

George Latimer
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Leonard G. Townes
Commissioner

OnBase ID # 87839

DATE: September 20, 2021

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Leonard G. Townes, 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 \$973,035 for the period from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.**

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, 2021 through June 30, 2022, 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, upon the same pricing terms and conditions as provided under the initial term, except that the not-to-exceed cap may change from year to year based upon the amount of the funding for that year. In consideration for services rendered during the initial term, the agencies shall be paid a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$973,035 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.	\$154,450
City of Mount Vernon Youth Bureau	\$92,670
The City of White Plains Youth Bureau	\$139,005
The Guidance Center of Westchester, Inc.	\$185,340
Westhab, Inc.	\$108,115
Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc.	\$200,785
City of Peekskill Youth Bureau	\$92,670

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 305 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 County 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 County 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.

The Agreements are exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy (the “Policy”) pursuant to Section 3(a) xviii thereof which exempts contracts for youth service projects. However, because the Agreements are also funded with Federal Funds, they are subject to competitive procurement in accordance with Section 13 of the Policy. On June 10, 2021, the Department, on behalf of the Westchester County Office of Workforce Investment, issued an RFP 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.

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

LGT/RF/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”) 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, 2021 through June 30, 2022, for a total aggregate amount not-to-exceed \$973,035, 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, upon the same pricing terms and conditions as provided under the initial term, except that the not-to-exceed cap may change from year to year based upon the amount of the funding for that year:

WIOA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY FOR YOUTH PROGRAM

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>Funding Amount</u>
The Children’s Village, Inc.	\$154,450
City of Mount Vernon Youth Bureau	\$92,670
The City of White Plains Youth Bureau	\$139,005
The Guidance Center of Westchester, Inc.	\$185,340
Westhab, Inc.	\$108,115
Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc.	\$200,785
City of Peekskill Youth Bureau	\$92,670

; 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	401W		T401	\$973,035

Budget Funding Year(s) 2021- 2022 Start Date: July 1, 2021 End Date: June 30, 2022
 (Must match resolution)

Funding Source	Tax Dollars:
<u>\$973,035</u>	State Aid:
	Federal Aid: <u>100%</u>
	Other: