



**Health & Human Services  
Agency  
COUNTY OF TULARE  
AGENDA ITEM**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

KUYLER CROCKER  
District One  
PETE VANDER POEL  
District Two  
AMY SHUKLIAN  
District Three  
EDDIE VALERO  
District Four  
DENNIS TOWNSEND  
District Five

**AGENDA DATE:** December 17, 2019 REVISED

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT PERSON: Vienna Barnes    PHONE: 624-8075

**SUBJECT:** Approve an agreement with Community Services and Employment Training, Inc.

**REQUEST(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve an agreement with Community Services and Employment Training, Inc. in the amount of \$298,958 retroactive from October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020 for administration of the CalFresh Employment & Training Pilot Program. This agreement is retroactive due to inadvertent delays in receiving the final County Fiscal Letter for Fiscal Year 2019/2020. It was impracticable for the Board to take action prior to October 1, 2019 due to the time needed to process, prepare, and submit the agenda item;
2. Find that the Board had authority to enter into this agreement as of October 1, 2019 and that it was in the County's best interest to enter into the Agreement on that date; and
3. Authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign two (2) copies of the agreement.

**SUMMARY:**

The United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) requires that states offer employment and training services to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (known as CalFresh in California) participants. In April 2018, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) announced the annual funding opportunity to counties for the CalFresh Employment and Training (E&T) Pilot Program. Counties that intended to access the available funding were required

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to offer a CalFresh E&T program to CalFresh participants within the county, develop a county plan for the program, and submit the plan to CDSS for review and approval.

On June 25, 2019, your Board approved a prior agreement with Community Services and Employment Training, Inc. (CSET), Agreement No. 29246, Resolution No. 2019-0555. The CalFresh E&T program is currently still in the inception stage due to the late start for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2018/2019 which was implemented on June 28, 2019. The program's initial implementation near the end of a fiscal year as well as internal systemic issues caused delays in continued plan development for the 2019/2020 plan. While Tulare County recently received notification from the CDSS of a preliminary funding amount for 2019/2020 to continue the CalFresh E&T program, the Health and Human Services Agency has not yet received a County Fiscal Letter with confirmation of the 2019/2020 allocation. The delay in the final allocation notification has caused delays to the negotiations process with CSET as they create the agreement and budget based on the final allocation amount. These delays made it impracticable to have submitted the agreement prior to October 1, 2019.

The vision and mission of the CalFresh E&T program is to increase the employment and earning capacity of CalFresh recipients by maximizing their access to CalFresh E&T, supportive services, skills and credentialing through strategic goals including increased job placement, retention, and wages; increased E&T participation across a dynamic mix of communities and cultures; increased employability through removal of barriers to employment; increased skills attainment and credentialing; and administration of an effective customer-focused E&T program. Additionally, continuing this program will allow us some early preparation for future anticipated regulatory changes to the CalFresh Program.

Tulare County's initial approved plan is founded on a partnership with CSET. CSET is a community-based organization with years of experience in providing services to the target population through the TulareWORKs Welfare-to-Work program. For the E&T program, CSET advances the program's strategic goals through service to participants including an initial assessment, assistance with job readiness/job searching, work experiences/internships, educational engagement to obtain a GED, High School diploma or career path advancement in a high demand industry, employment, on-the-job training, and job retention services through case management services. Participants can also receive referrals for supportive services, energy or housing subsidies or workshops for financial literacy.

Participants for the E&T program are voluntary and will be referred by TulareWORKs staff to CSET for enrollment. In the event that CSET encounters a potential participant who is not enrolled but interested in the program, the participant can be reverse referred to TulareWORKs to apply for CalFresh benefits and request a voluntary referral to the E&T program.

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The U.S. Census July 2018 estimate for the Tulare County population is 464,493. As of October 2019, nearly one out of every five Tulare County residents receives CalFresh benefits. This agreement will focus on voluntary engagement by employable CalFresh recipients with or without children that are not currently receiving CalWORKs assistance.

**FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:**

The budgeted costs under this agreement is \$298,958, retroactive to October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020. For Fiscal Year 2019/20, \$224,219 is included in the Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) 4030 budget, object line 7043, professional services. For Fiscal Year 2020/21, the remaining budget amount of \$74,739 will be budgeted in HHS 4030 budget, object line 7043, professional services. The funding is derived from a Federal allocation from the United States Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Services (FNS). There is no additional net County cost to the General Fund.

**LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:**

Tulare County's five-year strategic plan includes the Quality of Life initiative to promote and encourage the provision of quality supportive services for at-risk adults, youth and children in state and federally mandated programs. This agreement increases the ability to fulfill that obligation by providing resources and supportive services to CalFresh recipients as a means to increase their wage-earning capacity.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:**

  
Anita Ortiz  
Director of Human Services

cc: County Administrative Office

Attachment(s) Agreement

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVE AN )  
AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITY ) Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_  
SERVICES AND EMPLOYMENT TRAINING, ) Agreement No. \_\_\_\_\_  
INC )

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_, SECONDED BY  
SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSTAIN:  
ABSENT:

ATTEST: JASON T. BRITT  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/  
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

\* \* \* \* \*

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