

Caitlyn McGhee

From: Jennie Grabel <jennie@svptucson.org>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 1:32 PM
To: COB_mail
Subject: JobPath Funding Letter of Support
Attachments: JobPath Funding Letter of Support.pdf

CAUTION: This message and sender come from outside Pima County. If you did not expect this message, proceed with caution. Verify the sender's identity before performing any action, such as clicking on a link or opening an attachment.

Dear Ms. Manriquez,

I respectfully submit this letter of support for JobPath’s continued funding through noncompetitive outside agency funding from Pima County. The letter is sent on behalf of the nine agencies currently working to provide whole family support through our 2Gen Nonprofit Collaboration which JobPath is an active member of.

Agencies represented in this support letter include:

- Social Venture Partners (SVP) Tucson
- Interfaith Community Services
- Make Way for Books
- Girl Scouts of Southern Arizona
- Boys to Men Tucson
- Parent Aid
- Tucson Jewish Free Loan
- YWCA of Southern Arizona
- JobPath

We respectfully request that the letter is distributed to all supervisors in preparation for Agenda Item # 24 in tomorrow’s Board of Supervisors meeting.

Thank you for your assistance.

Warmly,
Jennie Grabel
Pronouns: She, Her, Hers
Vice President of Programs
SOCIAL VENTURE PARTNERS TUCSON
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5.6.2024

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Thank you very much for your service and leadership in our community and for your recent passing of the Prosperity Initiative aka Policy No. E 36.2 - Reducing Generational Poverty and Improving Individual and Community Wealth. This bold policy bundle shows that you as a governing body want to elevate all families in our community and are committed to intentional focus on pathways for families to thrive, particularly those experiencing generational poverty.

We write to you today in relation to Agenda Item 24 and the discussion on non-competitive outside agency funding, as a collective of nine nonprofit agencies, with nearly 200 staff members, over 5,500 donors, serving 98,735 clients in Pima County in 2023. Our collective goal is to support our community's most marginalized families through multi-agency, multi-generational support. We are doing this through a two-generation (2Gen) approach, which you are likely familiar with as it is one of the three cross policy strategies in the Prosperity Initiative. For context, 2Gen approaches build family well-being by intentionally and simultaneously working with children and the adults in their lives together to access new resources, solve problems, and sharpen existing skills. Our 2Gen Nonprofit Collaboration is led by Social Venture Partners (SVP) Tucson and includes the following direct service agencies:

- JobPath
- Interfaith Community Services
- Make Way for Books
- Girl Scouts of Southern Arizona
- Boys to Men Tucson
- Parent Aid
- Tucson Jewish Free Loan
- YWCA of Southern Arizona

We advocate as a collective for continued funding for JobPath, one of the external agencies being reviewed for Duplication of Pima County Programs and/or Services. Diverting their funding to an internal government entity unintentionally works in direct opposition to the goals and objectives of the Prosperity Initiative. We as a community must work together across all sectors to support our most marginalized families. JobPath's coaching model to support very low- and low-income families attain high wage careers through post-secondary education, is in direct alignment with policy recommendations in the Prosperity Initiative. Furthermore, they are a critical program partner in our 2Gen Nonprofit Collaboration and divesting funding from them will force them to serve less families, immediately affecting referrals and shared programming planned for the coming fiscal year.

JobPath's students' success rates and demographics speak for themselves:

- 90% of students who start at JobPath complete their program
- \$47,400+ salary increase average annually post -training salary for graduates
- 85% job attainment rate within the first six months after graduation
- \$236.2 million in economic impact based on cumulative JobPath student wages since 2015

- 3:1 average return on investment (ROI) of JobPath Programs
- \$6 million public assistance reduction expenditures by the state of Arizona
- Over 70% of student identify as Hispanic/Latino, Black/African American, Asian/Pacific Islander/Native American/Indigenous/Middle East North African or Mixed
- Over 70% of students identify and female
- Over 30% of students are single parents and over 40% are families

It is important to stress that JobPath’s service delivery model is **complementary** to the Pima County One-Stop model. Their ability to be agile in their support of students, - meeting them when and where they need, their intentional focus on the needs of student parents – providing the extra support that parents need to prioritize education when they also need to support their families. These are things that government programs like One Stop cannot do in the ways that our nonprofit sector can and does well.

Government closes its doors evenings and weekends when students may need counsel. Government processing procedures take ample time and are often stricter than many nonprofits. And many members of our community will not access government services because of historic inequities and mistrust. Simply take a look at the One Stop website vs. JobPath’s website. Imagine you were contemplating entering a post-secondary program, that you were first generation to do so, and that you are supporting young children while doing so. JobPath’s online presence clearly outlines their work and the pathways they provide to student success, whereas the One-Stop resources require more navigation and are less student focused.

In summary, JobPath functions as a direct pathway to reducing generational poverty and improving individual and community wealth and is a proven strategy in the Prosperity Initiative’s “Prioritize Workforce Development for Underserved Populations” policy. It is also a critical partner in the 2Gen Nonprofit Collaboration that is working on behalf of families to better serve Pima County’s most vulnerable communities and is a proven and effective provider of services to our community. As such, we as a collective request that you fully support the continued funding of JobPath and the services it provides in our community through noncompetitive outside agency funding.



