



## Legislation Text

File #: 24-0136, Version: 1

**Dept./ Agency:** Administration/Office of Business Administrator

**Action:** (X) Ratifying (X) Authorizing ( ) Amending

**Type of Service:** Contract with Sub-recipient

**Purpose:** To provide Community-Based Violence Intervention in High Risk Intervention.

**Entity Name:** Peers Strategies to Help, LLC a/k/a PUSH (Peers Understanding Strategies for Healing)

**Entity Address:** Newark, New Jersey 07103

**Grant Amount:** Not to exceed \$75,000.00

**Funding Source:** 2022 Budget/American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 - Department of Treasury Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds/Business Unit: NW051, Dept. G22, Div./Proj. ARP2H, Activity A, Account #71280, Budget Ref. B2022

**Grant Period:** December 1, 2023 through November 30, 2024

**Contract Basis:** ( ) Bid ( ) State Vendor ( ) Prof. Ser. ( ) EUS

(X) Fair & Open ( ) No Reportable Contributions (X) RFP ( ) RFQ

( ) Private Sale (X) Grant ( ) Sub-recipient ( ) N/A

**Additional Information:**

Grant funds to be expended, no later than November 30, 2024.

**WHEREAS**, on or about March 11, 2021, the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress of the United States and President Joseph R. Biden, officially enacted a \$1.9 Trillion Dollar stimulus package, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”), in response to the economic crisis brought on by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on or about May 19, 2021, the City of Newark (the “City”) submitted an electronic portal application to the United States Department of Treasury for the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 - Treasury’s Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (the “Application”), and was notified that the City was being awarded a total amount of \$176,667,606.00 (the “ARPA Award”); and

**WHEREAS**, on June 22, 2021, the Municipal Council adopted Resolution 7R1-a(s), authorizing the City’s submission of the Application and the acceptance of the Award; and

**WHEREAS**, the ARPA Award has provided and will continue to provide the City with much needed monetary support in responding to and recovering from the unprecedented effect and impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the City, its residents, communities and businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, Biden Administration made clear in the June 23, 2021 Fact Sheet: Biden-Harris Administration Announces Comprehensive Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gun Crime and Ensure Public Safety, that part of the strategy for ARPA’s unprecedented funding levels is to help state, local and municipal governments implement measures to reduce violent crime, including supporting and implementing violence intervention and prevention programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of the Treasury, in its Final Rule adopted on January 27, 2022 Federal Register Vol. 87, No. 18, 31 CFR Part 35 (“Final Rule”), allows the City to provide funds to a sub-recipient as a subaward for the purpose of providing violent prevention services as a result of experiencing a public health impact or negative economic impact due to the pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, violence is recognized as a public health problem, and is the leading cause of death in the United States for people ages 15-34, who are often the victims of unintentional injury, suicide, and homicide, which more often than not, are directly associated with firearms; and

**WHEREAS**, violence is preventable, and with supportive relationships, programs and resources, violent behaviors can be diminished and cycles of violence disrupted; and

**WHEREAS**, several cities such as Toledo, Ohio and Gresham, Oregon, among others, have used their ARPA funds to enhance and implement violence prevention programs. (See March 10, 2022, Report) : The United States Conference of Mayors, The American Rescue Plan Act: A Transformational Lifeline for First Responders, Small Businesses and Residents in America’s Cities; and

**WHEREAS**, many of the violence prevention entities in Newark, which were formed to provide supportive social service programs to stem the increase in violence and violent crimes, have been severely and detrimentally impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic - they have lost funding, employees and have had to provide more services with less resources; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the competitive contracting process of the State Local Public Contracts Law, as authorized by N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1b(1) (being the operation, management or administration of a social services program), and pursuant also to the fair and open process of State Pay-to-Play Law N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, the City of Newark publicly advertised a Request for Proposals (RFP), consistent with the City’s violence reduction initiative, for the provision of community-based violence intervention and prevention programs in the following category: Community Violence Intervention, on June 30, 2023, with all proposals due on July 25, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the Municipal Council of the City of Newark hereby ratifies the use of competitive contracting for processing these Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Programs from June 30, 2023 to the date of adoption of this Resolution ; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposal received from Peers Strategies to Help, LLC a/k/a PUSH (Peers Understanding Strategies for Healing), 95 16th Ave Newark NJ 07103, hereinafter, “Sub-Recipient” was the most advantageous to the City of Newark, based on experience and all other criteria listed in the RFP; and

