



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
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TO: Felicia Brabec, Chair
Ways and Means Committee

THROUGH: Verna J. McDaniel
County Administrator

FROM: Mary Jo Callan, Director
Office of Community & Economic Development

DATE: November 20, 2013

SUBJECT: Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope. (PATH) Program

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

It is requested that the Board of Commissioners ratify the signature of the Chair of the Board on the Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED) plan to the Workforce Development Agency (WDA) State of Michigan (SOM) for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope. (PATH) Program for the period of October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014 in the amount of \$1,154,683.

BACKGROUND:

Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope. (PATH) [formerly the Jobs, Education and Training (JET)] Program is part of the State of Michigan's welfare system. PATH assists welfare applicants/recipients that are low-wage workers to succeed in the labor market. A stronger emphasis is also placed on helping participants stay employed, gain skills, and advance rather than only emphasizing initial placement into a job. The goal of PATH is to help families find the resources they need to overcome obstacles and move up career ladders to self-sustaining, long-term 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 Washtenaw County Michigan Works! Agency (MWA) has implemented Welfare Reform programs since October 1, 1994, to serve recipients of the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) Family Independence Program (FIP). As the local MWA, the Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED) is the administrator and operator of workforce programs in Washtenaw County. The Washtenaw County Workforce Development Board (WDB) and the Board of Commissioners (BOC) oversee, recommend and approve workforce development programs throughout Washtenaw County. The United States Department of Labor (USDOL) and the Workforce Development Agency (WDA) of the State of Michigan (SOM) fund such programs.

DISCUSSION:

PATH is a partnership between the Michigan Works! Agency (MWA), Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS), and the WDA, that connects Michigan's families with the kind of jobs, education, and training opportunities that will help them achieve self-sufficiency and meet the needs of Michigan's businesses.

PATH provides the following types of services:

- (a) Orientation and Client Assessment – Michigan requires FIP applicants to successfully complete a 21-Day Application Eligibility Period (AEP) and orientation program at MWAs, as a condition of eligibility for FIP benefits. AEP and Orientation are essential steps to ensure that participants are successful in the PATH program. The Washtenaw County MWA orientation provides a detailed overview of program requirements, outlines what participants can expect as well as what is expected of them, and if necessary, gives participants the opportunity to meet with their case manager to address immediate barriers to participation.
- (b) Job Search/Job Readiness Services – this component consists of structured job readiness activities that prepare an individual to conduct an effective job search. Following this preparation, participants are given time to do actual job searching that should result in employment. During their job search they also participate in job clubs which allow them to network with their peers and share successes and effective techniques.
- (c) Provision of Other Employment and Training Services – this component includes a variety of programs and activities designed to address the needs of participants while operating in an efficient and effective manner. At a minimum, these activities could include unsubsidized employment, subsidized private sector employment, work experience, vocational educational training, occupational training, secondary education, and job skills training.

PATH 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.

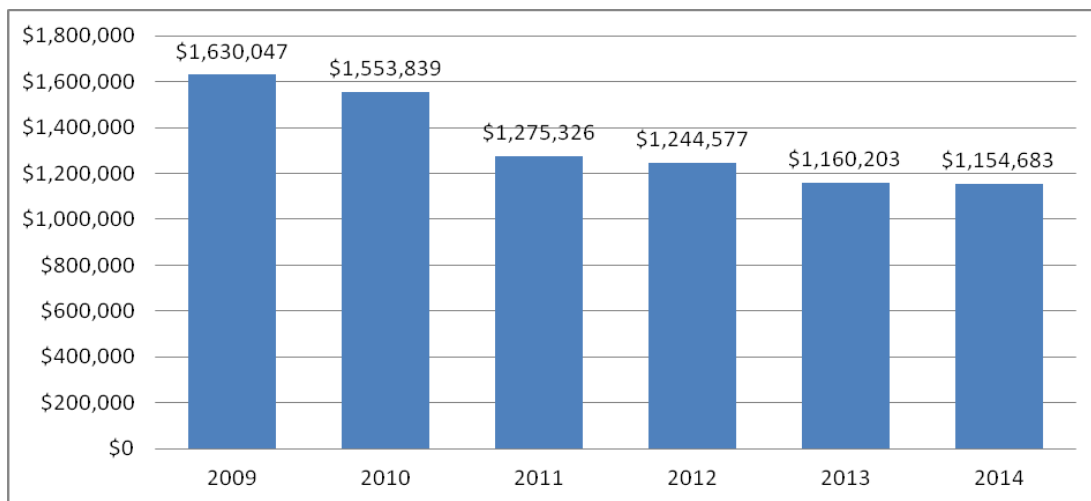
Key Components of PATH

- 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

Over the past few years, the MWA has made significant enhancements to the way PATH (formerly JET [Jobs Education and Training] services) are delivered; moving toward a grouping/clustering model which will allow us to continue to serve a similar or increased amount of participants despite the decrease in funding.

