



# **DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

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## **SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES ADDENDUM TO THE 1997 CALWORKS PLAN SEPTEMBER 1999**

The County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services (DSS) is submitting this addendum for the Welfare-to-Work Grant Program, as part of the San Luis Obispo County CalWORKs Plan (12/97), as instructed by All County Welfare-to-Work Coordinator's Letter, August 16, 1999. Per State request, this addendum includes the following:

1. The name(s) of the WtW Grant partners CWD's are working with (e.g., 85 percent, 15 percent and 25 percent WtW Grant projects):

In September, 1998, with WtW Grant funding, AFuture Works@was developed through a partnership of Department of Social Services (DSS) and Private Industry Council (PIC), providing employment services to the Ahard-to-serve@population. Other agency involvement includes State of California employment Development Department (EDD), Cuesta Community College, and other agencies on an intermittent basis for services needed by those participants referred from DSS.

2. A recount of each CWD's effort to coordinate welfare-to-work activities with the local WtW Grant partners:

In September, 1997, San Luis Obispo County Department of Social Services entered into an agreement with several partner organizations to develop the AOne-Stop Workforce Development Center.@ The goal is to co-locate and integrate employment, training education, and economic development services for our CalWORKs participants, job seekers, workers, and employers which has proven successful for many participants.

The establishment of One-Stop Career Centers is becoming the Afront door@ for all workforce services as well as for all the new partner agencies. The One-Stop Resource Center continues to be the means that provides integrated services to the participants from one single location. The AFuture Works@program is intended to be a resource for the Ahard to place@population, regulated under the WtW grant.

3. A narration of CWD's coordination of the State WtW Grant matching fund expenditures with the local WtW Grant partners for Welfare-to-Work activities:

For Fiscal Year 1998-99 San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services spent \$11,573 on the WtW program for the Ahard-to-serve@participants through the AFuture

Works@program. Total allowable funds were not utilized due to implementation time and lack of staff awareness.

For Fiscal Year 1999-2000 San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services is allocated to receive \$96,441. Focusing on employment partnerships that remove barriers through employment, this department would like to expand the AFuture Works@ program to all regions within the county. The Employment Partners Advisory Group, consisting of DSS, PIC, Cuesta Community College, MH, AOD and DV agencies meet monthly to review programs that promote employment partnerships within the community. DSS, in conjunction with AOD and PIC, is expanding services for participants who need a more supportive atmosphere with job-ready skills to meet the required WtW activity hours.

DSS is reviewing the need to help fund a Spanish-speaking position through PIC in the AFuture Works@program to include our Spanish speaking participant population. Last, DSS is working with partner agencies to link and maximize services with a seamless flow for participants using supportive services such as AOD or Mental Health, to access job readiness skills through AOD, utilizing employment opportunities by partnering Career Plus (including Adult School services) at Cuesta Community College and PIC's WtW Program.

4. A description of established mechanisms for determining eligibility and referring CalWORKs recipients to the WtW Program:

The AFuture Works@program is San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services=referral process for participants utilizing the WtW Program administered by PIC. Through screening, if a participant is identified as needing a WtW Program, they are referred by the Case Manager to the Future Works (FW) Coordinator. The FW Coordinator completes the referral form. From there the participant is assessed by the FW Coordinator with a basic skills test completed. If the participant is found to be eligible to PIC's WtW Grant Program, PIC administers the JTPA assessment, and an employment plan is completed.

The Department of Social Services has a AFuture Works@flow chart, desk guide, and instructions on how to complete an assessment and referral for WtW services needed (see attached). The Department of Social Services and PIC continue to partner in providing the services for participants that will lead them to self-sufficiency while meeting State outcomes.

Elizabeth A. Schneider - Director

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Date

Debby Jeter - Deputy Director

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Date