**WHEREAS**, the Business Administrator desires to enter into an Agreement with the Sub-Recipient, for the purpose of providing Community-Based Violence Intervention in High Risk Intervention for the contract period December 1, 2023 to November 30, 2024, for a total contract amount of \$75,000.00; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16.2, which states that the governing body of any local unit may, by resolution, provide for and authorize payment of an advance to any nonprofit organization or agency with which the local unit has entered into a service contract, for the purpose

of meeting service program start-up costs in order to prevent undue hardship to Sub- Recipient to achieve objectives of ARPA, the Sub-Recipient shall receive an advance payment of no more than 25% of the total award; and

**WHEREAS**, this Agreement is awarded to the Sub-Recipient, in compliance with Local Public Contracts Law, including but not limited to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1(b)(2) and/or N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5; and

**WHEREAS**, the Newark Municipal Council adopted the State of New Jersey Pay to Play statutory requirements pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq., governing the eligibility for municipal contracts.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, THAT:**

1. The Mayor and/or his designee, the Business Administrator, are hereby authorized to enter into and execute an Agreement with PUSH (Peers Understanding Strategies for Healing), 95 16th Ave Newark NJ 07103, for the period November 1, 2023 to November 30, 2024, to provide Community-Based Violence Intervention in High Risk Intervention, which is further described in the "Scope of Services" attached hereto as Exhibit A.
2. The Municipal Council of the City of Newark hereby ratifies the use of competitive contracting for processing these Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Programs from June 30, 2023 to the date of adoption of this Resolution; and the Council further ratifies the contract between the City of Newark and sub-recipient is hereby ratified from December 1, 2023 to the date of adoption of this authorizing resolution.
3. The total compensation to be paid pursuant to said Agreement is \$75,000.00 and shall be paid from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 - Treasury's Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ("ARPA"), which the City accepted and received pursuant to Resolution 7R1-a(S) adopted on June 22, 2021 shall be the funding source for these funds.
4. The VP Entities shall use the funds they receive from the City's ARPA Sub Award to provide greater social services impacting and critical for violence prevention.
5. The Department of the Treasury's Final Rule, in pertinent part, allows the City to provide subawards to sub-recipients for the purpose of crime prevention as a result of a public health impact or negative economic impact due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
6. The terms of the contract may only be waived or amended in writing and signed by the parties duly authorized to execute this contract, subject to the approval of the Newark Municipal Council by Resolution. The term of this contract may be extended for up to two (2) 6-month periods, provided that any such extension is able to be funded using the allocated American Rescue Plan Act Funding, is at no additional cost to the City. Any extension must be authorized by Resolution of the Newark Municipal Council including a finding that the services are being performed in an effective and efficient manner, and is in writing and signed by both parties.

7. The Municipal Council ratifies the use of competitive contracting for processing and awarding Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Programs from June 30, 2023 to the date of adoption of this Resolution.
8. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-16.2, the Sub-Recipient shall receive an advance payment of no more than 25% of the total award, a schedule for the depletion of the advance, in accordance with sound accounting practice, indicating that the advance will be entirely depleted by the termination date of the contract.
9. This Agreement is being awarded pursuant to the fair and open procedures of the State Pay-to-Play Law, N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.5, State Local Public Contracts Law, including but not limited to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.1(b)(2) and/or N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5.
10. Attached hereto is a Certification of Funds from the Chief Financial Officer of the City of Newark, which states that there are sufficient funds for the purpose set forth hereinabove.
11. Sub-recipient shall not receive any funding unless in compliance with Newark City Code 2:4-22 stating no funds shall be provided for of any program or activity unless certification that the sub-recipient has no outstanding charges due to the City of Newark
12. An executed copy of said Agreement shall be filed with the Office of the City Clerk by the Business Administrator.

### **STATEMENT**

This resolution authorizes the Mayor and/or his designee, the Business Administrator, to enter into a contract with PUSH (Peers Understanding Strategies for Healing), 95 16th Ave Newark NJ 07103, using ARPA funding, for the purpose of providing Community-Based Violence Intervention in High Risk Intervention, for the period of December 1, 2023 to November 30, 2024, for a total contract amount of \$75,000.00. This contract is being awarded pursuant to the fair and open procedures of the State Pay-to-Play Law, N.J.S.A 19:44A-20.5