

TO: Youth Council

DATE: 12/15/10

FROM: Youth Council Staff

For Discussion

For Action

For Information

SUBJECT: The submission of the Employment and Training Administration (ETA), U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) competitive grant application for the YouthBuild Grant, a youth and community development program.

PROPOSED MOTION(S): None – Informational Only

DISCUSSION:

On December 3, 2010 the Merced County Department of Workforce Investment (WI) submitted a grant application for the Employment and Training Administration (ETA), U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) competitive grant funds for the YouthBuild Grant, a youth and community development program. ETA intends for the grant funds to provide low-income disadvantaged youth (ages 16 – 24) with education and employment skills necessary to achieve economic self-sufficiency in high demand occupations with post secondary education and training, opportunities for meaningful work and service to the communities, and opportunities to develop employment and leadership skills. The YouthBuild program allows grantees to tap the energies and talents of disadvantaged youth allowing them to increase the supply of permanent affordable housing for homeless individuals and low-income families while achieving the occupational skills needed to succeed in today’s global economy. This is a great opportunity for agencies to work together with their local workforce investment boards, school district(s), or other agencies to provide services to the youth in their community.

The WI staff discussed with the collaborative partners, the possibility and commitment for this grant. Opinion was unanimous to move forward in the submission of an application for this grant that could provide our community up to \$1.1M to serve approximately sixty-five (65) low-income disadvantaged youth. The twenty-five percent (25%) in-kind match would be provided primarily by the collaborative partners for building materials, oversight and supervision during construction, and for some educational training and leadership skills.

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A