

77944

DATE July 14, 2020

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Norma V. Drummond
Commissioner of Planning

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the agreement between the County of Westchester and The Bridge Fund of New York, Inc. to provide homeless prevention services in Westchester Urban County Consortium Communities.

The attached resolution authorizes the County of Westchester (“County”) to enter into an agreement with The Bridge Fund of New York, Inc. to provide a grant from the Emergency Solutions Grant “(ESG)” Program authorized by the Homeless Emergency and Rapid Rehousing Transition of Housing Act, enacted in 2009. The grant funds will be used to assist households whose income is at or below 30% of the County’s Area Median Income in order to prevent homelessness in Westchester County. The amount of the grant is \$60,000.00, pursuant to an approved budget, and the term of the agreement is August 15, 2020 to August 14, 2021.

The Bridge Fund of New York Inc. (“the Bridge Fund”) will use ESG funds to expand their current services in order to provide emergency financial assistance in the form of grants to 40 households in Westchester Urban County Communities which will include approximately 60 individuals and 45 children. An additional 100 households will be assisted through referrals to other housing, food, mental health, and vocational service agencies. The Bridge Fund will use the ESG funds to provide housing relocation and stabilization services and short-term rental assistance to households who are homeless or in imminent danger of homelessness, including: 1) Rent payment assistance for up to three months, which may include past due rent; a security deposit that is equal to no more than 2 months' rent, and/or the last month's rent at the time the security deposit and the first month's rent are paid to the owner.

The goal and objective of this agreement is to prevent homelessness in very low income households in Westchester Urban County Consortium Communities. The program will be monitored by the Westchester County Department of Planning staff, who will review all payment requests to ensure all contractual requirements are met.

In accordance to the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures, the Department of Planning issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on October 21, 2019, seeking proposals from

organizations to provide homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing services designed to prevent the incidence of homelessness to extremely low-income households residing in Westchester Urban County Consortium Communities. Three (3) agencies submitted proposals. The County is proposing to enter into agreements with two of the proposers, (i) The Bridge Fund of New York, Inc. in the amount of \$60,000.00 and (ii) Human Development Services of Westchester, Inc. in the amount of \$78,750.00. The third proposer, Keeping Communities Safe, did not qualify as the application was incomplete. A separate resolution will be submitted for authority to enter into an agreement with Human Development Services of Westchester, Inc.

Act # 20-2020, adopted March 9, 2020, by the Westchester County Board of Legislators, authorized the County to submit an Urban County Application under the Federal Community Development Block Grant, Emergency Solutions Grant, and HOME Investment Partnership Program, including a FY 2019-2023 Consolidated Plan and to accept such Grants.

I recommend approval of this agreement.

NVD/cp/jl
Attachment

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 01/31/2020

R E S O L U T I O N

UPON A COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF PLANNING, BE IT HEREBY

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (“County”) is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with The Bridge Fund of New York Inc., through the Emergency Solutions Grant Program, in the amount of \$60,000.00 pursuant to an approved budget, for a period beginning August 15, 2020 and ending August 14, 2021, to provide homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing services designed to prevent homelessness of extremely low income households, with incomes at or below 30% of the County’s Area Median Income, residing in Westchester Urban County Consortium communities. The program will include, but is not limited to, providing emergency financial assistance for 40 households in the Westchester Urban County Communities which will includes 60 individuals and 45 children. Additionally, 100 households will be assisted through referrals to other housing, food, mental health, vocational agencies, and be it further

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

Account to be Charged/Credited

		Major Program, Program & Phase	Object/	Trust	
Fund	Dept	Or Unit	Sub Object	Account	Dollars
263	19	215V	4380	T215	\$60,000

Budget Funding Year(s) FY 2020 Start Date August 15, 2020 End Date August 14, 2021
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars _____

State Aid _____

\$60,000 Federal Aid \$60,000 – U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

(must match resolution)

Other _____