



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: June 4, 2024

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Honoring The Homeless Employment Group

WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors made a commitment in 2021 in the County's five-year Strategic Plan to reduce homeless 10% annually by enhancing services through improved coordination and collaboration; and

WHEREAS, Sonoma County Job Link in 2021 formed a workgroup comprised of government agencies, nonprofits and employers to support unsheltered or at risk of becoming homeless find jobs; and

WHEREAS, the Homeless Employment Group created a new collaborative model to connect unsheltered people with local employment and workforce training. It organized three Job and Resource Fairs in Santa Rosa and Petaluma where more than 1,000 people attended these events connecting with employers and services providers along with resume services to support their employment and housing needs; and

WHEREAS, the Homeless Employment Group's collaborative efforts to provide employment, workforce training and housing resources in a unified has become a best practice. The Group has presented this approach at three statewide workforce conferences over the last two years; and

WHEREAS, the Homeless Employment Group's strategy has gained widespread local support. Sunrise Rotary Club donated over \$25,000 provide gift cards and free lunches to unsheltered people attending the three Job and Resource Fairs, and supplied volunteers at each event to conduct mock interviews that prepared unsheltered people for their job search; and

WHEREAS, the Homeless Employment Group has successful used Job Link funding to support the homeless offering them Temporary Work Experience (TWEX), On the job training (OJT), Individual Training Accounts (ITA) along with intensive vocational counseling that has led to 75 placements since the project started in 2021, and;

WHEREAS, there are now 18 members of the Homeless Employment Group, including Interfaith Shelter Network, Department of Rehabilitation, Mary's Pizza, Human Services Job Link, Community Support Network (CSN), Micah Hugs, Sunrise Rotary Club, Home First, Nation's Finest, The Living Room, West County Services, Sonoma County Department of Health Services, Sonoma Applied Villages, Share, Petaluma Family Resource Center, Reach for Home, Homeless Action Sonoma and Goodwill Redwood Empire.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Sonoma County do hereby recognize the valuable work the Homeless Employment Group is doing to help people who are unhoused or at risk of becoming homeless find jobs.

Supervisors:

Gorin: Coursey: Gore: Hopkins: Rabbitt:
Ayes: Noes: Absent: Abstain:

So Ordered.