

George Latimer
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Leonard G. Townes
Commissioner

85758

DATE: June 10, 2021

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Leonard G. Townes
Commissioner, Department of Social Services

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into an agreement with Westhab, Inc., in the amount of \$920,017, payable pursuant to an approved budget, to implement the Rapid Rehousing Program, for the period from September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022.

Authority is respectfully requested from your Honorable Board for the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Social Services (the "Department"), to enter into an agreement with Westhab, Inc. ("Westhab"), pursuant to which Westhab will implement the Rapid Rehousing Program, called "New Start", for the period from September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022 (the "Agreement"). In consideration for services to be rendered, the County will pay Westhab an amount not-to-exceed \$920,017, pursuant to an approved budget.

New Start, a Rapid Rehousing program, will provide a 24 month rent subsidy as well as other services, to homeless participants who are employable, employed, or will have other income sources high enough to pay their own rent. At the end of the 24 months when the subsidy ends, it is expected that the participants would have gained the necessary resources to live independently without a HUD subsidy.

The Department has complied with Sections 6 & 13 of the County Procurement Policy. On April 22, 2021, the Department issued an RFP seeking proposals from qualified individuals or agencies to provide the New Start Rapid Rehousing Program to eligible homeless individuals residing in Westchester County. The Department received four (4) proposals in response to the RFP. Following evaluation of the proposals with reference to the evaluation criteria set forth in the RFP, Westhab was selected as having achieved the highest ranking.

The proposed Agreement will serve a **public purpose** by providing temporary housing and supportive services to homeless families, youth and victims of domestic violence.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement is to provide temporary housing to help homeless households avoid dependency on social services, and develop the skills necessary to increase their chances at moving toward self-sufficiency.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility, as the proposed Agreement will make available to the County the funds necessary to implement the aforementioned program. The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are also in the best interests of the County in terms of both fiscal responsibility and public health and safety as the programs funded by the proposed Agreement will be aimed at ensuring the well being and safety of the targeted population and addressing the issues of homelessness and welfare dependency in the County which can reduce the costs associated with social services provided by the County.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement will be tracked and monitored by the Department in accordance with the requirements of HUD. The Department will be required to submit Annual Progress Reports to HUD as a requirement of receiving the funding to be provided under the proposed Agreement. These multi-page Annual Progress Reports capture statistical data on those served, the various categories they fall into, the milestones reached, the money expended, etc., which must match the program outlined in the Department's Technical Submission.

I respectfully recommend your Honorable Board's approval of the attached Resolution.

LGT/CW/jpg
Attachment

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Social Services, is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Westhab, Inc. in the amount of \$920,017, payable pursuant to an approved budget, pursuant to which Westhab, Inc. will implement the Rapid Rehousing Program called "New Start" to provide a 24 month rent subsidy as well as other services to homeless participants who are employable, employed, or will have other income sources high enough to pay their own rent, for the period from September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022; 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
263	22	929W	4380	T929	\$850,017
101	22	8900	5850		\$25,662
101	22	8900	5860		\$44,338

Budget Funding Year(s): 2020-2022 Start Date: 09/01/2021 End Date: 08/31/2022
(must match resolution)

	<u>4380</u>	<u>5850</u>	<u>5860</u>
Funding Source	Tax Dollars:	1%	71%
	State Aid:	<u>29%</u>	
	Federal Aid:	<u>100%</u>	<u>99%</u>
	Other:		

Expense: 920,017.00
(must match resolution)