



June 22, 2009

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The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Board Members:

SUBJECT: Request for Approval to use County Funds to Support Material Needs of Camp Sweeney Youth

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the expenditure of County funds of \$15,000 for FY2009-10 to support the basic material needs of young men who are participating in health careers training at Camp Wilmont Sweeney.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION/FINDINGS:

The Public Health Department, Emergency Medical Services Division (EMS) sponsors a health career pipeline project targeting at-risk youth in Camp Wilmont Sweeney and youth development programs for training and health career support.

The young men that have participated in the life coaching and first responder programs at the camp have greatly benefited from the exposure and support provided through the health career pipeline project. Several of these participants will be enrolling in the Fall Pre-Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certification program, and others are on their way to junior college because the health development course helped them realize the importance of higher education in today's increasingly competitive society.

Because so many of the youth come from very low-income, single parent households or foster care, funds are needed to provide basic items in order for them to participate in health training career programs. The young people need material support so they can obtain bus passes, BART tickets, California driver's licenses/identification, food and grocery certificates, and clothing vouchers for essentials like socks and underwear, as well as more appropriate job search wear. These items are shown in the table below.

Vendor	Type	Dollar Amount
Safeway/Grocery Outlet	Food Gift Card	\$6,000
Target	Clothing Gift Card	\$2,000
Subways	Food Gift Card	\$2,000
BART/AC Transit	Bus Passes/Tickets	\$4,000
California DMV	Driver's License/ ID Cards	\$1,000
	Total	\$15,000

As a result of the policy adopted by your Board limiting expenditures for these specific types of items, this request is being made as an exception to that policy, per your Board's approval.

FINANCING:

Funding for this contract is included in EMS FY 2009-10 adopted budget. There is no impact on net County cost.

Very truly yours,



Alex K. Briscoe, Acting Director
Health Care Services Agency

AKB:hc

cc: Auditor-Controller:
County Counsel