



**County Administrative Office**  
**Governmental & Legislative Affairs**

**Josh Candelaria**  
Director

February 11, 2019

The Honorable Jim Cooper  
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 4  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Maria Elena Durazo  
Chair, Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 4  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assemblyman Cooper and Senator Durazo:

**Re: GenerationGo! Work-based Learning Program**

On behalf of the County of San Bernardino, I am writing you to request \$10 million for the GenerationGo! Work-based Learning Program.

San Bernardino County is one of the fastest-growing populations and employment centers in the United States. People are coming to our region to experience a better quality of life and take advantage of the growing economic opportunities.

In order to capitalize on this opportunity and improve our region, the County recently released a report, Workforce Roadmap, as part of our Vision2Succeed Initiative. The roadmap identifies the current and future needs of our region by using statistical data, labor market information, real-time intelligence and feedback focused on talent development. By utilizing this report, we can target key areas of growth for both our workforce of today and of the future.

At the heart of the GenerationGo! initiative is the integration of the education, industry and workforce systems into one system designed to produce and retain relevant talent in the Inland Empire. The San Bernardino County Workforce Board, through its GenerationGo! initiative, is creating a pipeline of talent to meet industry demand and help grow local businesses. This collective work seeks to build connections between high school youth and local businesses through work experience opportunities.

Many of the students who are participating in this initiative come from families experiencing years of generational poverty. The GenerationGo! Program is working to break this cycle by exposing youth to new opportunities. As all of these students are concurrently enrolled in community college, they now see higher education as a path forward. Unlike other career pathway programs, these students are not only graduating high school with a diploma, but with work experience, college credit, and a new found hope for the future.

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As part of the GenerationGo! Program, the Workforce Development Department has successfully piloted two cohorts within the City of San Bernardino. Nearly 30 students completed internships with Arrowhead Regional Medical Center and five private employers. Some of these students have secured full-time employment with their employer after they've graduated from high school. Our existing collaboration with San Bernardino Valley College, San Bernardino City Unified School District, and Colton Joint Unified School District will continue as over 200 students are currently beginning their internship. In June, the local workforce will have an additional pool of 200 potential employees who are well-trained and ready to work.

A \$10 million investment will assist with scaling the GenerationGo! Program into the 33 school districts across the County. Scaling an initiative to such a magnitude will require strong engagement with our partners, especially from the industry sectors impacted most by the limited availability of a skilled workforce.

Should you have any questions regarding the County's request, please contact Josh Candelaria, Governmental and Legislative Director, at 909 387-4821 or [jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov](mailto:jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov).

Sincerely,



CURT HAGMAN  
Board of Supervisors  
Chairman

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly and Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 4  
San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation  
Erika Li, Department of Finance