COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
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TO: Barbara Levin Bergman, Chair
Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Trenda Rusher, Director
Employment Training and Community Services (ETCS)

DATE: January 23, 2008

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 Jobs, Education, and Training (JET) Plan

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:
It is requested that the Board of Commissioners ratify the signature of the Chair of the Board on the ETCS application to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 Jobs, Education and Training (JET) Plan for the period of October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008 in the amount of $1,631,619.

BACKGROUND:
In 2004, the State of Michigan set a goal to revamp the state's welfare system. A plan was created to change the Work First Program. This newly redesigned welfare reform program was to be named "Jobs, Education, and Training (JET)." The shift to a new approach from Work First moves to a strong emphasis on helping welfare recipients and other at-risk workers stay employed, gain skills, and advance rather than only emphasizing initial placement.

Because of the fundamental structural changes involved in moving from the Work First model to the JET approach, a pilot strategy was used before rolling out many of the changes on a statewide basis. In 2006 the JET Program was originally piloted in just 4 sites throughout the state. In Fiscal Year 2007, JET expanded to a total of 19 counties and 29 sites. The new 2007 sites were known as JET Expansion sites, of which Washtenaw County was one. For FY 2008, JET is being rolled out on a statewide basis.

DISCUSSION:
The JET Program was established as a new way for assisting welfare applicants/recipients and low-wage workers in succeeding in the labor market. The

shift to a new approach from Work First moves to a strong emphasis on helping welfare applicants/recipients and other at-risk workers stay employed, gain skills, and advance rather than only emphasizing initial placement.

This new framing has set the stage for a large-scale reinvention of the state's strategy for addressing poverty and helping working families build the capacity and assets to provide for the long term. Michigan has the opportunity to become a national leader by creating an integrated, multi-sourced strategy. The goal is to help all individuals and families, not just those receiving public assistance, find the resources they need to overcome obstacles and move up career ladders to self-sustaining, lasting employment. Many interconnections can be made in doing so, including linking employer, community, and faith-based solutions with the human service, education, and training systems.

The JET Program is a partnership between the Michigan Works! Agency (MWA/ETCS), Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS), Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth's (MDLEG) Bureau of Workforce Programs (BWP), and Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) to connect Michigan's families with the kind of jobs, education, and training opportunities that will help them achieve self-sufficiency and meet the workforce and skill needs of Michigan's businesses.

The JET Program provides the following types of services:

(a) Orientation and Client Assessment – the Michigan Works! Agency (MWA) will conduct orientation sessions within five working days after eligibility has been determined by the Department of Human Services assistance.

(b) Job Club/Job Search Services – this component consists of structured job search and placement activities. If, at the end of the assignment, the participant has not found employment, the participant will be reassessed and transferred to another component, depending upon assessment results.

(c) Provision of Other Employment and Training Services – this component includes a variety of programs and activities, in addition to the Job Club/Job Search component, designed to address the needs of participants while operating in an efficient and effective manner. At a minimum, theses activities could include unsubsidized employment, subsidized private sector employment, work experience, On-the-Job Training (OJT), condensed vocational education, occupational training, secondary education, and job skills training.

The JET Program may also provide supportive services, as necessary, to enable clients to participate in their assigned activity. Supportive services may include auto purchases, public transportation allowances, auto-related expenses (i.e., repair), and clothing.

<u>Key Components of the JET Program</u>

- Joint Planning and Services Delivery Coordination
- Comprehensive Intake Process and Orientation

- Family Automated Screening Tool (FAST)
- Family Self-Sufficiency Plan (FSSP)
- Family, Employment and Training Services Delivery
- Post-Employment Services and Support
- Short-Term Family Support (STFS)
- Enhanced good cause determination and sanction

For FY 2007, Washtenaw County ETCS/Michigan Works! Agency (MWA) received $1,762,450. For FY 2008, ETCS/MWA will receive $1,631,619. In FY 2007, ETCS/MWA served two thousand sixty-four (2,064) customers through its JET Program. It is estimated that a similar number will be served through its JET program this year. This is dependent on the amount of referrals from the Department of Human Services.

