




MEMORANDUM

Date: March 4, 2009

To: The Honorable Chairman and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator 

Re: Summer Youth Program

I recently asked the Deputy County Administrator for Community Services to assess and evaluate the possibility of reducing General Fund support of the Summer Youth Program due to severe revenue losses. His report dated February 23, 2009, is attached.

Because of these revenue losses, I have directed that the Deputy County Administrator prepare departments for a 25 percent reduction in General Fund support of the Summer Youth Program. Given general economic trends and forecasted assessed value decreases for the Countywide tax base, it is likely that in fiscal year 2010/11 the reduction may equal or exceed 50 percent.

Please note that this reduction applies to the Summer Youth Program funded this fiscal year as well as next since the Summer Youth Program bridges two fiscal years. The Summer Youth Program that is funded with Special Revenue Funds such as Transportation or Wastewater will see similar reductions.

CHH/jj

Attachment

c: Martin Willett, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Hank Atha, Deputy County Administrator for Community and Economic Development
John Bernal, Deputy County Administrator - Public Works
Tom Burke, Finance and Risk Management Director
Thomas House, Budget Manager, Finance and Risk Management



MEMORANDUM

Date: February 6, 2009

To: C. H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

From: Hank Atha 
Deputy County Administrator

Re: Impact of General Fund Reductions to the Summer Youth Program

You have requested that Community Services, Employment and Training Department (CSET) determine the impact of 25, 50 and 100% cuts in Pima County general funds for the Summer Youth Employment Program, starting in fiscal year 2009-2010. This Memorandum answers that question.

History: 2008

In summer 2008 more than 3,000 youth applied for jobs and **1,071 youth** were enrolled in programs funded by Pima County General Funds in Community Services, Employment and Training Department (CSET). An additional **219 youth** were employed in Department of Transportation and Regional Waste Water and Reclamation Department programs. Cost to the General Fund was approximately **\$1.5 million**. Because the summer program period crosses fiscal years, approximately half of the cost was from fiscal year 2007-08 and half from fiscal year 2008-09 appropriations.

In 2008 an additional 367 youth were enrolled in State-funded and federally funded CSET grant programs. In 2009 State summer youth grant money is no longer available, and the number of federally funded positions has decreased substantially due to federal mandates to target youth funds on year-around counseling, remediation and education. Also the cost per position is significantly higher in 2009 due to the January 2009 increase in Arizona minimum wage, and July 1, 2009 increase in federal minimum wage, to \$7.25 per hour.

Summer 2009

The following chart summarizes the planned number of positions and the impact of reductions of twenty-five, fifty and one-hundred percent in the general fund summer youth appropriation.

Summary Chart of Numbers of Youth Served from CSET funding

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>WIA Regular</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
Summer 2009 Plan	1,035	180	0	1,215
25% cut	735	180	0	915
50% cut	560	180	0	740
100% cut	0	180	0	180

Detail of Recommended Reductions by Specific Summer Program

Pima County general funds support several different summer programs. As originally planned, the 2009 Summer Program would include the following programs.

General Fund Program

- 350 Youth in BOS Summer Internship: \$605,000
- 25 Youth in Courts 'R Us youth wages: \$39,000
- 60 Youth in PVHS summer employment: \$30,000
- Recruitment, assessment and tracking staff: \$86,000
- 600 Youth in Summer Youth Employment and Education: \$900,000

General Fund Total: \$1,660,000 to serve 1,035 youth.

If general funds are reduced, staff recommends the following program reductions.

25% Reduction in General funds

Programs NOT Cut:

- 350 Youth in BOS Summer Internship: \$605,000
- 25 Youth in Courts 'R Us youth wages: \$39,000
- 60 Youth in PVHS Summer Employment: \$30,000
- Recruitment, assessment and tracking staff: \$86,000

Program Cut

- Cut Summer Youth Employment and Education by \$450,000.
Reduce Number Youth from 600 to 300 \$450,000

General Fund Total: 27.1% Reduction to \$1,210,000 to serve 735 youth.

50% reduction in General Funds:

Reduce All General Fund Programs to Following Levels

- BOS Summer Internship: Maintain 350 Youth but
Reduce hours from 200 to 160 hours:
\$484,000
- Courts 'R Us: Reduce Youth to 20: Reduce Hours to 180 \$39,000
- PVHS summer employment: Reduce Youth from 60 to 50 \$30,000
- Recruitment, assessment and tracking staff: \$84,000
- Summer Youth Employment and Education: Reduce to 140 \$210,000

General Fund Total: 50 % Reduction to \$830,000 to serve 560 Youth.

Memorandum to C.H. Huckelberry

Re: Impact of General Fund Reductions to the Summer Youth Program

February 6, 2009

Page 3

Economic Impact of Elimination of General Fund Summer Programs

Elimination of all County funds for the Summer Program will mean that 1,035 low-income youth will not have work or education in the summer and that approximately \$1,500,000 in wages will not be paid to those low-income families. There will be an additional loss in wages that will not be paid to teachers and job counselors who are hired for temporary summer program positions.

HA/cbc

c: Arthur Eckstrom, Community Services, Employment & Training Director
Charles Casey, Administrative Director for CSET