

DEPARTMENT: Board of Supervisors

BY: Bob Pickard

PHONE: 966-3222

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Approve the participation of Mariposa County in the "Regional Council of Rural Counties (RCRC) and Rural Alliance, Incorporation (RAI) Scholarship Program" and direct staff to request the Mariposa County Schools Foundation select, award, and administer the scholarship program on behalf of the Board of Supervisors. RCRC has included funding in their 2003 budget for a scholarship program that allocates a total of \$1,000 to each member county of RCRC to award to one or two eligible students. The Mariposa County Schools Foundation has been contacted and they are willing to select, award, and administer the scholarship program on behalf of the Board of Supervisors. Once staff has been notified of the recipient(s), a formal resolution will be prepared for review and adoption by the Board to notify RCRC and RAI of the scholarship recipients and that the Mariposa County Schools Foundation will be administering the scholarship.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution 02-95 approving the participation of Mariposa County in the RCRC/RAI Scholarship Program and directing staff to ask the Mariposa County Schools Foundation to select, award, and administer the scholarship program. The Mariposa County Schools Foundation selected two recipients (one male, one female) to each receive a \$500 scholarship. The Board then adopted Resolution 02-196 that formally notified RCRC and RAI of the scholarship recipients and directing that the Mariposa County Schools Foundation will administer the scholarship.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do approve the participation of Mariposa County in the RCRC/RAI Scholarship Program. Eligible local students will not be able to receive the scholarship funds.

Approve the participation of Mariposa County in the RCRC/RAI Scholarship Program, but direct staff to return to the Board with different method in determining the scholarship recipient(s).

Financial Impact? () Yes (X) No	Current FY Cost: \$ 0	Annual Recurring Cost: \$
Budgeted In Current FY? () Yes () No () Partially Funded		
Amount in Budget: \$ _____		List Attachments, number pages consecutively _____
Additional Funding Needed: \$ _____		Letter from RCRC. _____
Source:		_____
Internal Transfer _____		_____
Unanticipated Revenue _____ 4/5's vote		_____
Transfer Between Funds _____ 4/5's vote		_____
Contingency _____ 4/5's vote		_____
() General () Other		_____

CLERK'S USE ONLY:

Res. No. 03-77 Ord. No. _____

Vote - Ayes: 3 Noes: _____

Absent: Balmain, Parker

hww Approved

() Minute Order Attached () No Action Necessary

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.

Date: _____

Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California

By: _____
Deputy

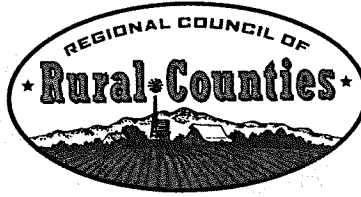
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

_____ Requested Action Recommended

_____ No Opinion

Comments:

CAO: *[Signature]*

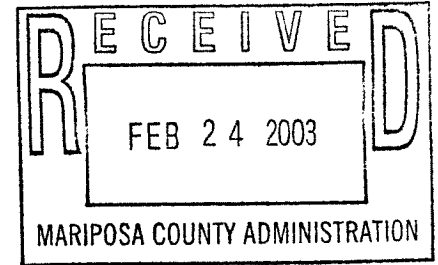


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February 21, 2003

The Honorable Bob Pickard, Supervisor
Mariposa County
PO Box 784
Mariposa, CA 95338



RE: Student Scholarships

Dear Supervisor Pickard:

During the preparation of the 2003 budgets for RCRC and its associated entities, including Rural Alliance Inc. (RAI), a local scholarship program was created for member counties. This will continue a program created in 2002. The idea was to utilize funds generated by RAI, which is legally separate from RCRC, and to provide those funds to deserving students in each member county. The RAI budget included \$29,000 for such purposes, with \$1000 allocated to each RCRC member county.

The intent of a scholarship program is twofold:

- An increase in education for rural residents is a benefit for rural California. College and trade schools are increasingly expensive, and financial aid is needed by virtually all rural students.
- The scholarships are a way to “give something back” to our member counties in furtherance of RAI’s charitable, educational and scientific purposes.

The RCRC Board and the RAI Board have jointly adopted a standardized set of rules to administer this program. The adopted rules are as follows:

1. Scholarship funds of up to \$1,000 will be available for every member county of RCRC as of January 1 for use during the ensuing 12-month period.
2. In the event that a county does not utilize its full share of \$1,000, unused funds will NOT be reallocated to other counties or carried over into future years.
3. The RCRC President and RAI President will jointly administer the scholarship program. They will notify the Board of Supervisors of each county regarding availability of the scholarships, and keep a record of recipients named by the counties by program year. Actual disbursements will be made from RAI funds.
4. Students attending a college or trade school of any type and for any type of study are eligible for scholarship funds.

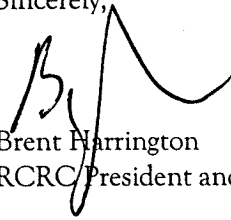
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5. Each Board of Supervisors will decide, in any manner it deems appropriate, who from their respective counties is to receive the funds, except that no more than two scholarships not exceeding a total of \$1,000 may be awarded by a county. The Board of Supervisors must notify RCRC/RAI of its decision on scholarship recipient(s) and their addresses by passage of a Board Resolution or Minute Order and transmittal of the same to RCRC/RAI for the current program year, whereupon funds designated will be sent directly to the recipient(s).
6. RCRC/RAI will not require verification of student attendance at an educational institution as a condition of the award. It is assumed that the Board will verify or is otherwise satisfied that the recipient designated by the Board will use the funds for qualified educational purposes.
7. The scholarship shall be awarded as the "Regional Council of Rural Counties and Rural Alliance, Inc. Rural Scholarship Program", and in the name of the respective county's Board of Supervisors.

We hope your county will participate in this scholarship program. To participate, your Board must adopt a resolution in substantial compliance with the attached draft resolution. We will also need the full name and address of the recipient(s). If you would prefer that we route the check through an organization or foundation, we will do that in lieu of a direct check to a recipient(s).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Brent.

Sincerely,



Brent Harrington
RCRC President and CEO

Marcia Basque
RAI President

cc: Mariposa County CAO

County of _____

WHEREAS the Rural Alliance Inc. (RAI) has created a scholarship program to advance better education for rural California residents; and

WHEREAS each county that is a member of the Regional Council of Rural Counties (RCRC) will be allotted up to a total of \$1,000 for up to two scholarships; and

WHEREAS the _____ County Board of Supervisors has read and agrees to abide by the scholarship program guidelines adopted by the RCRC Board of Directors and the RAI Board of Directors.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the following individual(s) is (are) selected to received the 2003 Regional Council of Rural Counties, Rural Alliance Inc. and _____ County Board of Supervisors Rural Scholarship.

\$ _____ to _____

\$ _____ to _____

ADOPTED AND PASSED this _____ day of _____ by the _____ County Board of Supervisors.

Chair of the Board

Date