



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 2/10/2015

Agenda Placement: 6F

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Shelli Brobst for HOWARD HIMES - Director
Health & Human Services Administration

REPORT BY: Shelli Brobst, Contracts Manager - 253-4720

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Social Services, TALX Corporation and Napa County ("The Work Number" Pilot Project)

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the California Department of Social Services, TALX Corporation, and Napa County for the purpose of authorizing Napa County access to "The Work Number" online employment verification service provided by TALX.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Approval of the recommended action will authorize Napa County to participate in a pilot program to access "The Work Number" online employment verification service provided by TALX. The verification service retrieves and verifies certain employment and/or income data of a consumer-recipient applying for, or currently receiving, public social service assistance when such information has been furnished to TALX by employers.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Approval of the MOU authorizes the County to participate in a pilot program to retrieve and verify certain employment and/or income data of a consumer-recipient applying for or currently receiving public social service assistance when such information has been furnished to TALX by employers. The WorkNumber, a services of Equifax, is the largest source for past and/or current employment and wage verification information in the country. The WorkNumber (WN) Express Service employs an online Social Security Number (SSN) lookup system that uses a data warehouse of over 200 million records provided by over 3,100 employers in the United States. The WN Express Service tool allows users to go to the WN secure website and retrieve information instantly by entering only a client's SSN. The WN Service then provides instant employment verification data, such as employee earnings and hours worked.

The WN Service can be used by counties to verify employment in accordance with California's Work Verification Plan. The county is permitted to use the information obtained from the source in the same manner as it would use information provided by an employer. This tool will allow county eligibility staff to obtain employment information and approve benefits quickly. It also will allow Welfare-to-Work staff to obtain employment information required to measure Work Participation Rates.

During the pilot program, the California Department of Social Services, in partnership with the California Welfare Directors Association and county representatives, will use data provided by the WN Service to measure the usage and efficacy of the tool and determine whether or not to pursue a long-term agreement.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Karen Collins