

TO: WIB Executive Committee

DATE: 8/30/04

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Demonstration Grant for Serving Customers with Hearing and/or Vision Disabilities.

PROPOSED MOTION(S): Information Only

DISCUSSION: Merced County Department of Workforce Invest in partnership with Merced College and Department of Rehabilitation applied for the Merced Workforce Investment Area. The Demonstration Grant of \$76, 247 is drawn from the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) 15 % Governor's Discretionary fund and will be unilaterally modified into the Program Year 2004-05 Master Subgrant. The grant terms are July 15, 2004, through June 30, 2005.

The proposal includes a three-pronged approach towards providing better service to visually and hearing impaired customers, and towards placing more of those customers in unsubsidized employment. The approach includes: 1) expanding and strengthening partnerships between the One-Stops and the presumptive service providers for visually and hearing impaired customers, 2) implementing enhanced marketing and outreach strategies specifically aimed at hearing and visually impaired customers, to inform customers of existing and future availability of services to fill their unique needs, and to attract said customers to the One-Stop, and 3) procure auxiliary aids that will benefit hearing and visually impaired customers and allow One-Stop staff and partners to achieve better outcomes for these individuals.

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A