



# County of Santa Cruz

0223

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## HUMAN RESOURCES AGENCY

CECILIA ESPINOLA, ADMINISTRATOR

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June 7, 2000

Agenda: June 20, 2000

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of Santa Cruz

701 Ocean Street

Santa Cruz, California

### CSAC 2000 CHALLENGE AWARDS

Dear Members of the Board:

Each year the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) sponsors special Challenge Awards to recognize California county governments for innovative and creative programs and services to their citizens. Awards will be presented at the Association's Annual meeting in San Bernardino County, November 28 through December 1, 2000. In order to apply for a Challenge Award, CSAC requires authorization from the County Board of Supervisors. The purpose of this letter is to recommend approval of a resolution endorsing the entry of three Human Resources Agency programs into the CSAC competition.

#### **Families in Transition**

In collaboration with Families In Transition (FIT), the Human Resources Agency has initiated preparation of an application that describes the "Families In Transition Home-Based Services" model. As your Board is aware, Families In Transition is a nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting homeless and near-homeless families stabilize their lives, overcome barriers, and participate successfully in welfare-to-work activities leading to self-sufficiency. Through its partnership with HRA, FIT has demonstrated that an intensive and individualized case management service model that includes assistance with housing, employment, education, child care and basic life skills can successfully address some of the most difficult problems presented by welfare reform today. The application will address service model program activities that have occurred over the past nine months including the strategies that FIT has developed to promote self-sufficiency.

#### **The Connections Shuttle**

The Human Resources Agency has prepared a second application entitled "The Connections Shuttle-Santa Cruz County's Solution to the Multiple Stops Issue in Welfare-to-Work Transportation." This application describes a collaborative project with Food & Nutrition Services, a non-profit organization, to train CalWORKs participants in van driving and dispatching, as well

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as to transport CalWORKs family members who cannot take the bus to work and/or child care, an issue with which many other counties are still struggling. The application addresses the model program activities that have occurred in the past eighteen months, including the job retention benefits of the transportation program, and strategies to graduate trainees quickly into unsubsidized jobs in transportation-and related fields leading to family-supporting wages.

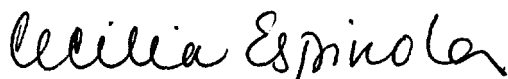
**Santa Cruz County Health Care Outreach Project**

The third application is for the Health Care Outreach Project. As the Board is aware, HRA established the Santa Cruz County Health Care Outreach Coalition with the mission to expand access to health care benefits to county residents. The coalition consists of community-based organizations, health care providers, and the Health Services Agency. The award application addresses the strategies developed as part of a comprehensive approach to increase the number of low-income residents receiving subsidized health care benefits. While other counties experienced a decrease in enrollments, Santa Cruz County experienced a 4.8% increase over the previous year. As a result of this approach, Healthy Family enrollments in Watsonville were recognized as one of the top areas in the state for enrollments. Since the inception of the program, the coalition has made over 80,000 health care outreach contacts.

A resolution is required to express the Board's endorsement of the applications for this competitive award, which must be received by CSAC postmarked by June 23, 2000.

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that your Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the County to enter the CSAC Challenge Awards Program for 2000.

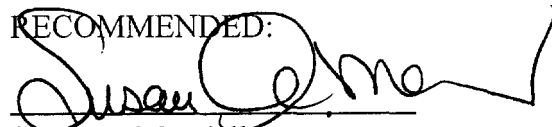
Very truly yours,



CECILIA ESPINOLA  
 Administrator

CE/CH:ch(n:hra\csac2000.wpd)

RECOMMENDED:



Susan A. Mauriello  
 County Administrative Officer

Attachment

cc: Families In Transition  
 Food & Nutrition Services

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

0225

RESOLUTION NO.

On the motion of Supervisor  
duly seconded by Supervisor  
the following resolution is adopted

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY TO ENTER  
THE CSAC CHALLENGE AWARDS PROGRAM FOR 2000

WHEREAS, the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) is sponsoring the CSAC Challenge Awards; and

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Cruz desires to participate in the 2000 Challenge Awards; and

WHEREAS, the County is submitting three applications for consideration by CSAC and these are entitled "Families In Transition Home-Based Services Model", and "The Connections Shuttle - Santa Cruz County's Solution to the multiple stops problem in Welfare To Work Transportation" and "Santa Cruz County Health Care Outreach Project",

WHEREAS, the County agrees to the program's requirements and responsibilities as set forth by CSAC for entering the awards program;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz is authorized, on its behalf, to submit the entries, "Families In Transition Home-Based Services Model", "The Connections Shuttle", and "Santa Cruz County Health Care Outreach", to CSAC for consideration in the Challenge Awards Program.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this Day of , 2000 by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS  
NOES: SUPERVISORS  
ABSENT: SUPERVISORS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Jane M. Scott, Asst County Counsel