

RATIFY ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE BLACK STAR PROJECT FOR CONSULTING SERVICES ON VIOLENCE PREVENTION, INTERVENTION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS THE FOLLOWING DECISION:

Ratify entering into an agreement with The Black Star Project to provide consulting services to the Office of the Board for (i) the development and implementation of violence prevention, intervention, and interruption initiatives for Chicago Public School students and (ii) outreach to and recruitment from community-based organizations in order to develop a process for collaborating and cooperating with such organizations to establish "Safe School Zones" for Chicago Public School students in targeted communities. These services are to be provided to the Office of the Board at a cost not to exceed \$125,000.00; provided, however, The Black Star Project has been separately compensated in the amount of \$24,500 for services provided to the Office of the Board in connection with costs and expenses related to pre-development work relating to this Project. The Black Star Project was selected on a non-competitive basis because of the organization's demonstrated expertise and ability to deliver effective school-based campaigns and initiatives that focus on parental involvement and the organization's experience in community outreach and collaborative efforts with other community-based organizations. A written agreement for The Black Star Project's services is currently being negotiated. No services shall be provided by Consultant and no payment shall be made to Consultant prior to execution of the written agreement. The authority granted herein shall automatically rescind in the event a written agreement is not executed within 90 days of the date of this Board Report. Information pertinent to this to this agreement is stated below.

CONSULTANT: The Black Star Project
3509 S. King Drive, Suite 2B
Chicago, IL 60653
(773) 285-9600
Contact: Phillip Jackson
Vendor # 36033

USER: Office of the Board
125 S. Clark Street, 6th Floor
Chicago, IL 60603
Contact: Gregory Minniefield, Deputy
(773) 553-1600

TERM: The term of this agreement shall commence June 1, 2009 and shall end May 31, 2010. This agreement shall have three options to renew for twelve month periods each.

EARLY TERMINATION RIGHT: The Board shall have the right to terminate this agreement with 30 days written notice.

SCOPE OF SERVICES: Operation: "TOGETHER We Can..." is a collaborative initiative lead by The Black Star Project that comprehensively approaches the problem of youth violence in the City of Chicago, particularly in those communities where Chicago Public Schools are located. The Black Star Project will lead the initiative on the south side of the City and will subcontract with other community organizations as necessary. This collaborative project model capitalizes on the strengths and expertise of various organizations with shared goals and objectives and this Mission Statement: "Together We Can Reduce the Problem of Youth Violence in the City of Chicago." The Project will have two primary bases of operation, one on the south side and one on the west side.

The Black Star Project will work with community organizations within targeted communities in order to build capacity within those communities to reduce student/youth violence and other anti-social behaviors in order to address the need for improved school climates.

The Black Star Project's services will include the following specific actions for implementation:

1. **Implement Observation and Risk-Factor Assessment** – Develop an on-going system to identify and assess causal factors around youth violence by:
 - Monitoring and identifying emerging trends among youth;
 - Identifying the circumstances and history of youth violence and disciplinary issues exhibited at the target schools identified by the Chicago Public Schools;
 - Conducting focus groups with identified populations of students who perpetuate violence, as well as those who are victims of it;
 - Opening lines of communication with school staff, security, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations and the City of Chicago Police Department; and
 - Targeting efforts in schools with the highest incidence of youth violence.

2. **Develop Model for Creating Safe School Zones** – Develop “Safe School Zones” through a coordinated effort among parents, community members, Local School Councils, principals, CPS Central Office and Area offices, Chicago Police Department, City of Chicago’s Graffiti Blasters Program, and other city agencies. The initiative will include:
 - Meetings with principals and school staff at the area and unit level to achieve alignment and a clear understanding of the overall objective of creating schools where students feel safe and able to focus on learning;
 - In-service training in collaboration with relevant city departments to ensure that principals and staff understand warning signs and effective responses for dangerous situations;
 - Million Father March back-to-school campaign to foster increased, year-round parent and community support for schools and students;
 - Parent, community, and alumni volunteer programs at schools to provide informal support, and monitoring groups; and
 - “Peace in the Hood” Campaign with “Stop the Violence” Pledges.

3. **Develop Rapid Response and Outreach Street-Worker Teams** – Develop a crew of street workers who serve as members of conflict-resolution teams and service connectors.

4. **Engage and Train Parents to Effectively Support Student Safety and Academic Achievement** – Parents need support to ensure that their children’s educational and social developmental needs are being met. To accomplish this The Black Star Project will manage:
 - Direct outreach to parents combined with structured, non-judgmental, and on-going parent-training opportunities;
 - Parent training by working with PAC, LSC, PTA, PTO, and/or other parent groups; to increase awareness of the multiple issues of student/after-school violence; and to offer prevention and intervention strategies; and
 - Recreational engagement activities through the Fathers Club.

5. **Facilitate Community Collaborations**
 - Identify potential partners for a sustainable network of community organizations, churches, businesses, social service agencies and individual volunteers who are invested in and connected to community schools; and
 - Many support services and programs will be subcontracted through existing community-based organizations.

6. **Coordinate Community Outreach and Organizing Activities**
 - Community meetings will be held for students, parents, teachers, and community residents to increase awareness, identify new problems, and develop “shared priorities” to solve the problem of youth violence;
 - Door-to-door outreach;
 - Anti-violence vigils; and
 - Community Resource Fairs.

