

**TO: Workforce Investment Board**

**DATE: 05/14/09**

**FROM: Executive Committee**

**For Action**

**For Information**

**For Discussion**

**SUBJECT: Older Youth Contract with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)  
Augmentation with Merced County Office of Education for PY 2009/10**

**PROPOSED MOTION(S):** Ratify the Executive Committee's decision to approve the PY 2009/10 Empower Older Youth contract with the addition of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding at a cost not to exceed \$872,493, and forward to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

**DISCUSSION:** Through RFP #6300, the Merced County Office of Education/Regional Occupational Program (MCOE/ROP) has been contracted with Merced County to provide workforce development services and activities to Workforce Investment Act eligible, out-of-school youth, ages 17-21. The contract will expire September 30, 2009, at a total contract cost not to exceed \$597,231. Through recommendations by the Youth Council and Workforce Investment Board, the Merced County Board of Supervisors approved extending the current contract to accommodate the ARRA Summer Youth Employment Project to the end of September 2009.

By approving this new contract, MCOE will continue to provide all required services, and will serve additional participants with the ARRA funding. This new contract will run from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010, at a total contracted cost of \$872,493. The contract amount is the combination of \$697,493 regular WIA formula funding and \$175,000 of ARRA funding.

This new contract will contain new provisions to ensure the requirements of ARRA are met and shall contain:

- ARRA funding is tracked separately from regular WIA youth funding;
- Quarterly reporting will become monthly; and
- "California Youth@Work – Merced" branding shall be used with Summer Employment projects in either digital or printed materials.

**ATTACHMENT(S): N/A**