

Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

41019

DATE: June 23, 2014

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner, Department of Social Services

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an Agreement with East Harlem Employment Service, Inc. d/b/a STRIVE (Support and Training Result in Valuable Employees) to provide the County with a license to use the STRIVE program and related materials as well as to provide 3, three-day observation and training visits with STRIVE CORE trainers and 5 subsequent technical assistance sessions to reinforce CORE program expectations and methodology to designated Department of Social Services employees and contractors for up to ten participants per session in an amount not to exceed \$55,500 for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

Authority is requested for the County to enter an agreement with East Harlem Employment Service Inc., d/b/a STRIVE (Support and Training Result in Valuable Employees, hereinafter "STRIVE") to provide the County with a license to use the STRIVE program and related materials as well as provide 3, three-day observation and training visits with STRIVE CORE trainers and 5 subsequent technical assistance sessions to reinforce CORE program expectations and methodology to designated Department of Social Services employees and contractors for up to ten participants per session in an amount not to exceed \$55,500 for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. The increase in the not to exceed amount requested for the 2014/2015 contract year is due to higher costs that will be incurred as a result of additional training sessions offered by the vendor.

The STRIVE program is an attitudinal / job readiness program for non-custodial parents which has been successfully utilized by the Department of Social Services (the "Department") since July, 2011. The STRIVE service model provides training techniques for implementing a program that will help clients maintain gainful employment, improve their chances of wage growth and progress towards self-sufficiency. This program will

ensure the integrity of service delivery and increase the likelihood of success in implementing the STRIVE service model. The STRIVE service model will be utilized in partnership with the Westchester Putnam Workforce Investment Board, the Westchester One Stop Employment Center, the Department of Social Services and STRIVE.

East Harlem Employment Services owns the trademark STRIVE which is a distinctive and proprietary system developed to help unemployed women and men to find jobs and achieve financial independence. This is a unique system. Therefore, the proposed agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Sole Section 9 of the policy. This contract is also exempt from the application of the Common Grant Rule pursuant to the Sole Source exemption.

The public purpose of this program is to provide the Department and designated contractors with training in the STRIVE service model which will give persons currently on temporary assistance the skills and resources needed to obtain employment which will lead to self sufficiency. The goal and objective of providing training in the STRIVE methodology will be monitored by the department's employment program office.

Accordingly, your Honorable Board's approval of the attached resolution is respectfully recommended.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION CONTRACT 012/2014 - JOAQUIN SCARDI,

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services; be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an Agreement with East Harlem Employment Service, Inc. d/b/a STRIVE (Support and Training Result in Valuable Employees) to provide the County with a license to use the STRIVE program and related materials as well as to provide 3 three-day observation and training visits with STRIVE CORE trainers and 5 subsequent technical assistance sessions to reinforce CORE program expectations and methodology to designated Department of Social Services employees and contractors for up to ten participants per session in an amount not to exceed \$55,500 for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 to be paid pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that, based on the representation of the Commissioner of Social Services, this Agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 9 (Sole Source) of said Policy as this is a unique distinctive and proprietary system developed to help unemployed women and men to find jobs and achieve financial independence; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this agreement is subject to County appropriation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this agreement is also subject to further financial analysis of the impact of any New York State Budget (the "State Budget") proposed and adopted during the term of this Agreement. The County shall retain the right, upon the occurrence of any release by the Governor of a proposed State Budget and/or the adoption of a State Budget or any amendments thereto, and for a reasonable period of time after such release(s) or adoption(s), to conduct an analysis of the impacts of any such State Budget on County finances. After such analysis, the County shall retain the right to either terminate these agreements or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to the Contractor, then the Contractor shall have the right to terminate these agreements upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive, or his authorized designee, is authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be
Charged/Credited

	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
2014	101	22	8900	5860	-----	\$13,875
2015	101	22	8900	5860	-----	\$13,875
	263	22	708P	4380	T708	\$27,750

Budget Funding Year(s): 2014-15 Start Date: 07/01/14 End Date: 06/30/15

(Must match resolution)

Funding Source

\$55,500

(must match res)

	<u>T708</u>	<u>5860</u>
Tax Dollars:		71%
State Aid:		29%
Federal Aid:	100%	
Other:		

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 07/22/2014 - JOAN COCCIARDI,