

# Agenda Report

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**DATE:** June 24, 2002

**FROM:** CITY MANAGER

**SUBJECT:** INFORMATION REPORT ON LOCAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

## Recommendation

This is an Information Report only; no action is required.

## Background

### **Youth Employment Services at the Foothill Workforce Investment Board**

The Career Services Division of the Human Services, Recreation, Neighborhoods Department administers and operates employment and training programs on behalf of the Foothill Workforce Investment Board (FWIB). As part of its responsibility, the FWIB administers programs for youth under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

WIA has taken a somewhat different approach to serving youth than its predecessor program, the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). Probably the most noticeable difference is that there is no stand-alone summer program under WIA. Under JTPA, approximately 90% of all youth funds were set-aside for the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program. Under WIA, summer employment opportunities is just one of ten required elements of a year-round youth employment program.

Another difference is that each designated local workforce investment area must establish Youth Council. The FWIB has established Youth Council composed of local educators, business people, labor, youth, and government agencies serving youth, and other individuals with an expertise and interest in youth employment issues.

Other differences can be summed up as follows:

- Longer-term intensive services
- Greater emphasis on out-of-school youth
- Increased focus on education and youth development activities
- Different goals for different ages (14-18 and 19-21)

Under WIA, there are ten required program elements; they are:

- Tutoring and study skills training
- Alternative secondary school services
- Summer employment linked to academic and occupational learning
- Paid and unpaid work experiences
- Occupational skill training
- Leadership development
- Supportive services
- Adult mentoring
- Follow-up services of at least 12 months
- Comprehensive guidance and counseling

### **Current Youth Services**

The FWIB funds the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) and the Monrovia Unified School District (MUSD) to serve the in-school youth population and MUSD and Practical Data Processing (PDP) to serve the out-of-school population. Currently there are approximately 300 youth enrolled in the Foothill youth employment and training program.

The PUSD program primarily serves youth residing in Pasadena, Sierra Madre, and Altadena aged 15 to 18 who are enrolled in one of the Partnership Academies. However, the PUSD program is putting an increasing emphasis into recruiting youth outside of the Academies. PUSD's youth funds are primarily focused on providing a paid work experience along with entry into an ROP class; basic skills remediation is offered where deficiencies are identified.

The MUSD in-school component serves the same target population and provides basically the same services. It enrolls students from the Monrovia, Duarte, and Arcadia School District.

The primary goals of the in-school programs are: 1) remaining in school, 2) attainment of basic skills, work readiness, and occupational skill competencies, and 3) high school diploma or its equivalent. Other desired outcomes at program exit include employment, enrollment in post-secondary education, and entry into other job training.

Both of the out of school programs provide a variety of vocational classroom training. Unlike the in-school program, the primary goals of the out-of-school program are placement in unsubsidized employment, employment retention, and wage gain.

### **Summer Youth Employment**

As mentioned previously in this report, there is no longer a stand-alone summer youth employment program allowed by the WIA regulations. However, a limited number of summer jobs are provided through other resources, with the following examples.

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Summer ROSE will place approximately 150 Pasadena youth into work experience assignments, each working 200 hours between July 1 and August 31, 2002. These youth, ages 16 to 21 years (with a few ages 14 to 15), will earn \$7.00 per hour in work experience positions ranging from various office, reception and computer positions to recreation, child care, maintenance and other fields.

The County of Los Angeles has awarded the Foothill WIB \$133,000 to place approximately 75 youth ages 14-19 who are members of families receiving CalWORKs cash assistance into work experience assignments. This is a 25% cut from last year's program. Participating youth may also receive support services, basic skills remediation, career planning, and employment readiness skills training.

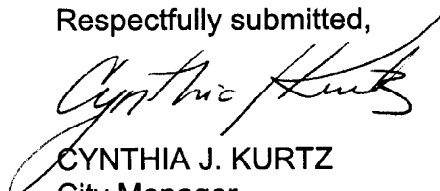
### **Other One-Stop Youth Services**

One of the FWIB's One-Stop partners, the Employment Development Department, offers the Youth Employment Opportunity Program (YEOP). YEOP offers the following services to eligible youth ages 15 through 21: peer counseling, referral to supportive services, job referrals and placement assistance, specialized workshops, and referral to training. YEOP predominantly serves high school dropouts and potential dropouts who exhibit high-risk characteristics such as offender, poor literacy skills, teen parent, limited English skills, foster or homeless youth, and gang members or gang associate.

### **Fiscal Impact**

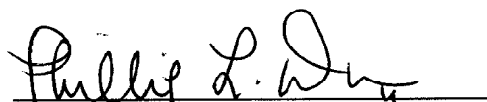
PUSD receives \$300,000 for its share of the in-school youth program and MUSD receives \$355,000 to administer its share of the in-school youth program (note: MUSD manages its own registration and payroll systems; FETC manages these functions for PUSD, which accounts for the funding differences). MUSD also receives \$144,000 to serve out-of-school youth. Practical Data Processing receives \$288,000 to serve other out-of-school youth.

Respectfully submitted,



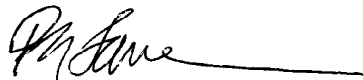
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City Manager

Prepared by:



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Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pat Lane', written over a horizontal line.

Patricia A. Lane, Director  
Human Services, Recreation & Neighborhoods Department