

County of Santa Cruz

HUMAN RESOURCES AGENCY

1000 EMELINE ST., SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060 (831) 454-4130 OR 454-4045 FAX: (831) 454-4642 CECILIA ESPINOLA, ADMINISTRATOR

June 5, 2001 Agenda: June 19, 2001

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS County of Santa Cruz 701 Ocean Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060

WATSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL HEALTH ACADEMY

Dear Members of the Board:

As you may recall, the Job Training Task Force (JTTF) forwarded a report of its findings and recommendations to your Board on August 10, 1999. Prominent amongst the report findings were the issues specific to the City of Watsonville, including a younger and less educated population, a lower median income, overcrowded housing and a higher unemployment rate than the County as a whole. Because of these issues, your Board directed the Santa Cruz County Interim Workforce Investment Board, now the Workforce Investment Board (WIB), to develop policies that address the needs of the City of Watsonville. Accordingly, the WIB has integrated the JTTF findings and recommendations into the Santa Cruz County Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Five-Year Strategic Local Plan, its Mission, Vision and Goals, as well as built upon this directive when developing its criteria for granting WIA incentive funds.

As a part of its WIA incentive fund initiatives, and in keeping with the WIB's interest in providing increased opportunities in Watsonville, the WIB recommended contributing \$5,000 to support project implementation of the Watsonville High School Health Academy. As you may be aware, Salud Para La Gente has taken a lead role in developing this new career path academy. It will provide an opportunity for Watsonville youth to begin planning their academic goals and explore the possibility of a future in the health care profession. This action is fully federally funded and will result in no cost to the County.

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IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that your Board authorize the Auditor-Controller's Office to issue payment to Salud Para La Gente in the amount of \$5,000 to fund the Watsonville High School Health Academy. Funds are budgeted in 3921-5178 for this purpose.

Very truly yours,

Cecilia Espinola Administrator

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Cecilia Espirale

RECOMMENDED

Susan A. Mauriello

County Administrative Officer

dc: Salud Para La Gente