



Kenneth W. Jenkins
Westchester County Executive

Department of Social Services
Leonard G. Townes
Commissioner

110298

DATE: January 13, 2025

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

SUBJECT: Authority for the County of Westchester to retroactively enter into six (6) agreements to provide a youth employment program for economically disadvantaged youth pursuant to the 2024-2025 Youth Employment Program, for the period from November 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, for an aggregate not-to-exceed amount of \$1,993,448.00.

Attached for your consideration is a resolution which, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Social Services (the "Department"), on behalf of its Office of Workforce Investment, to retroactively enter into six (6) separate agreements (the "Agreements") with the six (6) entities listed below, to provide youth employment program (each individually referred to as the "Program" and collectively as the "Programs") to economically disadvantaged youth under 21 years of age, funded through the New York State's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Youth Employment Program (the "YEP Program"). The YEP Program was implemented in January 2024 to support a reduction in gun involved violence as part the New York State Gun Involved Violence Elimination ("GIVE") initiative. Each of the Agreements is for a term commencing retroactively on November 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, for a total aggregate not-to-exceed amount of \$1,993,448.00, payable pursuant to approved budgets.

The six (6) entities and the individual funding amounts for each of the Agreements shall be as follows:

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>Funding Amount</u>
1. City of Mount Vernon Youth Bureau	\$ 600,294.00
2. The Children's Village, Inc.	\$ 245,539.00

3. Thomas H. Slater Community Center, Inc.	\$ 284,139.00
4. City of White Plains Youth Bureau	\$ 100,650.00
5. Port Chester Carver Center	\$ 547,451.00
6. Westhab, Inc.	<u>\$ 215,375.00</u>
Total	\$ 1,993,448.00

Although the Program is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy (the "Policy") pursuant to Section 3(a) xviii thereof, on September 20, 2024 the Department, on behalf of the Westchester County's Office of Workforce Investment, issued a Request for Proposals ("RFP") to solicit proposals from public and private non-profit agencies to deliver employment services to various youth under 21 years of age in Westchester County. The RFP was posted on the County website, the Journal News, and sent via email to various partners. Seven (7) agencies 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 the six (6) agencies listed above be awarded a contract.

The services provided pursuant to the Agreements will serve a public purpose by assisting eligible disadvantaged youth in the Westchester County to secure paid employment.

The goals and objectives of the Agreements are to place eligible youth from low income households in subsidized employment to provide them with practical work experience and offer them opportunities to use their talents and learn more about the workplace.

The goals and objectives of the Agreements are in the County's best interests regarding fiscal responsibility because the participating youth will earn a prevailing minimum wage during the term of the Agreements, which they will use to address their immediate financial needs.

The goals and objectives of the Agreements are also in the County's best interest regarding public safety because the participating youth are less likely to engage in negative social behavior.

The Department shall track and monitor the goals and objectives of the Agreements via bi-weekly reports submitted by each of the six (6) listed entities' program staff and through a review of customer case records data. Success and failure of the Agreements will be measured against the following:

1. The successful registration of at least 250 youth in the programs, and
2. Eighty percent (80%) of youth enrolled in the YEP Program will successfully complete a minimum of six (6) weeks of employment.

A resolution requesting same is attached for your Honorable Board's approval.

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, Office of Workforce Investment, is hereby authorized to retroactively enter into six (6) separate agreements with the agencies listed below to provide services for the Youth Employment Program (YEP). These agreements are to facilitate services for the Youth Employment Program (YEP), designed to mitigate community gun violence and decrease youth involvement in the criminal justice system by offering continuous employment opportunities, with each of the Agreements to be for a term commencing on November 1, 2024 and terminating on June 30, 2025, for a total aggregate not-to-exceed amount of \$1,993,448.00, payable pursuant to approved budgets, and identified below as follows:

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>Funding Amount</u>
1. City of Mount Vernon Youth Bureau	\$ 600,294.00
2. The Children's Village, Inc.	\$ 245,539.00
3. Thomas H. Slater Community Center, Inc.	\$ 284,139.00
4. City of White Plains Youth Bureau	\$ 100,650.00
5. Port Chester Carver Center	\$ 547,451.00
6. Westhab, Inc.	<u>\$ 215,375.00</u>
	\$ 1,993,448.00

; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Agreements are subject to County appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Agreements are also subject to further financial analysis of the impact of any New York State Budget (the "State Budget") proposed and adopted during the term of these Agreements. The County shall retain the right, upon the occurrence of any release by the Governor of a proposed State Budget and/or the adoption of a State Budget or any amendments thereto, and for a reasonable period of time after such release(s) or adoption(s), to conduct an analysis of the impacts of any such State Budget on County finances. After such analysis, the County shall retain the right to either terminate the Agreements or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved therein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to any of the six (6) above listed entities, then each shall have the right to terminate their respective Agreements upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further,

RESOLVED that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is empowered to execute all documents and take all actions necessary to effect the purpose of this resolution.

1. Account to be Charged/Credited:

Fund	Dept.	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
275	22	Z080	7340	G080	\$1,993,448.00

2. Budget Funding Year(s): 2024-2025

Start Date: November 1, 2024

End Date: June 30, 2025

(Must match resolution)

3. Funding Source:

Federal	0%	CFDA#(s)	N/A		
State	100%	State ID#(s)	N/A		
Operating/Tax Levy	0%				
Capital	0%				

4. Total NTE: \$1,993,448.00

(Must match resolution)

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACTS

2025 - RAYMOND SCULKY, SECRETARY