



Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

50667

DATE: January 20, 2016

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into an agreement with Westhab, Inc. pursuant to which Westhab, Inc. will administer the STRIVE® Forward Juvenile Justice Initiative for the period from October 15, 2015 through October 14, 2018 for a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$467,500 pursuant to an approved budget.

Authority is hereby requested from your Honorable Board for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, Office of Workforce Development (the “Department”), on behalf of the Westchester Putnam Local Workforce Development Board (the “WDB”), to enter into an agreement with Westhab, Inc. (“Westhab”) pursuant to which Westhab will administer the STRIVE® Forward Juvenile Justice Initiative (the “Program”) for the period from October 15, 2015 through October 14, 2018. In consideration for services to be rendered, Westhab shall be paid a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$467,500 pursuant to an approved budget (the “Agreement”).

The Program will focus on supporting and addressing the educational and employment barriers faced by court-involved youth while helping them attain life-skills and in-demand occupational and employment skills needed to obtain good jobs.

Funding under this Agreement was awarded to the County under a subgrant from STRIVE®, which funding was passed through from the United States Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration. STRIVE® is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to transform the lives of at-risk populations by providing support and training that lead to livable wage employment and societal re-integration.

The County, as a STRIVE® affiliate, was eligible to receive such funding following submission and acceptance of a grant proposal.

The Agreement will serve a public purpose by helping youth in Westchester County with ties to the juvenile justice system find employment.

The goals and objectives of this program will be to prepare Westchester County youth with ties to the juvenile justice system to find employment.

The goals and objectives of this program are in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility because it will assist youth in Westchester County to gain financial independence, thus making them less reliant on government assistance.

The goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored by Westchester-Putnam Workforce Development Staff.

The Department has complied with sections 6 and 13 of the Westchester County Procurement Policy. On August 24, 2015, the Department issued an RFP seeking proposals from public and private non-profit agencies to administer the Program. The RFP was posted on the County and One Stop websites, was advertised in the Journal News and was emailed to various One Stop partners. Despite these efforts, only two (2) agencies submitted proposals in response to the RFP; one from an agency called Burlington English and the other from Westhab, in the amounts set forth below:

Westhab: Budget: \$664,000

Burlington English: Budget: \$96,000

According to the review committee, Burlington English's proposal did not address the requirements of the RFP. Instead, their proposal focused on one of the services that would be provided to the population the RFP would serve. Therefore all three reviewers decided not to score Burlington English's proposal since it was deemed non-responsive.

As a result, and after negotiation with Westhab, the recommendation of the review committee was to award the contract to Westhab for an amount not to exceed \$467,500, which represents a decrease in the amount originally proposed.

Accordingly, I most respectfully recommend the adoption of the annexed Resolution.

KMM/AT/jpg

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, Office of Workforce Development, on behalf of the Westchester Putnam Local Workforce Development Board, is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Westhab, Inc. pursuant to which Westhab, Inc. will administer the STRIVE® Forward Juvenile Justice Initiative for the period from October 15, 2015 through October 14, 2018 for a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$467,500 pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further.

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute any documents and take any actions reasonably necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

Account to be
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
275	22	T476	7338	476Q	\$467,500

Budget Funding Year(s): 2015 Start Date: 10/15/2015 End Date: 10/14/2018
(must match resolution)

Funding Source
\$467,500
(must match resolution)

Tax Dollars:
State Aid:
Federal Aid: 100%
Other: