

Subject: New submission ALBANY Workforce Development Application

Date: Thursday, June 1, 2023 at 5:28:43 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: jnytko@govsol.org

To: jnytko@govsol.org

General Information
Date of application
06/01/2023
Entity name
Tech Valley Shuttle
Entity TIN, EIN or Social Security Number
814744279
Entity physical address
81 Mohawk st Cohoes, NY 12047 United States Map It
Is the entity's mailing address different from the physical address?
No
Contact Information
Primary contact name
Trent Griffin-Braaf
Primary contact title
President
Primary contact phone
(518) 203-8748
Primary contact email
trent@techvalleyshuttle.com
What is the preferred method of contact?
Email
Website (if available)
https://www.techvalleyshuttle.com
Entity Info and Structure
Which legal structure best describes the entity?
LLC
What was the date of the entity's establishment?
12/15/2016

If a business, what is the primary function (select best option)

Transportation

If applicable, is the business a M/WBE (Minority or Women-Owned Business Enterprise)?

Yes

Have you or the entity ever received any form of COVID-19 relief funds?

Yes

If "Yes" above, please specify type and amount.

PPP -12k

Project Information

Please provide a short summary of your proposed project including a project name, general description, total cost, reason(s) why you are pursuing the project and anticipated impact:

Roadmap to success program -

Helping formally incarcerated and immigrant populations succeed in the workplace and in business. As highlighted in this business review article : <https://www.bizjournals.com/albany/news/2023/05/25/trent-griffin-braaf-tech-valley-shuttle-workforce.html>

What amount of funding is being requested?

85,000

Does the project budget have any additional sources of funds?

No

I certify that if awarded, ARPA funding will not displace any other project funding

Yes, I certify

Project Description

Identify and describe whether funds will be used in any of the following areas. Check all that apply.

- 2. Expanding an existing program – investment in outreach/ community engagement
- 3. Expanding an existing program – providing tuition or stipends for County residents or /expanding program seats the number of individuals a program can serve
- 4. Expanding an existing program – investment in wraparound services connected to a workforce development program (i.e. childcare, transportation, etc.)

If "2. Expanding an existing program – investment in outreach/ community engagement" above, describe in detail how funds will be used to support.

This is will in marketing and outreach to help bring more attention to the program, help other employers who struggle with recruitment in this population and get more people into the program.

If "3. Expanding an existing program – providing tuition or stipends for County residents/expand program seats" above, describe in detail how funds will be used to support.

Apart of the program is CDL school this funding will help us offer free CDL schooling to those interested in taking advantage of it.

If "4. Expanding an existing program – investment in wraparound services connected to a workforce development program (i.e. childcare, transportation, etc.)" above, describe in detail how funds will be used to support.

This service addresses reducing recidivism and aiding in workforce development for this population and immigrant populations.

Describe your organizations experience as a provider of workforce development/ training opportunities,

including any experience in Albany County.

We're the only organization focused on helping this demographic. We're the only organization that has the expertise with this population and helping developing this population.

Pre-Employment Job Readiness Training, Transitional Work, Job Placement Services, and Post Placement Support.

List any project partners, their role, and any funding they will receive (please note project partners may also be subject to compliance and reporting requirements).

NYS parole & probation we would partner with them & DOCS to be a resource for those being released.

If an award is made, describe how Albany County residents will benefit. Use specific metrics where possible (e.g. number of individuals sectoral job training programs).

With hundreds of ex felons being released back to Albany we will help reduce their rate of return to prison. We've already helped hundreds through employment training. We've helped many get CDL's and we've helped numerous ex offenders start their own businesses. This will aid our county with additional people adding to the taxes being paid, creating job opportunities, and never going back to prison.

In order to be eligible for ARPA funding, programs must serve low-to-moderate income households/communities (classified as 350% of the Federal Poverty Level) or households that experienced unemployment during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please describe specifically how your proposal will benefit unemployed or underemployed individuals meet this requirement and how you will verify this to the County.

This population typically comes from humble origins and upon release from prison often times starting from zero. This population definitely fits into the low to moderate income class.

How Will You Track Performance Goals And Define Success? Include at least two Key Performance Indicators and expected annual outcomes/impact during the reporting period (September 2023 - December 2026).

Goal Alignment: We establish specific goals and objectives that align with their mission and the needs of our clients.
Performance Measurement: We evaluate the effectiveness of different programs, initiatives, or strategies. These metrics can include metrics related to job placement rates, retention rates, skill development, participant satisfaction, or employer satisfaction.
Accountability and Reporting: We will demonstrate the impact and value to stakeholders, such as government agencies, funding organizations, or clients.
Benchmarking and Comparison: This leads to insights and strategies for improvement.

What is the proposed project start date?

Actively doing it

What is the anticipated date of completion?

N/A

Describe how the funding will support a sustainable workforce development initiative that will continue to serve Albany County residents after ARPA funds have been exhausted.

Reducing recidivism, which refers to the rate at which individuals return to criminal behavior or reoffend, can bring several benefits to counties. Here are some ways in which reducing recidivism can positively impact counties:

Public Safety: One of the primary benefits of reducing recidivism is enhancing public safety. By preventing individuals from returning to criminal activities, counties can reduce the overall crime rate and make communities safer for residents. This can lead to a greater sense of security and well-being among the population.

