

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

135 Berkshire Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141

20-157



12

June 30, 2020

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

CONTRACT AWARD: Educational Support

RECOMMENDATION: That the School Committee approves an agreement with the following community partner for the Work Force programs; funds to be provided from the General Fund.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Period of Contract</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Cambridge Housing Authority 362 Green St. Cambridge, MA 02139	7/1/20 – 6/30/21	\$190,325.00

DESCRIPTION: This contract is for the Cambridge Rindge & Latin Workforce Program, Summer College Immersion Program and Summer Literacy Program.

SUPPORTING DATA: RULES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Chapter III, Section 12...”motions calling for the appropriation or expenditure of money shall require the affirmative vote of four members.”

BUDGET REFERENCES:

ACCOUNT:	55107	Instructional Services
FUND:	15000	General Fund
ORG:	830665	CRLS/Cambridge Partners
	893640	Deputy Supt/Cambridge Partners
PROJ:		

Respectfully Submitted,

CS Kenneth N. Salim, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: Cambridge Housing Authority

Purpose: Summer Literacy, College Immersion & CRLS Workforce Program

Amount of Contract: \$190,325.00

Description/Scope of Services:

The Cambridge Housing Authority's CRLS Work Force Program

This program is a comprehensive educational enrichment, work-readiness, and college prep program for low-income teens in Cambridge public housing. Unusual for its depth of engagement with young people, the program currently provides 250 participants annually in grades 8 – 12 with sustained networks of learning and support over a developmentally significant five-year span: from the eighth grade through their senior year in high school. Since its inception in 1984, The Work Force has used what has since come to be known as a youth development approach, focusing more on building students' strengths rather than on ameliorating their deficits, to promote achievement in all the venues in which participants conduct their lives: at home, at school and at work. For over 30 years, The Work Force has helped low-income teens to broaden their horizons and to develop the wide range of competencies necessary for long-term success.

The Cambridge Housing Authority's Work Force Summer Programs

I. Summer Literacy Program (SLP)

This program plays a central role in the larger Work Force literacy initiative. The SLP camp is designed for Work Force participants who will be eighth grade students in the upcoming school year. The program, which was initiated in 2002 with the support of the Cambridge Public Schools, aims to enhance the academic literacy skills of up to 25 students. The primary focus is on teaching reading comprehension strategies and increasing the students' research and presentation skills through group-based projects. The camp operates over a period of eight weeks on four mornings a week from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The program is designed so that students may also participate in other summer opportunities, specifically the Mayor's Summer Youth Program, through which they are placed in subsidized part-time jobs with local businesses.

II. Summer College Immersion Program (SCIP)

The goal of this program is to prepare rising high school seniors who live in Cambridge public housing for the college application process. The program offers 24 students six weeks of SAT prep in math and English and a College Writing course in combination with weekly tours to colleges throughout New England. Participants will complete the summer program with a draft of their college essay.