



CITY OF DURHAM | NORTH CAROLINA

Date: August 15, 2011

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager

Through: Keith Caldwell, Deputy City Manager

From: Kevin Dick, Director of Economic and Workforce Development
Nicholas McCoy, Senior Workforce Development Manager

Subject: **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Grant Project Ordinance and Contract with the Durham Center**

Executive Summary

This item recommends acceptance of a \$60,000.00 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Job Training grant as a sub-recipient through the *Durham Center* and passage of its FY12-14 Grant Project Ordinance. This memorandum further recommends approval of a contract between the City of Durham and the *Durham Center* in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00 to implement a joint (pilot) training and employment program that will use grant funding to help target and enroll transition age youth (ages 16-21) who have been identified as (1) having significant functional impairments, and/or (2) disconnected or at risk of becoming disconnected from services and supports.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that City Council authorize the City Manager to accept the SAMHSA grant as a sub-recipient through the Durham Center by adopting the FY12-14 Grant Project Ordinance in the amount of \$60,000.00.

The Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD) further recommends that the City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with the Durham Center for the City to be paid an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00 in grant funds for the implementation of a youth pilot employment and training program.

Background

The Durham Center is the local *Area Authority* in Durham County for the coordination and provision of services for individuals with mental health, developmental disabilities and substance abuse barriers. In 2010, OEWD submitted a joint application with the Durham Center (as the lead agency) to the U.S. *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration* to provide coordinated employment and training services to transition age youth (ages 16-21) who have been identified as (1) having significant functional impairments, and/or (2) disconnected or at risk of becoming disconnected from services and supports. In 2011, OEWD received notification that the Durham Center was awarded the SAMSHA grant in the amount of \$5.4 million dollars to implement the BECOMING (*Building Every Chance of Making It Now and Grown Up*) program to build a comprehensive system of care for high risk youth ages 16 to 21 who have mental health conditions. The BECOMING initiative aims to improve individual outcomes at the service delivery level while also focusing on system transformation by:

- Bridging the service system gap between child and adult mental health services by providing developmentally appropriate interventions
- Addressing policy and funding barriers that categorically exclude Transition Age Youth
- Establishing collaborative processes and relationships with agencies serving high risk youth
- Cross-training
- Establishing multiple portals of entry, largely through co-location of staff, to ensure seamless and timeless access to services

OEWD will play a key role in providing up to 120 participants of the program a year with employment and training services that will help make participants of the program more employable in high demand occupations within the County.

Issues/Analysis

As the sub-recipient and partner of this grant, OEWD has been awarded \$60,000.00 to work with its network of local partners and JobLink Career Center staff to; support in the outreach and recruitment efforts of the program; make program referrals; leverage federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) resources to provide case management and supportive services; and provide job placement assistance for transition age youth ages 16-24 of the SAMHSA program. Youth participants will also have the opportunity to engage in various types of training that will help increase their marketability and support them in gaining employment in high-growth and high demand occupations upon their completion and/or fulfillment of program obligations.

The funds awarded for this pilot employment and training grant are aligned with the vision and objectives of the Durham City Council, Durham Workforce Development Board, Durham Center, and the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Agency, as they relate to engaging at-risk/transitional youth in training and providing coordinated employment opportunities.

Alternatives

Council may choose to neither approve the SAMHSA FY12-14 Grant Project Ordinance nor authorize the contract with the Durham Center to implement this joint training program.

If Council chooses to not adopt the SAMHSA Grant Project Ordinance nor authorize the contract with the Durham Center, OEWD would be less able to provide coordinated employment and training services to transition age youth (ages 16-21) identified under the BECOMING project.

Financial Impact

This contract will be paid with grant funds received from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, with OEWD as a sub-grant recipient, under the contract and authority of the Durham Center. Funding or not funding this item will have no impact on the City's general fund. SAMHSA authorizes the use of these funds to conduct workforce development activities within the County of Durham for FY12-14.

SDBE Summary

An SDBE summary is inapplicable because no project-specific goals have been set and no SDBEs are involved in this item.