Board approval on the PATH plan and budget will allow the ongoing delivery of services to eligible TANF recipients referred by the Michigan Department of Human Services in Washtenaw County. PATH is funded by two funding sources: Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds, and State General Fund/General Purpose (GF/GP) funds.

The amount of funding for PATH has experienced reductions over the past several years as depicted in the chart below.



The total number of participants is dependent on the amount of referrals from the Department of Human Services. While the number of participants that will be served during this Fiscal Year (FY 2014) is unknown, the MWA is required to, and will, provide services to all participants referred by DHS who participate. For comparison, DHS referred 2793 people to PATH during FY 2013. Of those, 1004 participated and an additional 330 were carry-ins from the previous year for a total of 1334 participants during the FY.

The Washtenaw County MWA recognizes the Michigan Works! Service Center (MWSC) as the focal point for workforce activities in the County. The primary location where these activities will occur is the Michigan Works! Service Center located at 304 Harriet Street in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

IMPACT ON HUMAN RESOURCES:

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

IMPACT ON BUDGET:

There are no County funds, nor match required for this program. The requested Board action will approve the PATH plan and budget in the amount of \$1,154,683 delineated as follows:

\$ 921,302 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds
\$ 233,381 State General Fund/General Purpose (GF/GP) funds

IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS:

None

IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

None

CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICIES:

This matter has been reviewed by the Washtenaw County Workforce Development Board (WDB), 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 2014 PATH (formerly JET) Plan
- Resolution

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE SIGNATURE OF THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD ON THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (OCED) PLAN TO THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, STATE OF MICHIGAN (WDASOM) FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014 PARTNERSHIP. ACCOUNTABILITY. TRAINING. HOPE. (PATH) [FORMERLY THE JOBS, EDUCATION AND TRAINING (JET) PROGRAM] PLAN FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2013 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2014 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,154,683.

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

December 4, 2013

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Michigan Works! Agency (MWA) submitted a plan to the Workforce Development Agency State of Michigan (WDASOM) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope. (PATH) funding in the amount of \$1,154,683 for the period of October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County MWA is operated under the direction of the Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED); and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County MWA is funded by the United States Department of Labor (USDOL), and the WDASOM, to provide employment training and placement services; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County MWA recognizes the Michigan Works! Service Center (MWSC) as the focal point for workforce activities in the County and the primary location where these activities will occur; and

WHEREAS, the Workforce Development Agency, State of Michigan (WDASOM) has implemented Welfare Reform services since October 1, 1994, to serve recipients of the Michigan Department of Human Services, Family Independence Program (FIP); and

WHEREAS, in addition to PATH services, the MWA may provide supportive services, as necessary, to enable clients to participate in their assigned activity; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by the Washtenaw County Workforce Development Board (WDB), 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 Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED) plan to the Workforce Development Agency, State of Michigan (WDASOM) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope. (PATH) plan for the period of October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014 in the amount of \$1,154,683, 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. Amending 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

Office of Community & Economic Development
PATH TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families)
Fund #: 2420
Business Unit: 2420139100
10/01/13 – 09/30/14

		<u>Original</u>	<u>Revised</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenues				
<u>50000</u>	<u>Federal Revenue</u>	\$ -	\$921,302	\$921,302
Total Revenue		\$ -	\$921,302	\$921,302
Expenditures				
<u>80000</u>	<u>Other Services and Charges</u>	\$ -	\$921,302	\$921,302
Total Expenditure		\$ -	\$921,302	\$921,302

Office of Community & Economic Development
PATH GF/GP (State General Funds/General Purpose)
Fund #: 2410
10/01/13 – 09/30/14

		<u>Original</u>	<u>Revised</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenues				
<u>54000</u>	<u>State Revenue</u>	\$ -	\$233,381	\$233,381
Total Revenue		\$ -	\$233,381	\$233,381
Expenditures				
<u>80000</u>	<u>Other Services and Charges</u>	\$ -	\$233,381	\$233,381
Total Expenditure		\$ -	\$233,381	\$233,381