

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF ESSEX**

RESOLUTION NO. _____ **AUTHORITY FOR RESOLUTION:** N.J.S.A. 40:41A-38(n)

PROPOSED BY: COUNTY EXECUTIVE **AUTHORITY FOR ACTION:** N.J.S.A. 40:41A-36(i)

**SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, & EMPLOYMENT,
DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – AMEND CDBG CV
GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE BRIDGE- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK
GRANT – CORONA VIRUS (CDBG CV) PROGRAM.**

WHEREAS, Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended provides a program of Community Development Block Grant funds for the County of Essex; and

WHEREAS, On March 27, 2020 the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) was signed into law to assist communities in their efforts to prevent, prepare for and respond to the coronavirus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, The CARES Act included supplemental formula allocations to HUD’s CPD programs, including CDBG CV funding for the County of Essex totaling \$5,788,541, of which \$53,225 has been committed to The Bridge for the soundproofing of treatment spaces at the counseling center at 860 Bloomfield Avenue, West Caldwell; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development has advised the County Executive of its receipt of an entitlement available through the Community Development Block Grant CV Program as outlined in the County’s PY 2019 and PY 2020 Consolidated and One Year Action Plans, and;

WHEREAS, amendments may be made to the Community Development Block Grant Program Consolidated and One Year Action Plans for PY 2019 and PY 2020, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is empowered by N.J.S.A. 40:41A-38(n) to approve, by Resolution, contracts presented by the County Executive;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Essex as follows:

1. That the existing \$63,225 Community Development Block Grant CV contract with The Bridge be increased by \$122,000 to a total amount not to exceed \$185,225.
2. That the amended contract is accepted and that the County Executive is authorized to enter into an agreement with Family Connections
4. This amended contract shall be effective as of the date that the amendment is approved and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners and terminate on August 1, 2023.
5. That three (3) executed copies of this resolution be forwarded to Craig Lombardi, Housing Coordinator, Division of Housing and Community Development.

Approved as to form and legality  Date 2/22/23
 ESSEX COUNTY COUNSEL

RECORD OF VOTE (X=Vote N.V.=Abstention ABS=Absent)

Moved by Commissioner _____
 Second by Commissioner _____

Commissioner	Yes	No	N.V.	ABS	Commissioner	Yes	No	N.V.	ABS
Cooper					Mercado				
Gill					Pomares, V.P.				
Graham					Richardson, Pres.				
Johnson					Sebold				
Luciano									

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Resolution was () adopted () defeated () tabled by roll call vote at a _____ meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Essex, New Jersey held on _____.

Is Publication Required () Yes () No

Date Published _____

 Wayne L. Richardson, President

To: Robert D. Jackson
County Administrator

Economic Development,
DEPARTMENT: Training & Employment
DIVISION: Community Development

THRU: Anibal Ramos, Jr., Department Director
Director of Economic Development, Training & Employment

FROM: Craig Lombardi, Housing Coordinator
Division of Housing & Community Development

DATE: February 22, 2023

SUBJECT: Amendment to the Community Development Block Grant CV (CDBG CV) contract between the Essex County Division of Housing & Community Development and The Bridge for the sound proofing of in house treatment rooms and virtual telehealth counseling spaces

INTRODUCTION

Under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended, the County of Essex and 18 participating municipalities are eligible to receive federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). On March 27, 2020 the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) was signed into law to assist communities in their efforts to prevent, prepare for and respond to the coronavirus pandemic. The CARES Act included supplemental formula allocations to HUD's CPD programs, including CDBG – Corona Virus (CDBG CV) funding for the County of Essex totaling \$5,788,541.

The Board of County Commissioners previously authorized the County to enter into a CDBG CV contract with The Bridge for \$63,225 to sound proof the community treatment center located at 860 Bloomfield Avenue, West Caldwell. The lowest responsible bid received during the procurement process exceeded the award amount because the original estimate (1) was restricted to the Group Room and Conference Room whereas the bid specs expanded the project to include all offices, hallways and the lobby; (2) did not factor in Federal wage rates; and (3) did not account for unforeseen complexities related to sound proofing the Conference Room. The estimated cost to sound proof the base footprint for the Group Room and Conference Room is \$95,250, and the cost to complete a second stage of sound proofing for the rest of the building is \$92,000. The Bridge is requesting additional CDBG-CV funds of \$30,000 to subsidize the higher cost for Stage 1 activities, with a balance of \$2,225 covered by another funding source, and an additional \$92,000 for second stage sound proofing activities. A contract termination date of August 1, 2023 would remain in place. Proposed funding would be drawn from CDBG CV funds that have not yet been committed.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

The Division of Housing & Community Development proposes to increase the contract amount with The Bridge by \$30,000 for soundproofing the most critical treatment spaces in the operating site, and an additional \$92,000 to expedite completion of proposed second stage activities, thereby providing an amended contract for a total amount not to exceed \$185,225. A current expiration date of August 1, 2023 for the contract term will not change.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve the proposed contract amendment as described above. Upon approval from the Board of Commissioners, the Division will amend the existing contract to reflect the new contract amount, as well as the PY 2019 and PY 2020 One Year Action Plans that reference CDBG CV funding.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

1. The approval of the amended CDBG contract amount is based upon a request by The Bridge as a CDBG CV sub recipient, and would be necessary to complete the project and expend the CDBG CV funds allocated for this activity.
2. The proposed activity will benefit patients who have increasingly sought and received counseling services and treatments since the onset of Covid at the operating site for The Bridge, which is consistent with the objective for CDBG CV funded activities of preventing, preparing for and responding to the coronavirus pandemic while delivering services and benefits to income eligible residents.
3. The amended Essex County Consolidated Plan and One Year Action Plan for CDBG Cv activities may be implemented upon approval.
4. As the proposed contingency funding will be drawn from available CDBG CV funds that have not yet been designated for any activities, the proposed award increase will have no adverse effects on any other CDBG activity.

FISCAL IMPACT

The CDBG CV program is funded totally by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Therefore, there will be no fiscal impact experienced by the County of Essex.

CONCLUSION

This action will result in the sound proofing of treatment spaces at the West Caldwell operating site of The Bridge, thereby providing greater privacy and more efficient treatments for patients, and may be leveraged with State, local, and private dollars above that of the federal grant allocation.

If additional information is required, please contact Craig Lombardi at (973) 873 9344.

Enclosures