

RESOLUTION NUMBER 14, 2022

Resolution to enter into agreement with two (2) recipients of Small Business Ecosystem grant program totaling \$350,000 for the purpose of strengthening the small business community in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic

Whereas, the Economic Development Financing Law states that “a minimum level of unemployment and maximum level of business opportunity, and the elimination or prevention of blight can best be provided by the promotion, attraction, stimulation, rehabilitation and revitalization of industry, commerce and other activities in the Commonwealth”; and,

Whereas, the Economic Development Financing Law expressly states that entities like ECGRA have as a purpose to “promote industrial, commercial and other economic development”; and,

Whereas, ECGRA has been appointed by County Council as a Subrecipient to administer American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for the purposes of building entrepreneurial opportunities for small businesses; and,

Whereas, ECGRA established the Small Business Ecosystem grant program in response to County Council’s request in accordance with guidance from the ARPA guidelines; and,

Whereas, those grant applicants are hereby identified as Bridgeway Capital, a community development financing institution, and the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants, formerly the International Institute of Erie, a refugee resettlement agency (USCRI); and,

Whereas, through the ARPA funding provided by ECGRA, Bridgeway Capital and USCRI will provide technical assistance to small businesses and small business entrepreneurs who were negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, and

Whereas, to further leverage the ARPA funding, ECGRA shall also provide funding to grant applicants through non-federally sourced capital which would include a revolving loan fund focused on the same category of small businesses and small business entrepreneurs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, pursuant to the Economic Development Financing Law and the ECGRA Bylaws, awards grants totaling \$350,000 to the extent outlined in the attached Exhibit "A".

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____.

This resolution was passed on the 17th day of November 2022 by a vote of ____-____.

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

Chairman, Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
November 17, 2022

ATTEST:

Secretary, ECGRA