

M. STHCS - Child Advocacy Center Facility Purchase (W450)

October 22, 2009

Grantee: Southern Tier Health Care System, Inc. (“STHCS”)

ESD Investment: A grant of up to \$100,000 to reimburse a portion of the cost of purchasing a facility for use by the Southern Tier Child Advocacy Center (“CAC”).

Project Location: 772 Main Street, Olean, Cattaraugus County

NYS Empire Zone (or equivalent): N/A

Project Completion: December 2008

Grantee Contact: Donna Kahm, Chief Executive Officer
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Project Team: Project Management Jim Seymour
Environmental Soo Kang

Project Description:

Background

Southern Tier Health Care System, Inc., is a three-county rural health network serving Allegany, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua counties. Its mission is to “improve the wellness of our rural communities.” STHCS, one of 35 rural health networks designated by the New York State Department of Health, was established in 1994 as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization and has 16 members. The membership includes hospitals, physician groups, county departments of health, home care providers, and ambulatory medical care providers. STHCS carries out extensive community outreach and education programs on various health-related issues such as asthma, diabetes, dental health, nutrition and physical activity, tobacco cessation, and developmental disabilities. STHCS has been recognized locally and regionally for its impact on health care in its catchment area.

Established in 2007, STHCS’s Child Advocacy Center provides coordinated multidisciplinary services to child victims of physical and sexual abuse; it is a one-stop facility for victims and their families. Services are provided in a child-friendly environment and include medical evaluations, victims’ advocacy, mental health services, and information and referral. It also allows for improved agency coordination in investigations of alleged child abuse. Since September 1, 2007, the CAC has handled 382 cases, three times the original estimate.

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The Project

The project consisted of the purchase of a facility for use by the CAC. The CAC, previously located at a site on the Olean hospital campus, was informed in July 2008 that the lease would not be renewed. STHCS located a building in close proximity to the hospital and purchased it using a line of credit. The building, formerly a church, was renovated to meet the needs of CAC's clientele, and the CAC moved into the facility in February 2009. ESD funds will be used to pay off the line of credit loan. Renovations were completed using other funding.

Upon completion of the project, the Grantee will furnish a final report describing the impact and effectiveness of the project.

Financing Uses	Amount	Financing Sources	Amount	Percent
Purchase of a facility for use by the Child Advocacy Center	\$130,000	ESD Grant	\$100,000	77%
		Crime Victims Board Medical Services Fees	15,000	11.5%
		Fundraising	15,000	11.5%
Total Project Costs	\$130,000	Total Project Financing	\$130,000	100%

Environmental Review:

ESD staff has determined that, although the funding of this project by ESD may constitute an "action" as defined by the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"), the project itself has been previously completed. ESD's action in the funding decision will not alter the adverse environmental impacts, if any, of the project as completed. ESD staff accordingly believes that funding the completed project will not have any significant adverse impacts on the environment.

Statutory Basis – Community Capital Assistance Program:

The project is authorized in accordance with Chapter 84 of the Laws of 2002 and reappropriated in the 2009-2010 New York State budget.

Disclosure and Accountability Certifications:

The Grantee has provided ESDC with the required Disclosure and Accountability Certifications. Grantee's certifications indicate that Grantee has no conflict of interest or good standing violations and, therefore, staff recommends that the Corporation authorize the grant to the Grantee as described in these materials.