With gratitude,

- Social Venture Partners (SVP) Tucson
- Interfaith Community Services
- Make Way for Books
- Girl Scouts of Southern Arizona
- Boys to Men Tucson
- Parent Aid
- Tucson Jewish Free Loan
- YWCA of Southern Arizona
- JobPath

May 5, 2024

Pima County Board of Supervisors

RE: JobPath's Vital Role in our community

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am writing today to share my experience and show support of JobPath, as I express the impact they've made during my time as a student in the Pima Community College of Nursing Program and currently two years post-graduation.

Before enrolling with JobPath, I was living on a fixed income. Navigating financial challenges while in nursing school and not working was quite demanding. Balancing living expenses, tuition, funds for textbooks, supplies, transportation, and relying on loans became overwhelming and lead to strain in my daily academic performance and overall well-being.

As a JobPath student, I was offered a tremendous amount of support that fundamentally created balance between my academic pursuits and financial stability. JobPath was monumental in reducing financial stress with assistance covering tuition, books, supplies, uniforms, monthly expenses, gas cards for transportation, and even diapers for mothers. Having these essential needs covered significantly eased the financial burden of attending school and ultimately helped ensure individual success as I invested my time and focus into the study of nursing.

Financial assistance can facilitate higher education and better career opportunities by enabling students to complete their degrees. By supporting students financially, educational institutions and governments contribute to a more educated and skilled workforce. Fostering educational attainment and professional development contribute to a more equitable and prosperous society.

As I continue my journey as a nurse, the gratitude I have for the financial support that JobPath has contributed to my achievements is heartfelt. Hard work, dedication, and the combined support from Student Success Coach Leaders (Ginette Roth and Kyle Scanlon), have brought me where I am today- an accomplished nurse making a difference in people's lives.

If the Board of Supervisors cuts JobPath funding, I know the support that future students could receive from them will be cut jeopardizing future student success and professional development. I encourage you to vote to continue funding JobPath and continue inspiring others with your journey of gratitude and success!

Warm Regards,

Noel Sholem

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May 6, 2024

Pima County Board of Supervisors

Re: JobPath's Vital Role in our Community

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to show my support of JobPath and how critical they've been for me during my time as a nursing student at Pima Community College.

Before enrolling with JobPath I had a completely different mindset about going back to school as an adult student. I didn't know how I was going to pay tuition alongside bills and still have enough time to adequately study for a program, which in hindsight was the toughest thing I have ever accomplished. JobPath not only provided me with financial assistance and available resources, but more importantly JobPath provided me with invaluable genuine human connection, communication, and community resources. The personnel and coaches I have been fortunate enough to work with throughout the program have been so incredibly insightful and supportive. I have been fortunate enough to attend numerous online workshops with the JobPath coaches. These coaches helped me to better understand time management, conflict resolution, financial responsibility, resume writing, and interview preparation, but most of all and most importantly they helped me believe in my talent and chosen path. They truly gave me that extra boost of confidence.

The personal and sincere support I've received from JobPath goes above and beyond that of what I've received from Arizona@Work. Both have pivotal resources to accomplishing nursing school and I am so blessed to have had the opportunity to receive support from both. However, it has truly been the coaches and provided workshops at JobPath who have made a profound impact on my success over the last two years.

I encourage you to vote to continue funding JobPath at the same level at the very least. The future success of students just like me is at stake.

Sincerely,

Lauren McCann

District #5

Agenda item #24

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May 6, 2024

Pima County Board of Supervisors

Re: JobPath's Vital Role in our Community

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am writing here today to show my support of JobPath and how critical they've been for me during my time as a Nursing Student at Pima Community College.

One of the main obstacles that stopped me from returning to school sooner was worrying about how I would pay my bills if my work hours decreased due to my school schedule. Before enrolling with JobPath, I thought the only way to get through would be with student/personal loans, or getting little to no sleep to be able to keep up with school and working 40 hours a week. As a nursing student in my third out of four semesters, I can attest to the fact that it is extremely difficult to work full time while keeping up with the demands of nursing school. The financial assistance that JobPath provides has made it possible for me to be a successful student.

As a JobPath student, I've received financial assistance to help pay for supplies that are required for school such as scrubs, new shoes, stethoscope, and study aids. JobPath has also been crucial in helping me stay afloat with bills. Last summer, my AC went out and I ended up with an almost \$700 electric bill. As you can imagine, this was very unexpected and became a huge stressor but thanks to JobPath, it was quickly resolved and I could return my focus to being successful in school.

The support I receive from JobPath goes above and beyond and has been an essential part of my success in Pima's Nursing Program.

If the Board of Supervisors cuts JobPath funding, I know the support I receive from them will be cut jeopardizing my success in my program. I encourage you to vote to continue funding JobPath at the same level at the very least. The future success of students just like me is at stake.

Sincerely,



Liliana Vazquez
District #2