

11919

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Camille Failla Murphy
Director, Office for Women

DATE: June 11, 2010

SUBJECT: Authority to amend a resolution authorizing the County to enter into an agreement with Pace University, acting by and through the Women's Justice Center of the Pace University School of Law, pursuant to which Pace University will provide a trainer/attorney at the Family Court Legal Program of the Family Justice Center, by modifying the authorized term of the agreement from April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011 to January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010.

On April 22, 2010, your Honorable Board approved a resolution (the "April 22nd Resolution") authorizing the County of Westchester (the "County") to enter into an agreement with Pace University, acting by and through the Women's Justice Center of the Pace University School of Law ("Pace"), pursuant to which Pace would provide a trainer/attorney at the Family Court Legal Program of the Family Justice Center, for the period from April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011, for an amount not-to-exceed \$91,606, to be paid quarterly pursuant to an attached workplan and budget (the "Agreement"). The Agreement has not yet been executed.

Pace has provided training services, such as the development and implementation of Family Justice Center staff training. Training modules developed were: Family Justice Center services; Domestic Violence and People with Disabilities; Intimate Partner Violence; Elder Abuse; Domestic Violence and the Immigrant Population; Sexual Assault Victimization; Domestic Violence and the LGBT Community; Domestic Violence and Confidentiality; Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking, and Criminal Law. This work was done prior to the opening of the Center to ensure staff readiness. Accordingly, the County now respectfully requests that your Honorable Board amend the April 22nd Resolution to modify the authorized term of the Agreement from April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011 to January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010.

Except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the April 22nd Resolution shall remain the same.

The trainer/attorney to be provided by Pace under the proposed agreement will be assigned to provide legal representation for victims of emergency orders of protection as well as develop training curriculum and conduct trainings for the program on the legal perspective of: victim confidentiality, stalking, dating violence, sexual assault, and domestic violence. Pace will also be compensated for travel expenses necessary to accomplish this work.

The funding for the proposed agreement would be provided by part of a \$1,000,000 Federal Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program awarded to the County's Office for Women by the Office on Violence Against Women of the U.S. Department of Justice. Pace is one of several partner agencies that will be involved in all three aspects of this federal grant: 1) establishing and implementing a Family Justice Center; 2) installing an automated victim notification of protective orders (VNPO) system; and 3) training police, prosecutors, the judiciary, advocates and service providers.

The proposed agreement will serve a public purpose by promoting the public health, safety and general welfare by enhancing the safety and independence of abused women. If abused women are empowered to learn how to develop and maintain their own safety, they are not as likely to return to dependence on their abusers, thereby reducing public safety costs and medical costs. If they are helped to empower themselves to be independent and self-sufficient they are not as likely to be dependent on public assistance.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreement are for Pace to provide assistance in 360 client contacts per year (30 per month), maintain a caseload of 150 cases per year (approximately 12 per month), and provide advice and counsel to 250 victims per year (approximately 20 per month).

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreement are in the best interests of the County in terms of public health and safety because of the aforementioned anticipated results of enhancing the safety and independence of abused women by empowering them to develop and maintain their own safety.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreement will be tracked and monitored by the Westchester County Office for Women, which will be responsible for monitoring Pace's performance under the proposed agreement by means of site visits, as well as their monthly statistics and quarterly narratives. The effectiveness of this program will be determined in a variety of ways. Some of the outcomes of family law matters may include whether or not the victim obtained an order of protection. Outcomes of trainings will be determined by participants' increased knowledge of specialized topics based on pre- and post-tests and evaluations.

If this resolution were not approved, the safety and security of victims of abuse would be compromised. Without receiving these vital support services, the probability of continued and escalating abuse is substantially increased. This may consequently endanger their lives and the lives of their children.

Please be advised that Section 459-c of the New York Social Services Law directs social services districts, such as the County, to offer and provide non-residential services to victims of domestic violence, whether eligible or ineligible for public assistance. Non-residential services programs must have the ability to provide the following services:

- 1.) Information and Referral services
- 2.) Advocacy
- 3.) Counseling
- 4.) Community education and outreach activities
- 5.) Hotline services

I most respectfully recommend approval of the attached Resolution.