Cost Savings: Recidivism is often associated with significant costs for counties. By reducing recidivism rates, counties can save money that would otherwise be spent on incarceration, court proceedings, probation, and related services. Instead, these resources can be allocated towards more productive endeavors such as education, healthcare, and community development.

Economic Impact: A lower recidivism rate can have positive economic effects on counties. When individuals successfully reintegrate into society and remain crime-free, they are more likely to gain employment, contribute to the local economy, and become financially self-sufficient. This can lead to increased tax revenue and decreased reliance on public assistance programs.

Rehabilitation and Reintegration: Reducing recidivism indicates that individuals are successfully reintegrating into society after their involvement in the criminal justice system. Counties that focus on effective rehabilitation programs can help individuals acquire skills, education, and support systems that reduce the likelihood of reoffending. This leads to improved outcomes for individuals and their families, breaking the cycle of crime and incarceration.

Social Well-being: When individuals are supported in their efforts to rebuild their lives and become productive

members of society, it can have a positive impact on social cohesion and community well-being. Reduced recidivism rates contribute to stronger families, improved relationships, and increased community engagement, fostering a more supportive and inclusive environment.

Justice System Efficiency: Lower recidivism rates can alleviate the burden on the criminal justice system. Counties can redirect resources previously dedicated to managing repeat offenders toward prevention, early intervention, and other proactive approaches. This can lead to a more efficient and effective justice system that focuses on preventing crime rather than simply responding to it.

Overall, reducing recidivism helps counties by enhancing public safety, reducing costs, boosting the local economy, promoting rehabilitation and reintegration, improving social well-being, and increasing the efficiency of the justice system. It is a multifaceted approach that benefits individuals, communities, and the overall functioning of the county.

Explain why arpa funds are needed to complete the project. Would the project be possible either without arpa assistance or assistance to a lesser degree?

It wouldn't be able to open it up to the public without the funding this will continue to only be a service for our internal staff. This funding would help us be able to open our roadmap to success program to anyone being released from Prison.

Are you a Workforce Development/Training Provider?

No

Are you a company?

No

If you are funding a multi-year initiative, please provide a breakdown of funding level per year below:

2023	2024	2025	2026
30k	56k		

Is any upfront funding needed to successfully implement your proposed project?

No

Explain why ARPA Funds Are Needed to Complete the proposed program/project. Would the proposal be Possible Without ARPA Assistance? Describe how your proposal would be impacted if you are awarded a smaller grant than requested?

Explained above if we received less it would just scale down the impact of who we could assist

Risk Assessment

Has the entity adopted and/or implemented policies relating to: records retention, conflict of interest, code of ethics, and/or nondiscrimination policies?

No

Is the entity properly licensed or certified by a recognized source ?

Yes

Does the entity have a financial management system?

Yes

If "Yes" above, please describe the financial system, its capabilities and how it will help to track the proposed project.

Quickbooks

Has there been any change in the entity's key staffing positions in the last 2 years?

No

Has the entity previously done work for or received funds from the Federal government (i.e. Is the entity experienced in managing Federal funds)?

Yes

If "Yes" above, please provide additional details below.

PPP

The County is careful about identifying and avoiding conflicts of interest, especially with grants awarded through the County. A conflict of interest arises when a person's self-interest and professional interest or public interest intersect. In this situation, there is the potential for biased professional judgment and lack of objectivity which creates a serious conflict when one of the interests can benefit financially or personally from actions or decisions made in the official capacity. A conflict of interest exists whether or not decisions are affected by a personal interest; there only needs to be the possibility of bias for a conflict. If your organization knows of a possible conflict of interest with your application for funds please disclose that information here. Otherwise write "None."

None

Certifications

US Treasury Reporting & Compliance Acknowledgment 1

- I Have Been Provided a Copy and Understand the U.S. Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Guidance for State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (see link or PDF included at the top of page)

US Treasury Reporting & Compliance Acknowledgment 2

- Should the County Allocate ARPA Funds, I am Able to and Pledge to Adhere to ALL Compliance and Reporting Requirements of the U.S. Treasury as it relates to any State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

US Treasury Reporting & Compliance Acknowledgment 3

- I Understand the County Will Contact me if/when Additional Information is Needed and that Information will be Promptly Provided to the County to Support Reporting Requirements

US Treasury Reporting & Compliance Acknowledgment 4

- If for Any Reason I am Unable to Comply with the U.S. Treasury's Compliance and Reporting Requirements I will Immediately Notify the County in writing by email or letter

US Treasury Reporting & Compliance Acknowledgment 5

- All Information Submitted in this Application is True & Accurate

Electronic Signature Agreement

I agree

By checking the "I agree" box below, you agree and acknowledge that 1) your application will not be signed in the sense of a traditional paper document, 2) by signing in this alternate manner, you authorize your electronic signature to be valid and binding upon you to the same force and effect as a handwritten signature, and 3) you may still be required to provide a traditional signature at a later date.

Type Name Below

Trent Griffin-Braaf