

AGENDA MATERIAL

DATE 5-4-21

ITEM NO. RA9

Jessica Kopfmann

From: Cheryl Bakari <Cheryl.Bakari@pascuayaqui-nsn.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 9:16 AM
To: COB_mail
Subject: Attn: Letter of Support for JobPath

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Greetings Pima County Board of Supervisors,

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Native American Career Technical Education Program (PYT NACTEP) is writing this letter in support for the proposed funding increase for JobPath in your upcoming budget.

We believe in JobPath's mission to improve the economic status of underserved adults, by removing barriers to educational achievement, so that they can lead healthier and more prosperous lives. The increase in funding will be used to help more low-income adults overcome barriers to succeed in degree and certification programs. Due to the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic, these services are even more needed and vital for the overall economic health of Pima County.

JobPath already has a well-established track record of meaningful impact in the local community. The total economic impact for fiscal year 2019 was estimated at \$17.6 million, driven by an increase in annual direct wages of \$3.4 million for JobPath graduates placed in jobs

Our organization has actively partnered with JobPath to bolster support and services for our eligible program participant who are striving to build economic self-sufficiency. We have a well-established and strong relationship that has contributed to the success of our PYT NACTEP participants.

As an example, we have several program participants studying to become Licensed Practical Nurses, one of the most expensive programs at our local community college, at a cost of almost \$18,000. Thanks to the partnership and support provided by JobPath these students are able to attend tuition free as well as access financial support to cover additional expenses associated with attending this rigorous 13-month program.

JobPath has a strong reputation in our community with outcomes that make a difference for entire families. In 2019:

- 90% of JobPath students graduate from their programs
- 85% get a job in their field within 6 months of graduating
- In 2019, JobPath graduates earned an average starting salary of nearly \$50,000

With the proposed funding increase from the Pima County Board of Supervisors, JobPath can continue the work to make our community stronger and healthier by helping people create better lives for themselves.

In conclusion, PYT NACTEP fully supports the efforts of JobPath as they seek to agency to help adults and families of Pima County.

Sincerely,
Cheryl Bakari (Resident of Pima County Supervisor District 5)
Director
Pascua Yaqui Tribe
Native American Career Technical Education Program

Make It A Great Day!



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