



Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

Philippe M. Gille
First Deputy Commissioner

48078]

DATE: August 5, 2015

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into a total of seven (7) agreements with the seven (7) agencies listed below for the purpose of operating youth employment programs for economically disadvantaged youth, ages 14-24, under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, PL 113-128, and its implementing regulations (“WIOA”), for a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$891,176 for the period from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Authority is requested for the County of Westchester (the “County”), acting by and through its Department of Social Services Office of Workforce Development (the “Department”), to enter into a total of **seven (7) agreements** with seven (7) agencies, as listed below, for the purpose of operating, as specified below, youth employment programs for economically disadvantaged youth, ages 14-24, under WIOA, for the period from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, with the County having the option, in its sole discretion, to extend the term of each agreement for up to three (3) additional one-year periods and the pricing for the options will be based on available funding and past performance. In consideration for services rendered, the agencies shall be paid a total aggregate amount not-to-exceed \$891,176 in the individual not-to-exceed amounts set forth below, pursuant to approved budgets.

WIOA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY FOR YOUTH PROGRAM

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>Funding Amount</u>
The Children’s Village, Inc.	\$146,940.00
City of Mount Vernon Youth Bureau	\$148,387.00
The City of White Plains Youth Bureau	\$125,000.00
The Guidance Center of Westchester, Inc.	\$150,000.00

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Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES	\$98,519.00
Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc.	\$72,330.00
Westhab, Inc.	\$150,000.00

The proposed Agreements will serve a public purpose by facilitating the Westchester Putnam Workforce Development Academy for Youth (WDAY) pursuant to WIOA, to operate youth employment programs which will enhance graduation rates, workforce skills and self sufficiency among the youth of Westchester and Putnam Counties.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreements are to serve no less than 361 youth and achieve the following outcomes:

- Placement in employment or education at a rate of 70.5% for the first and third quarters after exit
- Attainment of a degree or certificate at a rate of 65.9%
- Literacy and Numeracy at a rate of 56.7%

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreements are in the best interest of the Counties in terms of public safety because the youth are less likely to engage in negative social behavior while they are participants in this program. The goals and objectives of the proposed agreements are also in the best interests of the Counties in terms of fiscal responsibility, as participants who are economically disadvantaged are more likely to become self sufficient as they obtain educational assistance, job training and other skills necessary to prepare them for the job market. This program would reduce their dependence on public assistance and other related programs as many of them would obtain higher education and employment.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreements will be monitored and tracked via monthly reports submitted by the contractors. The program staff will review all youth data, including services and outcomes, in the New York State Department of Labor (“NYSDOL”) One Stop Operating System.

Although this program is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy (the “Policy”) pursuant to Section 3 (a) xviii thereof, an RFP was issued on April 30, 2015 on behalf of the Westchester County Office of Workforce Investment to solicit proposals from public and private non-profit agencies to deliver youth employment services to various communities in Westchester and Putnam Counties under the WDAY of Westchester and Putnam Counties. The RFP was posted on the County and One Stop websites, the Journal News and emailed to various One Stop partners. Each of the seven (7) agencies listed above submitted proposals in response to the RFP. Following a review of each proposal with reference to the evaluation criteria set forth in the RFP, the review committee recommended that each agency be awarded one contract to serve participants in the Westchester Putnam Workforce Development Academy for Youth.

It should be noted that the County is currently in the process of transitioning from the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (“WIA”) to WIOA. This transition requires, among other things, initial designation by the Governor of New York State of a new Westchester/Putnam Local Workforce Development Area (the “LWDA”) which will replace the Westchester/Putnam Local Workforce Investment Area (the “LWIA”) under WIA. One of the criteria for such initial designation for a multi-jurisdictional LWDA is that an agreement must be in place between the chief elected officials (“CEOs”) of each County in which the CEOs will agree to organize and implement activities pursuant to WIOA (the “LWDA Agreement”). Note: Westchester and Putnam have approved and executed the LWDA Agreement and the approval of the LWDA Agreement by the State is pending, but anticipated shortly.

Accordingly, I most respectfully recommend approval of the attached resolution.

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RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the “County”) is authorized to enter into a total of seven (7) agreements with the seven (7) agencies, as listed below, for the purpose of operating, as specified below, youth employment programs for economically disadvantaged youth ages 14-24 under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, PL 113-128, and its implementing regulations (“WIOA”), for the period from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, for a total aggregate amount not-to-exceed \$891,176, in the individual not-to-exceed amounts set forth below, pursuant to approved budgets, with the County retaining the option, in its sole discretion, to extend the term of each agreement for up to three (3) additional one-year periods and the pricing of such options will be based on availability of funding and past performance.:

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Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc.	\$72,330.00
Westhab, Inc.	\$150,000.00

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Agreements with the above referenced youth employment program providers are expressly contingent upon initial designation by the Governor of the State of New York of a new Westchester/Putnam Local Workforce Development Area (“LWDA”) which will replace the Westchester/Putnam Local Workforce Investment Area (“LWIA”) designated under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (“WIA”) which has since expired; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute all documents and take all actions necessary to effectuate the purpose hereof.

Account to be Charged/credited	Fund	Dept.	Unit	Object/ Sub Object	Trust Account	Dollars
	275	22	401Q	7340	T401	\$891,176

Budget Funding Year(s) 2015- 2016 Start Date: July 1, 2015
(Must match resolution)

End Date: June 30, 2016

Funding Source

\$891,176.

Tax Dollars:

State Aid:

Federal Aid: 100%

Other:

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