

# AGENDA MATERIAL

DATE 5/17/24 ITEM NO. RA24

To the Pima County Board of Supervisors,

JobPath has been a great part of my nursing education journey since I started my program this past Fall 2023. Being in a time-consuming program has affected my availability to work, especially because my employment is only open during the week. JobPath has astonishingly supported me by helping me pay my rent, electricity, gas and remaining tuition in order to complete my program. Without their help, it is without a doubt I would either be behind on rent, have no gas and possibly no electricity which would give me no choice to possibly put my education on hold in order to pay for basic needs for day to day living. No one should have to chose between continuing school or put it on hold in order to work more hours. To put it in perspective, unfortunately I am only guaranteed 16 hours to work per week which only results in a \$230 weekly paycheck. With the help of Jobpath's financial assistance, I have been able to pay my rent and electricity on time with enough gas in my car to allow me to get to school, work and clinicals on Saturdays at 6:45 am. Although it is still a struggle living on your own, going to school and only being able to work part time, JobPath has helped me take care of things, so I am able to have time to go to the library, have study sessions with my classmates before a big exam and even take the time to book appointments with my teachers if I need help understanding the material. I have been able to put in the hard work, time and dedication my education deserves without having to sacrifice more than what I can afford. Aside from their financial assistance, the love and support I have received from my student success and work force coaches has been beyond comparison. Checking in my student success coach and simply being asked "How are you doing? Is there anything I can help you with?" from someone outside my circle of daily communication makes a huge difference. The numerous amounts of resources offered by JobPath doesn't only make sure we success by graduating but also guiding us in making sure we obtain a position of employment that best benefits us in the real world. Knowing that they will still be there to help me beyond graduation is reassuring and less nerve-racking. The more support I receive makes the late-night studying, tears and stress truly worth it as I complete each semester of my nursing program and getting closer in becoming a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Nurse. All in all, please continue funding this amazing organization as many upcoming healthcare, industrial and technology workers greatly depend on it in order to not only graduate but to succeed in the work field we are called to be in. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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