

**Approval of Staff Funding Extension Recommendations for
Refugee Employment Social Services (RESS),
Targeted Assistance (TA) and Discretionary Programs, PY 2009-2010**

I. Background

SETA's Refugee Programs provide direct services intended to result in the economic self-sufficiency and reduced public assistance dependency of refugees and asylees through employment. Due to the refugee resettlement program and large numbers of secondary migrants, Sacramento County has become the home of an estimated 80,000 Russian-speaking refugees, 30,000 Hmong and over 40,000 other Southeast Asian refugees.

Over the last five years, Sacramento County has welcomed over 8,000 refugees from around the globe: 70% from the Former Soviet Union, 31% from Southeast Asia, 11% from the Middle East, and a very small percentage from Africa.

For Program Year 2009-2010, the preliminary State allocation for Refugee Employment Social Services (RESS) and Targeted Assistance (TA) programs is **\$1,666,147**, a decrease of **\$538,973**. The decrease in the allocation is primarily attributable to the decline in the numbers of newly arriving refugees resettling in Sacramento County, not a reflection of SETA's performance. Services provided with these funds are:

- Vocational English-as-a-Second Language combined with Employment Services (VESL/ES) for cash clients;
- Vocational English-as-a-Second Language (VESL/VT) combined with Vocational Training for cash clients;
- Social Adjustment and Cultural Orientation (SA & CO).
- Vocational English-as-a-Second Language combined with On-the-Job Training (VESL/OJT) for cash clients;
- Direct Employment Services (ES) for non-cash refugees;
- Verification/Referral for refugees.

Compared to PY 2008-2009, total program funds available for allocation are **\$1,898,438**, representing a net decrease of **\$654,006**. This allocation includes \$350,000 in PY08-09 carryover funds, which are unspent funds from PY 08-09 that can be used to support costs in PY 09-10. In addition, this allocation includes \$232,212 in Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Emergency Contingency Fund (ECF) and \$28,488 in Older Refugee Discretionary (ORD) funds that will assist in offsetting the reduction in funding. SETA is setting aside a total of \$100,000 in TA program funds for Verification/Referral Liaison services and other direct services to refugees.

The following chart represents the allocations by activity:

Activity	Available Funds PY 2008-2009			Available Funds PY 2009-2010*			
	RESS/Disc.	TA	TOTAL	RESS/Disc.	TA	TANF ECF	TOTAL
VESL/ES	\$ 994,870	\$ 84,840	\$1,079,710	\$293,474	\$312,664		\$606,138
VESL/VT	120,000		120,000	100,000			100,000
SA & CO	312,766		312,766	289,320			289,320

VESL/OJT		533,568	533,568		249,368	\$232,212	481,580
ES		506,400	506,400		421,400		421,400
Total	\$ 1,427,636	\$1,124,808	\$2,552,444	\$682,794	\$983,432	\$232,212	\$1,898,438

*If final allocations are less than preliminary allocations, this funding recommendation will be modified accordingly.

PY 08-09 program performance through July 31, 2009, compared to end of year goals, was used as the basis for funding extension recommendations. Through July 31, 2009, programs have enrolled a total of 1,411 customers versus planned enrollment of 1,074 customers (131%), with 610 (43%) entering employment and 383 (27%) retaining employment after 90 days. The decrease in entering employment and retention is primarily attributable to the current economic downturn. An additional 1,160 customers have been served in the SA & CO component.

Staff is not recommending extending RESS and TA funding for the Sacramento Lao Family Community due to the unresolved financial concerns. Sacramento Lao Family Community has been under corrective action since August of 2008, and to date has failed to adequately respond to SETA's fiscal monitoring findings, concerns and recommendations. Sacramento Lao Family Community TA and RESS activities include VESL/ES and ES (Stand Alone).

Additionally, staff is not recommending extending TA funding for Sacramento Occupational Advancement Resources (SOAR) VESL/On-the-Job Training (OJT) activity due to performance concerns. SOAR has been on corrective action since February of this year for its continued failure in maintaining minimum contractual service levels. Staff is recommending extending SOAR for VESL/ES and ES (Stand Alone) activities.

Finally, due to the decline in funding resulting from the corresponding decrease in the number of new arrivals, staff is recommending significant reductions in funding in the VESL/ES activity. VESL/ES has, historically, been an activity which targets the most recent refugee arrivals to the County, and with the steady decline in new arrivals to Sacramento County since Program Year 2004, the need for VESL/ES has decreased.

II. Recommendation

Approve funding extensions for the Refugee Employment Social Services, Targeted Assistance, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Emergency Contingency Fund (ECF) and Older Refugee Discretionary (ORD) programs, PY 2009-2010, as indicated in the attached charts.

**Sacramento Employment and Training Agency
Refugee Program, PY 2009 - 2010
Summary of Staff Funding Recommendations**

SERVICE AGENCY	VESL/ES	VESL/VT	VESL/OJT	ES	SA&CO	Recommendation PY 09-10*
Asian Resources	\$142,500		\$119,740	\$85,000		\$347,240
Bach Viet	111,600		178,800	86,400		376,800
Twin Rivers USD	135,000	\$100,000	183,040	90,000		508,040
Hmong Women					\$81,193	81,193
Opening Doors					48,495	48,495
SAAC					99,510	99,510
Sac. Lao Family	0			0		0
Sac. City USD	117,990			80,000		197,990
Slavic Comm.					60,122	60,122
SOAR	99,048		0	80,000		179,048
TOTALS	\$606,138	\$100,000	\$481,580	\$421,400	\$289,320	\$1,898,438
*Subject to final award of preliminary allocations.						

Sacramento Employment and Training Agency
REFUGEE PROGRAM
Staff Funding Extension Recommendations, PY 2009 - 2010
Component: VESL/ES

PERFORMANCE RANKING	AGENCY NAME	CURRENT FUNDING PY 08-09	STAFF FUNDING RECOMMENDATION PY09-10	
			Amount*	# TO BE SERVED
1	Twin Rivers USD	\$180,000	\$135,000	61
1	Asian Resources	190,000	142,500	59
2	Sacramento City USD	190,000	117,990	54
2	Sacramento Occ. Adv. Res.	159,710	99,048	54
2	Bach Viet	180,000	111,600	47
2	Sacramento Lao Family	180,000	0	0
TOTALS		\$899,710	\$606,138	274
*Subject to final award of preliminary allocations.				

Sacramento Employment and Training Agency
REFUGEE PROGRAM
Staff Funding Extension Recommendations, PY 2009 - 2010
Component: VESL/VT

PERFORMANCE RANKING	AGENCY NAME	CURRENT FUNDING PY08-09	STAFF FUNDING RECOMMENDATION PY09-10			
			AMOUNT*		# TO BE SERVED	
1	Twin Rivers USD	\$120,000	\$100,000		28	
TOTALS		\$120,000	\$100,000		28	
*Subject to final award of preliminary allocations.						

Sacramento Employment and Training Agency
REFUGEE PROGRAM
Staff Funding Extension Recommendations, PY 2009 - 2010
Component: VESL/OJT

PERFORMANCE RANKING	AGENCY NAME	CURRENT FUNDING PY08-09	STAFF FUNDING RECOMMENDATION PY09-10			
			TA*	TANF ECF*	Total*	# TO BE SERVED
1	Bach Viet	\$178,800	\$82,972	\$95,828	\$178,800	34
1	Twin Rivers USD	183,040	105,656	77,384	183,040	41
2	Asian Resources	138,720	60,740	59,000	119,740	32
3	Sacramento Occ. Adv. Res.	126,608	0	0	0	0
TOTALS		\$627,168	\$249,368	\$232,212	\$481,580	106
*Subject to final award of preliminary allocations.						

Sacramento Employment and Training Agency
REFUGEE PROGRAM
Staff Funding Extension Recommendations, PY 2009 - 2010
Component: ES Stand Alone

PERFORMANCE RANKING	AGENCY NAME	CURRENT FUNDING PY08-09	STAFF FUNDING RECOMMENDATION PY09-10	
			AMOUNT*	# TO BE SERVED
1	Twin Rivers USD	\$90,000	\$90,000	75
1	Asian Resources	85,000	85,000	64
2	Sacramento City USD	80,000	80,000	67
2	Sacramento Occ. Adv. Res.	80,000	80,000	84
2	Bach Viet	86,400	86,400	64
2	Sacramento Lao Family	85,000	0	0
TOTALS		\$421,400	\$421,400	354
*Subject to final award of preliminary allocations.				

Sacramento Employment and Training Agency
REFUGEE PROGRAM
 Staff Funding Extension Recommendations, PY 2009 - 2010
Component: SA and CO

REVISED

PERFORMANCE RANKING	AGENCY NAME	CURRENT FUNDING PY08-09	STAFF FUNDING RECOMMENDATION PY09-10				
			RESS*	Discretionary*	Total	# TO BE SERVED	
						RESS	Discretionary
1	Hmong Women's Heritage	\$98,766	\$84,187	\$7,122	\$91,309	277	22
1	Opening Doors	24,000	15,403	\$7,122	22,525	77	22
2	Slavic Assistance Center	90,000	76,123	\$7,122	83,245	381	22
2	Southeast Asian Assist. Ctr.	100,000	85,119	\$7,122	92,241	437	22
TOTALS		\$312,766	\$260,832	\$28,488	\$289,320	1,172	88
*Subject to final award of preliminary allocations.							
**Redline text reflects revised numbers. The prior Program Year 08-09 contract amounts in the original chart reflected PY 07-08 contracted amounts.							
SA and CO Staff Funding Recommendations for PY 09-10 reflect a decrease in allocation per agency of approximately 7.5%.							