MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Children and Family Services
Director of Health Services
Director of Mental Health
Director of Public Social Services

At its meeting held June 7, 2005, the Board took the following action:

12

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Yaroslavsky and Burke:

"When welfare parents get jobs that support their families and their children thrive, our entire community is better off. These successes build a stronger economy and a better start in life for children. The practical reality, however, is that our efforts to bring impoverished parents into the labor force and to safeguard the well being of their children are still a work in progress.

"The Economic Roundtable is a nonprofit, public benefit corporation organized to conduct research and implement programs that contribute to the economic self-sufficiency of individuals. The Economic Roundtable has already completed two research projects that provided information about Los Angeles County's welfare-to-work program. The Roundtable is proposing a new, family-centered research project to understand the parents and children that now make up the County's caseload and the best practices for helping them achieve success. All of the Roundtable's costs will be paid through grants from private foundations. This research will address important questions such as:

1. What groups of parents and children are better off after they leave welfare? How are children affected?

2. Which programs have been most successful in moving families from welfare into sustaining employment? What job opportunities are available for parents?

(Continued on Page 2)

12 (Continued)

3. Have public costs in other areas such as the criminal justice system, health care, mental health services, protective services, or homeless services been impacted as parent and families leave the welfare rolls?

4. What are the long-term trends in welfare caseload composition and needs? Who is left on the welfare rolls? Are there more recipients with special needs?

5. What have been the impacts of the recent changes in higher education for CalWORKs participants? and

6. How can policies and programs move in the direction of identified success?"

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Burke, unanimously carried, the Board authorized the Economic Roundtable to conduct a family-centered research project to understand the parents and children that now make up the County's welfare caseload and the best practices for helping them achieve success; and took the following actions to provide access to the necessary data:

1. Instructed the Director of Public Social Services, to the extent allowed by confidentiality laws, to provide the Economic Roundtable with case records of CalWORKs recipients (keeping all personal information confidential), within 90 days of Board action;

2. Authorized the Economic Roundtable to request and receive the Employment Development Department's earnings data for CalWORKs parents and establishment data for all employers located in the County;

3. Requested the Directors of Mental Health, Health Services, Children and Family Services, and the Sheriff to provide information to the Economic Roundtable about services received by past and current CalWORKs recipients and to work with County Counsel and Economic Roundtable to develop procedures to ensure that client confidentiality is protected;

4. Authorized the Economic Roundtable to include the California Institute of Mental Health in the project team that will carry out this research; and

(Continued on Page 3)

12 (Continued)

5. Requested the Economic Roundtable to present the research findings to the Board within 12 months.

09060705_12

Copies distributed:
Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel

Letter sent to:
President, Economic Roundtable
Sheriff