

TO: Workforce Investment Board

DATE: 01/12/06

FROM: Youth Council

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: High Concentration of Youth Special Project Funding

PROPOSED MOTION(S): Information only.

DISCUSSION: On October 7, 2005, the California Employment Development Department (EDD) issued Directive WIAD05-7 explaining EDD's procedures for applying for High Concentrations of Eligible Youth awards for State Fiscal Years 2004/05 and 2005/06. All proposals had to be in Sacramento by October 21, 2005.

The new High Concentration program is very different from last year's program. First and foremost, all proposals required a match of one dollar non-WIA funds for each three dollars of High Concentration grant funds. In-kind funding cannot be used to satisfy the match requirements. Second, the local area had to select one priority of focus from the following list: 1) foster youth, 2) youth offender, 3) youth with disabilities, 4) migrant and seasonal farmworker youth, or 5) youth with incarcerated parents.

The proposal requested the maximum \$75,000 to serve 33 youth with disabilities. The State received 18 applications, and awarded 16 with a maximum grant award of \$62,500.

The Merced County Local Workforce Investment Area has been awarded \$62,500 from the Governor's 15% WIA Discretionary Funds. MCOE is providing \$33,917 in matching funds. The new program will serve 30 additional in-school youth with a focus on youth with disabilities. The grant funds must be spent by December 31, 2006.

ATTACHMENTS: N/A