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RESOLUTION

Upon communication from the Director of the Office for Women, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the resolution approved on April 22, 2010 (the “April 22nd Resolution”), which authorized the County of Westchester (the “County”) to enter into an agreement with Pace University, acting by and through the Women’s Justice Center of the Pace University School of Law (“Pace”), pursuant to which Pace would provide a trainer/attorney at the Family Court Legal Program of the Family Justice Center, for the period April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011, for an amount not-to-exceed \$91,606, to be paid quarterly pursuant to an attached workplan and budget (the “Agreement”), is hereby amended by modifying the authorized term of the Agreement from April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011 to January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010; and be it further

RESOLVED, that except as specifically amended hereby, all remaining terms and conditions of the April 22nd Resolution shall remain in full force and effect; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute all instruments and take all actions reasonably necessary to implement this Resolution.

Account to be charged/credited:

FUND	DEPT	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars	Funding Year
263	11	988J	4380	T988	\$0	2010

Budget Funding Year(s) **2010**
(must match resolution)

Start Date: **1/1/2010**

End Date: **12/31/2010**

(must match resolution)

Funding Source: Tax Dollars _____
State Aid _____
Federal Aid _____
Other _____

Schedule A

PACE WOMEN'S JUSTICE CENTER Family Justice Center Workplan

The Pace Women's Justice Center (PWJC) joins the Office for Women as a partner in the OFW FY 2009 Arrest Grant/Family Justice Center initiative. The Pace Women's Justice Center will collaborate on the initiative as follows:

Services to be provided:

Family Justice Center (FJC)

- PWJC will collaborate on the development, implementation and assessment of the FJC:
 - Attend partner meetings
 - Provide input for the development of policies, operations and sustainability of FJC.
 - Provide direct civil legal representation through the Family Court Legal Program (FCLP) as an in-kind contribution

Victim Notification of Protective Orders (VNPO)

- Include in training

Train police, prosecutors, the judiciary, advocates and service providers

- Assist in establishing training priorities
- Develop legal aspects of training modules
- Train at Police Academy
- Train police at largest PD's and other PD's as scheduled
- Train judiciary, prosecutors, court personnel

Who will provide:

- Jane Aoyama-Martin, Executive Director 5% of time
 - Will provide supervision for staff in project
- Cindy Kanusher, Assistant Director 80 % of time
 - Will attend meetings, will oversee and develop legal aspects of training modules and oversee and participate in training
- Tracey Alter, Director, Family Court Legal Program, 20 % of time
 - Will attend meetings, provide input on information sharing and victim confidentiality issues, collaborate with partners on providing legal services to FJC clients through the FCLP and provide oversight of FCLP, participate in training as needed.

Goals:

Training

PWJC will:

- Develop legal components of training modules
- Train police at Police Academy
- Train police at largest departments and other PD's as schedule permits.
- Train judiciary, prosecutors, court personnel

Outcome measurements:

Training

- Number of training modules produced
- Number of training sessions conducted
- Number of police trained at Police Academy
- Number of police trained at Police Departments
- Number of judiciary, prosecutors and court personnel trained

The White Plains FCLP will provide as an in-kind service:

- 360 client contacts (30/year)
- 150 cases per year (12/month)
- 250 advice/counsel per year (20/month)

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Schedule B

**Pace Women's Justice Center
Family Justice Center - Arrest Grant
Budget 1/01/2010 to 12/31/2010**

Personal Services		
Executive Director		
Salary	\$106,000 x 5% time	\$5,300
Benefits	\$5,300 x 32.5%	\$1,723
Attorney/Trainer		
Salary	\$60,000 x 100% time	\$60,000
Benefits	\$60,000 x 32.5%	\$19,500
Administrative Assistant		
Salary	\$39,000 x 5% time	\$1,950
Benefits	\$1,950 x 32.5%	\$634
Total Personal Services		\$89,106
Other Than Personal Services (OTPS)		
Travel Expenses		\$2,500
Total OTPS		\$2,500
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$91,606

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