



Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

51672

Date: March 30, 2016

To: Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

Subject: Authority for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services Office of Workforce Investment, on behalf of the Westchester Putnam Local Workforce Development Board, to enter into an agreement with STRIVE International, Inc., to accept a grant in the amount of \$550,000 to provide various workforce development services to youth who are involved with the juvenile justice system and who reside in high poverty and high crime neighborhoods in the City of Yonkers under the *STRIVE Forward in Westchester* program for the program period November 1, 2015 through September 30, 2018.

Authority is requested for the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Social Services Office of Workforce Investment (the "Department"), on behalf of the Westchester-Putnam Local Workforce Development Board (the "WPLWDB"), to enter into an agreement with STRIVE International, Inc. ("STRIVE") to accept a grant in the amount of \$550,000 to be used to provide various workforce development services under the *STRIVE Forward in Westchester* program (the "STRIVE Forward Program") for the program period November 1, 2015 through September 30, 2018 (the "Agreement").

The STRIVE Forward Program provides various workforce development services to youth who are involved with the juvenile justice system and who reside in high poverty and high crime neighborhoods in the City of Yonkers. These services include, but are not limited to, case management, mentoring, educational interventions, service learning, occupational training and follow-up services. The Department will subcontract these services to Westhab, Inc. and other agencies. Approval for these subcontracts will be obtained under separate cover.

Funding for the STRIVE Forward Program is provided by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. STRIVE is the prime recipient of the grant funds. The

County, as a subrecipient of the grant, submitted a competitive proposal to STRIVE and was awarded a portion of the funding.

The Agreement will serve a **public purpose** by assisting adjudicated and at-risk youth complete their education and secure and retain sustainable employment.

The **goals and objectives** of the program are to place eligible youth, from various high crime, high poverty neighborhoods in Westchester County into a program to provide a suite of services centered around STRIVE's Core Attitudinal and Job Readiness Training.

The **goals and objectives** of the Agreement are in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility because the participating youth will receive case management, mentoring and restorative justice services to develop them economically and have a dramatic impact on their communities by reducing the impact on the criminal justice system where several of these youth have been involved.

The **goals and objectives** of the proposed agreement will be tracked and monitored by staff of the Department

It should be noted that pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, the County will be required to defend, indemnify and hold STRIVE and its respective officers, employees and agents harmless from and against any and all claims, lawsuits, damages, judgments, liabilities, cost and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees arising out of any acts or omissions of the County, its employees agents, representatives or subcontractors, under the Agreement.

As this is an agreement to accept grant funds, the provisions of the Westchester County Procurement Policy do not apply.

I certify that my department, a.) has copies of, or access to, all applicable laws, rules, regulations, grant applications, and grant agreements (including any master grant agreement), as well as any guidance or instructions received from the agency making the grant (the "Grant Terms"), b.) has reviewed the Grant Terms, c.) is aware of and understands all of the Grant Terms, and d.) can and will comply with all of the Grant Terms.

Accordingly, I respectfully recommend the adoption of the annexed resolution.

KMM/AT/JPG/jg
Attachment

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services Office of Workforce Investment, on behalf of the Westchester Putnam Local Workforce Development Board, is authorized to enter into an agreement with STRIVE International, Inc., to accept a grant in the amount of \$550,000 to provide various workforce development services to youth who are involved with the juvenile justice system and who reside in high poverty and high crime neighborhoods in the City of Yonkers for the program period November 1, 2015 through September 30, 2018 (the "Agreement"); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, the County will agree to defend, indemnify and hold STRIVE and its respective officers, employees and agents harmless from and against any and all claims, lawsuits, damages, judgments, liabilities, cost and expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees arising out of any acts or omissions of the County, its employees agents, representatives or subcontractors, under the Agreement; and be it further:

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is empowered to execute any document necessary to implement this Resolution.

Account to be
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
275	22	476Q	9853	T476	\$550,000

Budget Funding Year(s): 2015 (Grant Year) Start Date: 11/1/2015 End Date: 09/30/2018

Funding Source	Tax Dollars:
	State Aid:
	Federal Aid; 100%
<u>\$ 550,000</u> (must match resolution)	Other: