both welfare reform goals and the outcomes of Assembly Bill 636 (AB 636), the Child Welfare System Improvement and Accountability Act (better known as the System Improvement Plan or SIP), which focuses on continuous improvement, interagency partnerships, community involvement and public reporting outcomes. These services support the Department and County goal of keeping our economy strong and viable and assuring that all share in this economic prosperity.

Other Agency Involvement

These contracts were developed in partnership with Cuesta College and County Counsel has reviewed and approved the contracts as to legal form and effect.

Financial Considerations

The total contract amounts for CalWORKs Work-study, Bridge to Success, and ILP/EFC contracts are \$75,000, \$65,000, and \$372,594 respectively. These contracts are included in the Department of Social Services adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 and will require no additional General Fund contribution.

Agency	Budget FY 11-12	Budget FY 12-13	Notes	Sharing Ratios			
				Fed	St	Co	Other
Cuesta College	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	CalWORKs Work-study	100%	0%	0%	
	\$ 65,000	\$ 65,000	Bridge to Success	100%	0%	0%	
	<u>\$372,594</u>	<u>\$372,594</u>	Independent Living Prog (ILP) and Extended Foster Care (EFC)	81%	22%	07%	
Total	\$512,594	\$512,594					

Results

Cuesta College – CalWORKs Work-study Program

Fiscal Year 11-12

An estimated twenty nine (29) CalWORKs participants were provided services during the contract year. Cuesta also uses Federal Work-study funds to support additional placements.

Cuesta exceeded its performance outcome to place twelve to fifteen (12-15) students in work-study positions off-campus with local employers, or in on-campus positions. *An estimated twenty nine (29) CalWORKs participants participated in the work-study program.*

Cuesta met its performance outcome and provided services that resulted in ninety percent (90%) of students in work-study completing three (3) months of work experience. *An estimated twenty six (26) of twenty nine (29) or ninety percent (90%) of students completed three (3) months of work experience at the time of the 3rd quarter report.*

Cuesta outcomes resulted in fourteen percent (14%) or three (3) students placed in work-study as of March 31, 2012 obtaining unsubsidized employment as a direct result of their experience. *Though it is anticipated that this number will be slightly higher by the end of the FY, the number will still be lower than the anticipated fifty percent (50%) of the students placed in work-study obtaining unsubsidized employment as a direct result of their experience. One reason for the lower outcome is many of the students are new and do not have the soft skills or education level to maintain employment and so placements will take place at a future date. As the students are better able to manage both personal and school demands employment will be next.*

Reported last year on July 20, 2011, in FY 2010-2011 a total of seven percent (7%), or two (2) students obtained unsubsidized employment as a direct result of their experience. This is lower than the anticipated fifty percent (50%) however with the local unemployment rate currently around ten percent (10%) it is anticipated that this number will continue to remain low. A total of three (3), or ten percent (10%), enrolled in a 4 year college/university and others became employed in unsubsidized employment. The Department of Social Services (DSS) feels this is a good outcome for the program.

Cuesta will provide services that result in one hundred percent (100%) of employers receiving a CalWORKs work-study placement being satisfied with the student/employee performance as reported

on the satisfaction survey. *This outcome will be reported on their 4th quarter report, and returned to the County on July 20, 2012.*

An Employer placement survey was completed in May 2011 (FY 10-11). Of the thirty-seven (37) surveys sent out eighteen (18) were returned. Of these, one hundred percent (100%) of the employers were satisfied with their student/employee. All comments received about Cuesta staff were positive.

Fiscal Year 12-13

Cuesta will place twelve to fifteen (12-15) students in work-study positions off-campus with local employers, or in on-campus positions.

Cuesta will provide services that result in ninety percent (90%) of students in work-study completing three (3) months of work experience.

Cuesta will provide services that result in fifty percent (50%) of the students placed in work-study obtaining unsubsidized employment as a direct result of their experience.

Cuesta will provide services that result in one hundred percent (100%) of employers receiving a CalWORKs work-study placement being satisfied with the student/employee performance as reported on the satisfaction survey.

Cuesta will provide services that result in one hundred percent (100%) of students being able to use local job placement resources.

Cuesta College – Bridge to Success

Fiscal Year 11-12

An estimated four hundred (400) eligible youth were served during the contract year. The high number served is due to leveraged funding retained by Cuesta from both private and public sources.

Cuesta exceeded its performance outcome to recruit and serve at least two hundred fifty (250) “at risk” high-school age youth in the Bridge Program. *Actual numbers resulted in over four hundred (400) eligible youth being served during the contract year.*

Cuesta met its performance outcome and provided services that resulted in coordinating and implementing eight (8) semester-long (54 hours) job readiness classes throughout San Luis Obispo County. A total of eighty five percent (85%) of the participants completed the 54 hours of classes.

Cuesta services will result in transitioning twenty-five (25) of the most motivated students to an intensive five-week Summer Program at Cuesta College, with eighty percent (80%) of participants who are high school seniors/GED enrolling in college after completing the course. *This outcome and the number of students enrolled in college after their senior year of high school will be reported on their 4th quarter report, and returned to the County on July 20, 2012.*

Reported last year on July 20, 2011, in FY 2010-2011 a total of twenty-five (25) students enrolled in

the Summer Bridge program and twenty-three (23) graduated. Of these, sixty percent (60%) of the seniors (3 of 5) enrolled at Cuesta.

Fiscal Year 12-13

Cuesta will recruit and serve at least two hundred fifty (250) “at risk” high-school age youth to participate in the Bridge Program.

Cuesta will coordinate and implement eight (8) semester-long (54 hours) job readiness classes throughout San Luis Obispo County. Eighty percent (80%) of the participants will complete the 54 hours of classes.

Cuesta will transition twenty-five (25) of the most motivated students to an intensive 5-week summer program at Cuesta College in which 80% of the participants who have graduated from high school, or earned their GED, will enroll in college after completing the course.

Cuesta College – Independent Living Program (ILP)

Fiscal Year 11-12

An estimated two hundred forty eight (248) eligible ILP foster youth (ages 16-21) were served during the contract year.

Cuesta exceeded its performance outcome to provide services that resulted in unduplicated services to one hundred twenty (120) 16-18 year olds that resulted in ninety percent (90%) participation among those eligible youth. *A total of one hundred twenty four (124) eligible youth received services. One hundred forty five (145) eligible youth were identified in this age category and one hundred twenty four (124) or eighty six percent (86%) participated in ILP services. Participation in the ILP is strictly voluntary, though DSS is mandated to provide these services.*

Cuesta exceeded its performance outcome to provide services that resulted in unduplicated services to sixty (60) 18-21 year olds and eighty percent (80%) participation among those eligible youth. *A total of one hundred twenty four (124) eligible youth received services. One hundred eighty four (184) eligible youth were identified in this age category and one hundred twenty four (124) or sixty eight percent (68%) participated in ILP services. Participation in the ILP is strictly voluntary, though DSS is mandated to provide these services.*

Cuesta met its performance outcome to provide services that resulted in one hundred percent (100%) of eligible youth completing the Youth Empowerment Strategies for Success (YESS) Assessment and the Transitional Interdependent Living Plan at least twice per year to examine progress and program effectiveness. *An estimated seventy eight (78) eligible youth completed the Youth Empowerment Strategies for Success (YESS) Assessment and Transitional Interdependent Living Plan.*

Cuesta met its performance outcome of fifty percent (50%) of the ILP youth aged 18-21 being placed in employment maintaining that employment for a minimum of three (3) months. *A total of seventy two (72) of one hundred three (103) youth, or seventy percent (70%), were placed in employment for a period of three (3) months or longer, as a direct result of working with the Employment Specialist.*

Cuesta services resulted in providing services to nine (9) ILP youth who participated in one semester of Introduction to Workplace Readiness at Cuesta College as of March 31, 2012. *Though it is anticipated that this number will be slightly higher by the end of FY 11-12, the number served will most likely be lower than the anticipated twenty (20) ILP youth participating in one semester of Introduction to Workplace Readiness at Cuesta College. The challenges to enrolling more ILP youth in the Introduction to Workplace Readiness course is thought to be the recruitment process and the fact many youth change placements after being enrolled. Cuesta and DSS continue to work together to identify ILP youth for the course in time for enrollment and assist youth in attending the semester class once they are enrolled.*

Cuesta met its performance outcome to provide service that resulted in eight to ten (8-10) eligible youth participating in the subsidized employment program (work-study). *As of March 30, 2012, a total of nine (9) ILP youth had participated in the work-study program. It is anticipated that this number will be higher by the end of the FY.*

Cuesta services resulted in providing no services to youth ages 14-16 as of March 31, 2012. *This number is lower than the anticipated fifteen (15) youth ages 14-16, however Cuesta and the DSS continue to work together to grow these services. The state funded ILP program serves youth ages 16-21. Identifying youth at an earlier age (14-16) is a vision for our County to try and connect youth to services, family and permanent resources as soon as possible to help them stabilize and reach age-appropriate milestones that lead to permanency.*

Cuesta exceeded its performance outcome to provide services that resulted in eighty-five percent (85%) of Workshop Survey respondents reporting that they gained new knowledge as a result of the workshop(s) attended. *A total of thirty seven (37) of forty (40), or ninety two percent (92%), responded that they gained new knowledge.*

Cuesta met its performance outcome to provide services that resulted in twenty-five (25) California Youth Connection (CYC) community outreach activities being conducted. *As of March 30, 2012 a total of thirty eight (38) CYC community activities were conducted.*

Cuesta met its performance outcome to provide services that resulted in seventy-five percent (75%) of youth referred to Permanency Case Managers completing family trees/family lineage. *As of March 30, 2012, a total of seven (7) of eight (8) new youth, or eighty eight percent (88%), have completed family trees.*

Cuesta met its performance outcome to provide services that resulted in sixty percent (60%) of youth referred to Permanency Case Managers having an identified significant adult in their lives. *As of March 30, 2012, a total of eight (8) of eight (8), new youth, or one hundred percent (100%), have identified a significant adult.*

Fiscal Year 12-13

An RFP was completed in 2011 and expanded to include the new Extended Foster Care (EFC) services. To align with the RFP performance outcomes and expectations, the performance outcomes changed in 2012-2013.

ILP and EFC Participants:

Cuesta will recruit and serve at least 120 16-18 year olds (unduplicated) that will result in ninety percent (90%) participation among those eligible youth.

Cuesta will recruit and serve up to 60 18-21 year olds (unduplicated) that will result in eighty percent (80%) participation among those eligible participants.

Cuesta will provide services that result in one hundred percent (100%) of eligible ILP/EFC participants completing the YESS assessment and the Transitional Interdependent Living Plan at least twice per year to examine youth progress and program effectiveness.

Cuesta will provide services that result in fifty percent (50%) of the ILP/EFC participants aged 18-21 placed in employment maintaining employment for a minimum of three (3) months as a result of services.

Cuesta will provide services that result in a minimum of twenty (20) ILP youth participating in one semester of Introduction to Workplace Readiness at Cuesta College; a minimum of two (2) will participate in Summer Bridge.

Cuesta will provide services that result in Eight to ten (8-10) ILP/EFC eligible participants participating in the subsidized employment program (work study).

Cuesta will identify and serve up to fifteen (15) youth ages 14-16.

Cuesta will provide services that result in eighty-five percent (85%) of Workshop Survey respondents reporting they have gained new knowledge as a result of the workshop(s) attended.

Cuesta will provide services that result in twenty-five (25) CYC community outreach activities being conducted.

Cuesta will provide services that result in seventy-five percent (75%) of ILP/EFC participants referred to Permanency Caseworkers completing family trees.

Cuesta will provide services that result in sixty percent (60%) of ILP/EFC participants referred to Permanency Caseworkers identifying a significant life-long adult in their life.

EFC Only Participants:

In addition to being included in the eligible ILP/EFC activities/performance outcomes listed above, specific outcomes for ONLY the EFC program participants include:

Cuesta will provide services that result in eighty percent (80%) of EFC participants will receiving assistance in at least one life skill area, including daily living skills, housing, transportation, employment, and health.

Cuesta will provide services that result in all EFC participants completing the Ansell-Casey Assessment.

Cuesta will provide services that result in fifty percent (50%) of EFC participants placed in a Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP) maintaining placement for a minimum of three (3) months as a result of services.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Clerk's File