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Buncombe County Planning Department – Transportation Division
46 Valley Street
Asheville, NC 28801

Buncombe County
Planning and Development
Received

MAY 26 2017

46 Valley Street
Asheville, NC 28801
828-250-4830

Attn: Denise M. Braine, Planner III

Eliada Homes is requesting the transfer of:

- One non lift 12 person passenger van
- One 12 person passenger mini bus

for the Eliada Students Training for Advancement (ESTA) program. ESTA is a 24-month career pathway progression for youth with multiple barriers to employment. Youth in the program are between 16-22 years old and are former foster youth, are juvenile justice involved, face homelessness and lack of stable housing, are underperforming in school, and have few to zero financial resources.

In ESTA, youth focus on workforce development, academic achievement, and life skills training. As youth explore their career of choice they participate in job shadows, internships, and a paid apprenticeship. By the end of the first year of programming, youth are preparing for post-secondary school and applying and interviewing for desired industry employment.

In order for the program to facilitate job shadows, internships, apprenticeships and employment opportunities, staff work to eliminate the barrier of transportation. Eliada is requesting transfer of the two vehicles listed above so we can transport students to their jobs at the Omni Grove Park Inn, the Hilton Biltmore Park, the Renaissance Hotel, The aloft Hotel, and Village Hotel on the Biltmore Estate. Not only are these hotels spread out across Asheville, youth are living across Buncombe County, with a few being transported as far as Yancey and Madison counties. ESTA ensures that youth have transportation to and from employment.

ESTA is one of Eliada's five flagship programs (Residential Treatment, Day Treatment, Foster Care, Child Development, ESTA) serving the most vulnerable youth in our region. As a nonprofit organization, from residential mental health treatment to prekindergarten services, Eliada serves children and youth facing toxic stress and chronic poverty. Our mission is Helping Children Succeed, and we achieve this by providing children, youth, and their families an ongoing safety net, prevention and intervention services, and high yield child and youth development programs.

Thank you for considering this request to eliminate the barrier of transportation for Eliada's ESTA program.

Sincerely,

Ted Stump

ESTA Workforce Development Director
Eliada Homes

2011 Ford Van - Non-Lift - MM# 82544 - County ID# 2107
- VIN #1FTDS3EL3BDA82544
2010 Goshen Coach Bus, Lift Equipped - MM # 00470 -
County ID #2102 - VIN # 1FDFF4FS7ADB00470



