

To: Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County

CC: Ryan O'Connor, Johanna Berg

From: Ling Becker, Executive Director, Ramsey County WIB

RE: Intent to Apply for the SNAP Employment and Training 2021 Funds

Grant: Yearly Local Plan Application for the SNAP Employment and Training Funds to Administer Employment and Training Program for the SNAP Eligible Residents of Ramsey County

Date: July 27, 2020

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Ramsey County Workforce Solutions (WFS) administers the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) for all eligible Ramsey County residents on behalf of the Department of Human Services (DHS). Counties are required to submit a yearly plan to DHS describing details of the program operations including coordination with other employment programs and the participant support system.

Workforce Solutions' goal is to help SNAP E&T eligible residents fully utilize their SNAP benefits, gain essential skills needed for gainful employment, and successfully transition off public assistance. Due to current COVID-19 pandemic, the majority of communication, documentations and activities are conducted over the phone, by email, and through virtual learnings. There is a statewide focus on offering a skill-development continuum of services to residents. The goal is to work collectively with community and local colleges, community-based organizations, WIOA programs and others to build creative and innovative approaches to provide services to the residents across the local area, leverage multiple funding streams and help residents secure employment.

Workforce Solutions plans to enroll 540 SNAP participants who can benefit from SNAP E&T services. The SNAP E&T program calls for a close partnership with the local Workforce Development Board. The Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County (WIB) is actively involved in providing support for the program. The WIB also reviews and approves the SNAP E&T Local Plan.

Due date: July 27, 2020 (DHS released the Local Plan information on July 10, 2020)

Amount: \$236,000 in SNAP 100% funding and \$50,000 in SNAP 50/50 reimbursement. The actual amount for 100% funding will be determined by DHS based on the funds available

Status: If successful, WFS will update the WIB. WFS plans on providing ongoing updates and information regarding program administration to the full WIB at least twice per year.