Board approval on the JET Plan application and budget will allow the ongoing delivery of JET services to eligible TANF recipients referred by the Michigan Department Human Services in Washtenaw County. The JET Program is funded by three funding sources: federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds, Workforce Investment Act Statewide Activities (WIA/SWA) funds, and state General Fund/General Purpose (GF/GP) funds.

IMPACT ON HUMAN RESOURCES:
The requested Board action has no impact on Washtenaw County positions, personnel policies or procedures.

IMPACT ON BUDGET:
The requested Board action will approve the ETCS JET program budget in the amount of $1,631,619, delineated as follows:

$1,247,436 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds
$ 85,154 Workforce Investment Act Statewide Activities (WIA/SWA) funds
$ 299,029 state General Fund/General Purpose (GF/GP) funds

IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS:
There are no indirect costs associated with this request.

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 Washtenaw County Workforce Development Board, the County Administrator's Office, Corporation Counsel, Finance, Human Resources, and the Ways and Means Committee. The requested Board action is in conformity with County policies.

ATTACHMENTS/APPENDICES:
FY 2008 JET Plan

FY 2008 JET Budget

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD'S SIGNATURE ON THE APPLICATION TO THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC GROWTH (MDLEG) FOR THE ETCS FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2008 JET PLAN IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,631,619, FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2007 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2008 FOR THE EMPLOYMENT TRAINING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES (ETCS) DEPARTMENT; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE NOTICE OF GRANT AWARDS; APPROVING THE BUDGET; AND AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE DELEGATE CONTRACTS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 23, 2008

WHEREAS, ETCS is the administrator and operator of Employment and Training programs in Washtenaw County; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Workforce Development Board and the Board of Commissioners oversee, recommend, and approve employment and training programs throughout Washtenaw County; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) has implemented the Work First Initiative since October 1, 1994, to serve recipients of the Michigan Department Human Services, Family Independence Program (FIP); and

WHEREAS, the Work First program has been changed to the Jobs, Education, and Training (JET) program by the State of Michigan in as effort to revamp the state's welfare system; and

WHEREAS, in addition to JET Program services, ETCS may provide supportive services, as necessary, to enable clients to participate in their assigned activity; and

WHEREAS, as a combined department with the local Community Action program, ETCS is in a unique position to collaborate services in the area of housing rehabilitation, utility assistance, weatherization, and emergency services; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by the Washtenaw County Workforce Development Board, the County Administrator's Office, Corporation Counsel, Finance, Human Resources, 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 application to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 JET Program Plan in the amount of $1,631,619 for the period October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008 for ETCS, 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 in conformity with the application:

1. Authorizing the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award;
2. Approving the budget as attached hereto and made a part hereof;
3. Authorizing the County Administrator to sign the delegate contracts upon review by Corporation Counsel, to be filed with the County Clerk

Washtenaw County ETCS
Summary Budget
Jobs, Education and Training (JET) Program
State General Funds/General Purpose (GF/GP) funds
10/01/07 – 09/30/08
BU: 2420079100

Revenues		
50000	Federal Revenue	$ 1,247,436
Expenditures		
80000	Other Services and Charges	$ 1,247,436

Washtenaw County ETCS
Summary Budget
Jobs, Education and Training (JET) Program
Workforce Investment Act Statewide Activities (WIA/SWA) funds
10/01/07 – 09/30/08
BU: 2420079120

Revenues		
50000	Federal Revenue	$ 85,154
Expenditures		
80000	Other Services and Charges	$ 85,154

Washtenaw County ETCS
Summary Budget
Jobs, Education and Training (JET) Program
State General Funds/General Purpose
10/01/07 – 09/30/08
BU: 2410079100

Revenues		
54001	State Revenue	$ 299,029
Expenditures		
80001	Other Services and Charges	$ 299,029