

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



**ACTION ITEM:** 1.2

**SUBMITTAL DATE:** September 12, 2012

**SUBJECT:** Workforce Innovation Fund (WIF) Linking Innovation, Knowledge and Employment (@LIKE) Project Independent Evaluation Funding Recommendation.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Executive Committee approve the funding recommendation for IMPAQ International LLC for Program Years 2012/16, Workforce Innovation Funds for an Independent Evaluation Contractor for the @LIKE Project.

**BACKGROUND:** On July 17, 2012, The Riverside County Board of Supervisors accepted the \$6,000,000 Federal Workforce Innovation Fund Grant. The Riverside County Economic Development Agency (EDA) - Workforce Development Division is the lead agency for the Linking Innovation, Knowledge and Education (@LIKE) project. The project covers the Counties of Riverside, San Bernardino, and Imperial. The @LIKE project will serve 675 disconnected young adults, age 18 to 24, who are unemployed and not attending school and are either low-income, gang-involved, an ex-offender, on aid or a recently separated veteran.

IMPAQ International LLC will implement a comprehensive and rigorous, multi-year evaluation of the @LIKE project during the period of October 1, 2012, through October 31, 2016. The overall objective of the @LIKE evaluation is to provide a comprehensive understanding of the implementation and outcomes of the @LIKE project on the project participants and in the three participating regions of this project. In Riverside County, the model will be more rigorously tested through a comparison group study. The proposed evaluation will be a quasi-experimental study utilizing a propensity score matching analysis to match the comparison group members to the treatment group members. In addition, EDA is interested in learning how the @LIKE project can provide knowledge that is used to enhance the broader workforce system.

On July 24, 2012, a Request for Proposal (RFP) was released for 30 days soliciting independent evaluation services for the Workforce Innovation Fund @LIKE Project Independent Evaluation. EDA received four proposals on August 23, 2012:

Agency	Proposed Cost	Final Proposal Score	Contact	Title	Address
IMPAQ International LLC	\$999,405	90	Avi Benus	Vice President, Operations	10420 Little Patuxent Parkway, Suite 300, Columbia, MD 21044
Public Policy Associates, Inc.	\$829,966	84	Jeffrey D. Padden	President	119 Pere Marquette Dr. Ste. 1C, Lansing, MI 48912
Fourth Economy Consulting LLC	\$738,870	79	Rich Overmoyer	President & CEO	700 River Avenue, Suite 333, Pittsburgh, PA 15212
REACH	\$972,000	62	Michelle Marquez	Sole Proprietor	2840 Hawaiian Petrel Ave., Modesto, CA 95355

A review panel consisting of EDA/Workforce Development Division staff and partner agencies representing a cross-section of public, non-profit, education and workforce professionals evaluated the proposals based upon the criteria outlined in the RFP. The minimum score for the RFP was 75 points with a maximum of 100. The final recommendation for the WIF@LIKE Evaluation Project is IMPAQ International LLC with the total reviewer score average of 90.

The recommended provider will perform the activities as outlined in the Scope of Work and provide Deliverables as designated in the agreement timeline. Should the selected bidder be unable to complete a successful contract and budget negotiation process, EDA/WDD reserves the right to select the second highest bidder.

The procurement period is valid October 1, 2012 through October 31, 2016.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  Date: September 12, 2012 Approval: Yes/No	BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CONCURRENCE  Required: Yes/No
---	--