



**Date:** May 19, 2015

**To:** Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager  
**Through:** Keith Chadwell, Deputy City Manager  
**From:** Kevin Dick, Director, Office of Economic and Workforce Development

**Subject:** Contract Amendment with Achievement Academy of Durham to provide Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) youth program elements services from July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

**Executive Summary**

This memorandum outlines a recommendation to renew the current contract with Achievement Academy of Durham (AAD) from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 and to increase the amount of the contract by \$91,000.00 to provide Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth program elements services for up to 43 WIOA eligible youth in the Youth Employed and Succeeding (YES) program. Approval of this contract amendment will allow uninterrupted services to be provided to WIOA youth beyond the existing contractual completion date (set to expire on June 30, 2015). The total contract amount will not exceed \$91,000.00 with this amendment.

**Recommendation**

The Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD) recommends that City Council authorize the City Manager to execute a contract amendment with AAD to provide uninterrupted youth program elements services from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 for a contract amount of \$91,000.00.

**Background**

As a result of the Request for Proposals (RFP) that closed on October 14, 2013, the Durham Workforce Development Board (DWDB), at their November 21, 2013 board meeting, unanimously approved the RFP Review Panel and DWDB Executive Committee’s recommendation that AAD be awarded a (new) contract to operate the YES program from January 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014, in an amount not to exceed \$52,000.00, renewable annually for up to two additional years based on performance and funding availability. This will be the second and final renewal of the program element RFP.

Service Delivery and Performance

AAD was awarded the contract to provide employment and training services for WIOA eligible youth that included:

- . Leadership Development
- . Tutoring/Pre-GED
- . Alternative Secondary School Education/GED
- . Adult Mentoring

Participants served under the existing contract and services received through April 30, 2015 have included the following:

Services*	
Pre-GED	11
Students in GED class	28
In Leadership Development (most youth receive in addition to another service)	40
<b>TOTAL SERVED</b>	<b>44</b>

*\*The 44 youth may be receiving one or more of the above services*

### Issues and Analysis

AAD has contributed to the YES Program by being on pace to meet and/or exceed state performance goals for the previous year. AAD's work in recruiting participants; providing sound leadership development opportunities; providing Tutoring and Alternative Secondary School Education, and referrals has helped the region achieve the following performance outcomes (based upon the Workforce Investment Act Common Measures):

Measure	Performance for PY 2013	Goal
Placement in Education or Employment	50%	63.2%
Attainment of a Degree or Certificate	35%	56%
Literacy and Numeracy Gain	47.7%	46%

The estimated funding amount \$104,000.00 would be for payments of up to \$1,466.64 per participant for Alternative Secondary Education; \$1,365.48 per participant for Adult Mentoring; \$1,363.44 per participant for Leadership Development; and \$1,237.56 per participant for Tutoring and Study Skills Instruction. Achievement Academy of Durham, Inc. has a proven track record of helping high school dropouts prepare for and receive GED's, improve their academic performance in the face of significant life challenges such as criminal backgrounds and teen pregnancy, and enter post-secondary education.

### Funding Considerations

- . The current contract with Achievement Academy of Durham is for \$104,000.00 and expires June 30, 2015. This contract resulted from the RFP that was released in August 2013 and awarded to AAD in January 2014 and is renewable annually (per the RFP and DWDB approval) for up to two additional years based on performance and funding availability.
- . OEWD determined that AAD met the performance under the FY14 contract, and has made a recommendation to the DWDB to extend the contract with AAD.
- . The DWDB is recommending to increase the amount of the contract with AAD by \$91,000.00 (for a total contract amount not to exceed \$227,000.00) to provide up to 43 WIA eligible youth with employment and training services in the YES program.
- . A contract extension with AAD will provide uninterrupted services to WIOA eligible youth currently enrolled in the YES program.

### Alternatives

The City Council could elect not to enter into and/or renew a contract with Achievement Academy of Durham leaving the City without a provider of the services outlined in the background section for the YES program and forcing the City to advertise for proposals or

directly manage the program until a new provider is identified. If another provider is not identified through the RFP process, this would require the Office of Economic and Workforce Development to directly manage the program which is inconsistent with the language in the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act that states that Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act services should be provided under contract or voucher.

The City Council could also elect to reduce the amount of the proposed contract extension with AAD, which could result in fewer services provided to WIOA eligible youth and/or less youth being served under this contract from July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

**Financial Impact**

Achievement Academy of Durham would be approved for payments of up to \$227,000.00. Funds for this contract will have no impact on the City of Durham General Fund. Funds for this contract are paid with WIOA Youth dollars that are received by OEWD from the United States Department of Labor through the North Carolina Department of Commerce Division on Workforce Solutions to the City and the Durham Workforce Development Board.

**SDBE Summary**

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

**Attachments**

Contract with Achievement Academy of Durham to Provide WIOA Youth Services, 19 pages.