



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
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TO: Martha Kern, Chair
Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Trenda Rusher, Executive Director
Employment Training and Community Services Group

DATE: June 20, 2001

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2001 Welfare-To-Work (W-t-W) Plan

Board Action Requested:

The Employment Training and Community Services Group is requesting the ratification of the Chair of the Board's signature on the FY 2001 Welfare-to-Work Plan to the Michigan Department of Career Development in the amount of \$142,519 for the period of October 1, 2000 through September 30, 2001; authorizing the County Administrator to sign the notice of grant award; approving the budget; authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate contracts.

Background:

On August 5, 1997, the Federal Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1997 was signed into law, which authorized the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) to provide \$2.2 billion in Welfare-to-Work (W-t-W) formula grant monies, over a period of two years, to states and local communities for the purpose of creating additional job opportunities for the hardest to employ Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients.

Discussion:

Recently, the Michigan Department of Career Development (MDCD) accepted the W-t-W Program after indecision as to whether the State was to operate the program. Due to the recent decision, the MWA's have been requested to submit plans for the program year starting October 1, 2000.

Eligibility for the W-t-W Program is determined in the following manner:

- All W-t-W participants must be eighteen (18) years of age or older
- The Michigan Works! Agency (MWA) is not to spend more than thirty percent (30%) of federal W-t-W funds on individuals who meet the thirty percent (30%) eligibility criteria. The remaining Federal W-t-W funds are to be spent to benefit individuals who meet the seventy percent (70%) eligibility criteria.
- One of the main groups eligible under the 70% provision are those who have received Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) cash payments for thirty (30) months or longer. The MWA will use the information provided by the Michigan Department of Career Development (MDCD) that identifies individuals who have received TANF for thirty (30) months or more.

70 Percent Eligibility Criteria:

One hundred five (105) persons are anticipated to be served under this criteria. An individual is eligible to be served under the 70 percent provision if (s)he meets one of the following criteria:

1. A TANF recipient who has received TANF/Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) cash payments for at least thirty (30) months (the months do not have to be in consecutive order); or
2. A former TANF recipient who has exhausted receipt of TANF benefits due to the five-year time limit but would otherwise be eligible for TANF; or
3. A Non-Custodial Parent (NCP) who meets all three (3) of the following criteria:
 - Unemployed (the individual is without a job and is available for work), underemployed (working less than forty hours per week), or having difficulty in paying child support obligations (not earning enough to meet child support obligations); and
 - Meets one of the following (with a preference given to the first three):
 - a. A parent of a minor child who is receiving TANF benefits and who has received TANF/AFDC for at least thirty (30) months (months do not have to be consecutive);
 - b. A parent of a minor child whose custodial parent is a TANF recipient who has received TANF/AFDC for at least thirty (30) months (months do not have to be consecutive);
 - c. A parent of a minor child whose custodial parent has exhausted receipt of TANF benefits due to the five year limit on cash benefits but would otherwise be eligible for TANF;

- d. A parent of a minor child who is eligible for or receiving TANF benefits;
 - e. A parent of a minor child who has received TANF during the preceding year;
 - f. A parent of a minor child who is eligible for or receiving food stamps, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), medical assistance under Title XIX (Medicaid), or child health assistance under Title XXI; and
- The NCP is required to enter into a personal responsibility contract. The Friend of the Court (FOC) staff representing both the State's IV-D Agency and the operating entity, with the NCP participant, will be responsible for the completion of the personal responsibility contract. The contract is required to include the following elements:

30 Percent Eligibility Criteria:

Forty-five (45) persons are anticipated to be served under this criteria. An individual is eligible to be served under the 30 percent criteria if they meet at least one of the following criteria:

- TANF recipient who has characteristics associated with long-term welfare dependency, such as:
 1. High school dropout,
 2. Teen pregnancy,
 3. Poor work history—The U.S. Department of Labor has defined a poor work history as having worked fulltime in unsubsidized employment for not more than 13 consecutive weeks in the past 12 calendar months,
 4. Additional characteristics associated with or predictive of long-term welfare dependence as designated by the state in consultation with the operating entity.
- TANF recipient who has significant barriers to self-sufficiency, as defined by the local Workforce Development Board (WDB) and as described in the Welfare-to-Work (W-t-W) plan, such as:
 1. Limited English proficiency,
 2. Offender/felon,
 3. Not married at birth of first child,
 4. One or more of the applicant's parents received welfare assistance,
 5. Victim of domestic violence,
 6. Drug/alcohol dependency, or
 7. Other criteria as defined by the local WDB (subject to approval by OWD).

- Youth 18-24 who were in foster care when under age 18. MWA's will receive a file each month that contains information on former foster care youth who are currently eligible to be served under W-t-W. The MWA and the local Family Independence Agency (FIA) will need to work toward the development of a local procedure to ensure that information on services being provided to former foster care youth is being shared between the two agencies.
- W-t-W regulations allow serving custodial parents with income below 100 percent of poverty line, determined in accordance with Health and Human Services Guidelines. However, Michigan has decided not to serve this group at this time.

Each participant will be assessed to determine current educational skill levels, occupational abilities and employment needs. The MWA will use a variety of forms and testing instruments including: Work Keys, the REV RAC reading instrument, WRAT 3 math instrument, Work History and Barriers to Employment form, and the IDEAS Occupational Inventory.

The MWA will develop an Individual Service Strategy for all Welfare to Work (W-t-W) customers. The ISS will contain the following elements:

- * Participants Employment Goal
- * Short and long term goals for accomplishing self-support
- * Identification of the components and activities to be provided
- * Identification of planned completion dates and interim outcomes anticipated
- * Supportive Services to be provided

Washtenaw Community College is a Work Keys Center. As a One-Stop partner located at the Washtenaw County Michigan Works Service Center, these services are available for Welfare to Work (W-t-W) Participants.

Impact on Human Resources:

The requested Board action has no impact on Washtenaw County positions, personnel policies or procedures.

Impact on Budget:

The ETCS Group will receive a total of \$142,519.00. The allocation is as follows:

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|------------------------------|--------------|
| • Administration Costs | \$ 17,103.00 |
| • Program Expenditures | \$111,164.00 |
| • Technology/Computerization | \$ 14,252.00 |

Impact on Indirect Costs:

There are no indirect costs associated with this budget.

Impact on Other County Departments or Outside Agencies:

The requested Board action has no impact on other County Departments or outside agencies.

Conformity to County Policies:

This matter has been reviewed by the Workforce Development Board, the County Administrator's Office, Corporation Counsel, the Human Resources Department, and the Ways and Means Committee. The requested Board action is in conformity with County Policies.

Attachments/Appendices:

FY 2001 Welfare-To-Work Plan
Budget

Prepared by:

Trenda Rusher, Executive Director
ETCS Group

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD'S SIGNATURE ON THE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2001 WELFARE-TO-WORK (W-t-W) PLAN TO THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CAREER DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2001 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$142,519 FOR THE EMPLOYMENT TRAINING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES GROUP; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE NOTICE OF GRANT AWARD; APPROVING THE BUDGET; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN DELEGATE CONTRACTS.

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 18, 2001

WHEREAS, the Federal Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1997 was signed into law, which authorized the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) to provide \$2.2 billion in Welfare-to-Work formula grants for a period of two years; and

WHEREAS, for the year October 1, 2000 to September 30, 2001, the state has allocated \$95,013 in federal funds and 47,506 in state matching funds to Washtenaw County for this program,

WHEREAS, the funds are for the purpose of states and local communities to create additional job opportunities for the hardest to employ Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients; and

WHEREAS, the Welfare-to-Work participants are to be assessed to determine current educational skill levels, occupational abilities, and employment needs; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Works! Agency will develop an individual service strategy for all Welfare-to-Work (W-t-W) participants; and

WHEREAS, the program is to serve 150 customers, 105 under the 70% criteria and 45 under the 30% criteria; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by the Workforce Development Board, Corporation Counsel, the Finance Department, the Human Resources Department, the County Administrator's Office, and the Ways and Means Committee;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the Chair of the Board's signature on the ETCS Group's FY 2001 Welfare-to-Work Plan to the Michigan Department of Career Development in the amount of \$142,519 for the period of October 1, 2000 through September 30, 2001, as on file with the County Clerk

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners takes the following actions contingent upon receipt of the grant award and in conformity with the plan application:

1. Authorizing the County Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award;
2. Amending the budget as attached hereto and made a part hereof
3. Authorizing the County Administrator to sign the delegate and lease contracts upon review and approval of Corporation Counsel

Washtenaw County ETCS
Summary Budget
Fund #2410 - Welfare to Work
Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2001

Revenues

50000	Federal Revenue	\$ 95,013
54000	State Revenue	<u>47,506</u>
		<u><u>\$ 142,519</u></u>

Expenditures

80000	Other Services and Charges	<u><u>\$ 142,519</u></u>
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