7. **Refer individuals to Job Training, Job Placement and Entrepreneurship Training**
 - Collect program data and create linkage agreements with agencies providing these services; and
 - Disseminate information through street teams and community outreach efforts as well as by phone or appointment.

8. **Coordinate Access to Educational Enhancement and Youth Development Programs such as:**
 - Mentoring
 - Educational Support Services
 - Tutoring

DELIVERABLES: The Black Star Project will:

- Generate an on-going system to track student/after-school violence;
- Develop monthly reports on activity and progress;
- Coordinate mentoring and tutoring programs in a community on the west side and on the south side;
- Coordinate an initiative to increase parental involvement and school attendance from having fathers bring their children to school using The Black Star Project's "Million Father March" in addition to the development of a poster and ad campaign;
- Organize street worker teams within west side and south side communities to resolve conflicts, assess situations, and refer youth to more productive activities;
- Organize a community town-hall meeting on the west side and on the south side around the initiative to recruit volunteers and build awareness, consensus and momentum for a violence reduction program;
- Create Job Training Resource Directories for street teams to use in referring youth to services and opportunities;
- Organize League of Parents outreach campaigns in at least four communities to increase parental involvement; and
- Convene meetings to build partnerships, establish linkage agreements, and create clear lines of communication with community partners and city institutions (CPD, DCFS, CPS, etc.).

These Deliverables are intended to facilitate The Black Star Project's ability to develop the plans and infrastructure for a School year initiative that will expand on summer programs and include the following:

- Job Training and Placement for up to 1200 high-risk students ages 15-21;
- Job and Entrepreneurship Training for up to 500 Parents;
- 200 Parent-Training Workshops;
- Risk Analysis and Rapid Response Teams working with up to 25 high schools and the elementary schools that historically feed into those high schools;
- Mental Health referral and follow-up mechanism to service students and parents from participating schools;
- Partnerships with City Departments (e.g., CPD, CDFSS, CPL);
- Mentoring Program for at-risk students in at least 60 schools and 10 community locations;
- Community Volunteer Initiatives (Real Men Read, Ex-Offenders Preventing Next Offenders Student Motivation Program, Silas Purnell Destination College Program) in up to 60 schools; and
- Data collection and analysis of effect on student attendance, school climate and academic achievement.

OUTCOMES: Consultant's services will result in:

- Expanded capacity for a longer term initiative;
- Improved first day of school attendance in targeted areas;
- Engagement of new volunteers in targeted areas;
- Improved student behavior from the 24 to 30 students participating in the boot camp and mentoring programs; and
- Referral of at least 50 youths to training and job programs.

COMPENSATION:

Consultant shall be paid as specified in the agreement; total not to exceed the sum of \$125,000.

REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES: None.

AUTHORIZATION:

Authorize the General Counsel to include other relevant terms and conditions in the written agreement. Authorize the President and Secretary to execute the agreement. Authorize President, or his designee, to execute all ancillary documents required to administer or effectuate this agreement.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION:

Pursuant to Section 5.2 of the Remedial Program for Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprise Participation in Goods and Services Contracts, M/WBE provisions do not apply to those vendors who operate as Not-for-Profit organizations. This agreement is exempt from M/WBE review.

LSC REVIEW:

Local School Council approval is not applicable to this report.

FINANCIAL: Charge to Office of the Board: \$125,000 Fiscal Year: 2010
Budget Classification: 10110-115-54125-231004-000000

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

Inspector General – Each party to the agreement shall acknowledge that, in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/34-13.1, the Inspector General of the Chicago Board of Education has the authority to conduct certain investigations and that the Inspector General shall have access to all information and personnel necessary to conduct those investigations.

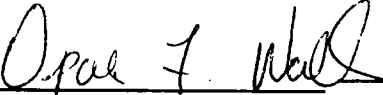
Conflicts – The agreement shall not be legally binding on the Board if entered into in violation of the provisions of 105 ILCS 5/34-21.3 which restricts the employment of, or the letting of contracts to, former Board members during the one year period following expiration or other termination of their terms of office.

Indebtedness – The Board's Indebtedness Policy adopted June 26, 1996 (96-0626-PO3), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.

Ethics – The Board's Ethics Code adopted June 23, 2004 (04-0623-PO4), as amended from time to time, shall be incorporated into and made a part of the agreement.


Contingent Liability – The agreement shall contain the clause that any expenditure beyond the current fiscal year is deemed a contingent liability, subject to appropriation in the subsequent fiscal year budget(s).

Approved for Consideration:



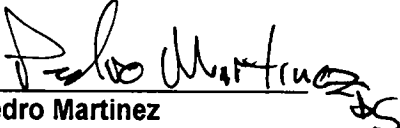
Opal L. Walls
Chief Purchasing Officer

Approved:



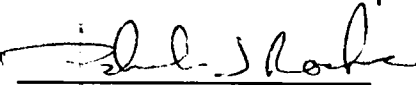
Ron Huberman
Chief Executive Officer

Within Appropriation:



Pedro Martinez
Chief Financial Officer

Approved as to legal form: 



Patrick J. Rocks
General Counsel 