

Intro. Res. No. 1944-2015
Introduced by Presiding Officer, on request of the County Executive

Laid on Table 12/1/2015

RESOLUTION NO. 1115 -2015, AUTHORIZING A SERVICES CONTRACT AND LEASE FOR SHELTER FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES WITH H.E.L.P. - SUFFOLK, INC.

WHEREAS, by Suffolk County Resolution No. 451-1989, this Legislature authorized the lease of County property in the Town of Brookhaven to H.E.L.P.- Suffolk, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation, for the purpose of constructing, equipping, and operating a transitional housing facility to serve homeless families in Suffolk County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to this lease and a related services agreement, H.E.L.P.- Suffolk, Inc., constructed a facility and has provided housing for homeless families and extensive on-site services such as child care, medical care, case management, individual counseling, parenting skill training, money management, and employment and job skills training that enable families to take control of their lives and to live independently; and

WHEREAS, by Suffolk County Resolution No. 1338-2005, the Suffolk County Legislature authorized a continuing lease with H.E.L.P.- Suffolk, Inc., as well as a services agreement for the provision of housing and related services for homeless families; and

WHEREAS, the H.E.L.P.- Suffolk, Inc. facility is the County's only Tier II housing facility on the East End; and

WHEREAS, the H.E.L.P.- Suffolk, Inc. facility offers a safe environment for up to 76 families at a time and provides housing for school age children, 73% of whom attend school districts in Brookhaven and Riverhead Townships; and

WHEREAS, the state-licensed H.E.L.P.- Suffolk, Inc. facility provides around-the-clock security and supervision and expects residents to follow strict rules and guidelines for behavior and responsibility; and

WHEREAS, the extensive support and services including, but not limited to, on-site educational training, case management, medical management, homework help for school age children, recreational activities, employment readiness programs, and on-site day care offered by H.E.L.P.- Suffolk, Inc. enables approximately 20-25 families per year to transition from emergency to permanent housing; and

WHEREAS, the County's services contract with H.E.L.P.- Suffolk, Inc. the County's lease with H.E.L.P.-Suffolk Inc. expires in November 2015; and

WHEREAS, in light of the fact that the H.E.L.P.- Suffolk, Inc. facility is the County's only Tier II housing facility on the East End, and in order to ensure continued services without interruption and to avoid the displacement of families to crowded, unsupervised and unregulated motel rooms where important support services are not available, it is critical that the County continue to utilize the H.E.L.P.-Suffolk, Inc. facility; and

WHEREAS, this Legislature determines that in order for the County to meet its constitutional obligation to house the homeless, it is necessary to keep the H.E.L.P.- Suffolk, Inc. facility in operation at its current location; now, therefore be it

1st **RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or his designee is authorized to enter into an agreement with H.E.L.P.- Suffolk Inc. for the lease of Suffolk County property and the facility located at Brookhaven, New York, and more particularly described as the ±417,600 square feet, or approximately 10 acre, parcel with four two story-buildings with 76 family units and an administrative building located in North Bellport, Tax Map Number 0200-960-05-028, for a term of five (5) years commencing on November 15, 2015, with an option to extend the term for an additional five (5) years, at an annual rental of one dollar (\$1.00), fee waived, with H.E.L.P.-Suffolk, Inc. for the purpose of providing housing and certain services to homeless families in Suffolk County, said lease to be in substantial conformance with the draft lease annexed hereto; and be it further

2nd **RESOLVED**, that pursuant to said lease H.E.L.P.- Suffolk, Inc. shall be responsible for the maintenance and necessary improvements to the buildings and grounds; and be it further

3rd **RESOLVED**, that the County shall reserve the right to utilize or lease to a third party a portion of the subject property, not to exceed five (5) acres, for recreational purposes; and be it further

4th **RESOLVED**, that the County of Suffolk, through its duly constituted Department of Social Services, is authorized and directed to enter into a services agreement commencing November 15, 2015 with H.E.L.P.- Suffolk, Inc., for the purpose of providing housing and certain services to homeless families in Suffolk County at the facility; and be it further

5th **RESOLVED**, that the County of Suffolk, through the Department of Social Services, if authorized by the New York State Department of Temporary Disability Assistance, may require H.E.L.P.-Suffolk, Inc. to make PILOT payments to the Town of Brookhaven, the South Country School District, and the South Country Ambulance Company to help offset costs associated with hosting the H.E.L.P.- Suffolk, Inc. facility in their community; and be it further

6th **RESOLVED**, that this Legislature, being the lead agency under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"), New York Environmental Conservation Law, Article 8, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action, pursuant to Volume 6 of the New York Code of Rules and Regulations ("NYCRR") § 617.5(c)(20) and (26), in that the resolution concerns routine or continuing agency administration and management, not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment and a lease renewal where there will be no material change in permit conditions or the scope of permitted activities, and since this is a Type II action, the County Legislature has no further responsibilities under SEQRA.

DATED: December 15, 2015

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: December 21, 2015