



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 4

Agenda Date: March 22, 2022

In Control: Economic and Workforce Development Committee Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Workforce Development Office

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Michael Ramsey

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Updates on City workforce development programs Train for Jobs SA and SA: Ready to Work.

SUMMARY:

This item provides an update on the progress of two City workforce development programs: (1) Train for Jobs SA (TfJSA), the City's COVID-19 Workforce Recovery Program designed to help San Antonio residents negatively affected by the pandemic; and (2) SA: Ready to Work (RTW), San Antonio's longer-term training and job placement program funded by 1/8-cent sales tax through 2025.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

TfJSA offers workforce training and job placement services to San Antonio residents who have been negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The City partners with Workforce Solutions

Alamo, Alamo Colleges District, Project Quest, Restore Education, Family Service, Chrysalis Ministries, and SA Works to implement the program. Once admitted, participants receive subsidized tuition and stipends while participating in approved training courses, including high-school equivalency preparation, short-term training and long-term training. TfJSA also offers wraparound services to participants, including skills and career assessments, childcare, transportation, and emergency funding to remove barriers to completion.

As of February 28, 10,338 participants have enrolled in TfJSA. Of those, 5,258 have enrolled in 5,561 trainings, including high-school equivalency, on-the-job training, short-term training or long-term training. Sixty-nine percent of participants in training are women, 65% are Hispanic, and 59% are ages 25-44. Training in medical and information technology account for over two-thirds of courses. As of January 31, 4,449 participants have received over \$11M stipends. TfJSA enrollment ended in December 2021; however, residents continue to attend courses, and to receive wraparound services, stipends, and job placement assistance through December 2022.

RTW is a longer-term education and job placement program that will launch in April 2022 and that will continue through 2027. RTW will offer up to 28,085 residents subsidized tuition for industry-recognized certifications, associate's degree completion and bachelor's degree completion. In February 2022, City Council unanimously approved contracts for RTW implementation (intake, initial assessment, and case management) services, employer engagement services, and community outreach and marketing services for partners including Workforce Solutions Alamo, Alamo College District, Project Quest, Restore Education, SA WORX, and Creative Noggin, respectively. The Workforce Development Office staff working with these partners to implement the program and is negotiating additional contracts for program evaluation services and for services to assist adult residents to earn their high-school diploma or equivalency.

ISSUE:

This briefing will include an update on TfJSA, including a breakdown of participant demographics, enrollment, training programs and industries, as well as job placements to date. This briefing will also include an update on the launch of RTW.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.