

Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin P. Mahon  
Commissioner

**12801**

DATE: July 6, 2010

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin P. Mahon, Commissioner  
Department of Social Services

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the Young Men's Christian Association of Yonkers, Inc. (the "YMCA") for the provision of an after school activity and summer day program for TANF eligible youth for the period September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011 for an amount not to exceed \$36,000 to be paid pursuant to an approved program budget and subject to appropriation

Authority is hereby requested for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, to enter into an agreement with the Young Men's Christian Association of Yonkers, Inc. (the "YMCA") for the period September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011 in an amount not to exceed \$36,000, to be paid pursuant to an approved program budget and subject to appropriation. The YMCA of Yonkers has identified a 10% cost savings for this agreement. The YMCA of Yonkers will implement fund raising activities to cover the cost of supplies for the program. A portion of the Teen Director's salary will become a part of the YMCA's overall fundraising plan. The number of youth expected to benefit from this program remains unchanged.

**The services to be provided pursuant to this agreement achieve a public purpose by** creating a structured after school program for the TANF eligible youth population in Westchester County. The after school program at the YMCA in Yonkers is designed to improve school performance and attendance of youth participants as well as provide an alternative to activities that may result in criminal behavior.

The purpose for this program is supported by the Yonkers Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition which identified truancy as one of its highest priority issues. Members of the Coalition included representatives from the Yonkers Public Schools, Yonkers Police Department, Westchester County Department of Social Services, Family Court, Probation Department, Westchester County Law Department, District Attorney's Office and several Community Based Organizations, who gathered together in order to determine the best course of action for youth in the City of Yonkers.

The Coalition cited truancy as a major problem, causing low educational performance by many of these students. Many students reported that they were not attending school because they could not keep up with the work due to falling behind in previous years. The Coalition concluded that extra intervention would be necessary, not only to turn around the academic performance of these youth, but also to keep them away from criminal activity.

The **goals and objectives** of this program are to offer an after school tutoring program and summer day program to help TANF eligible students, ages 13 to 18, achieve greater success in their academic learning and find alternatives to activities that may otherwise result in criminal behavior. The YMCA will offer a tutoring program during the months in which school is in session for a minimum of two hours and a maximum of six hours of tutoring weekly. During the summer months, the YMCA will provide day camp activities specifically designed for this age group. This will include trips as well as recreational indoor and outdoor activities for these students.

The **goals and objectives of this program are in the best interests of the County in terms of public safety and security** in that this program encourages positive youth and community development aimed at reducing the occurrence of truancy and involvement of youth with the criminal justice system. Snyder and Sickmund reported that 60% of all juvenile crime occurs on school days, and juvenile crime is at its peak following school dismissal (*Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1997 Update on Violence*, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, 1997). Children are also at a much greater risk of being victims of a violent crime during the hours following school (*Juvenile Offenders and Victims: A National Report*, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, 1995). The YMCA of Yonkers after school program offers a safe, structured and positive environment that helps reduce juvenile delinquency and insulates children from victimization. The program will keep these children off the streets and discourage them from getting involved in potential criminal and gang related activities. Some additional benefits of this program include an increase in the number of hours spent on homework and high-yield learning activities, improved attitude towards learning, remedial support, and improved grades in school resulting in improved self-esteem and overall behavior.

The **goals and objectives of this program are in the best interests of the County in terms of public health** in that this program promotes and supports the overall well-being of youth, families and the surrounding community. The services provided by the program support youth in their homes and reduce family stressors created by youth involved in negative activities in the community. The goals and objectives of this program address the educational and social needs of these students by providing services that will enable them to succeed in their academic and employment pursuits, thus promoting the welfare of these TANF families. As youth become engaged in positive activities such as school engagement, successful academic performances and legal employment, they begin to acquire the skills required to become productive members of society.

The **goals and objectives are in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** in that this program provides the targeted population with the opportunity to enhance and achieve their academic and employment pursuits, thereby becoming economically independent in the long run. This would, in turn, reduce their reliance on public assistance to support them. The alternative activities offered by the YMCA of Yonkers aid in the diversion of out-of-home placements and the costs associated with such placements. Preventing children from

entering the foster care and juvenile justice systems results in substantial savings for the County and the taxpayers.

- **Family Foster Care cost annualized per youth** - The cost of foster care in a family foster setting can range from \$17.10 to \$58.65 per day per youth depending on the age and level of care provided. That translates into an **annualized foster care cost from \$6,241.50 to \$21,407.25 per youth.**
- **Residential Foster Care cost annualized per youth** - The cost of residential foster care costs can range from \$47.14 up to \$627 per day per youth. That translates into an **annualized cost for residential care from \$17,206.10 to \$228,855 per youth.**
- **Non-Secured Detention cost annualized per youth** - The average cost to maintain a youth in non-secured detention is \$323 per diem. This translates into an **annualized cost of \$117,895 per youth.**
- **Secured Detention cost annualized per youth** - The average cost to maintain a youth in a secured detention facility is \$317 per diem per youth. That translates into an **annualized cost of \$115,705 per youth.**
- **The YMCA of Yonkers Program cost annualized per youth** - This program has an annualized program cost of \$36,000. The program expects to serve 40 youth annually, with a per diem cost of \$2.47. That translates into an **annual cost of \$900 per youth.**

The **goals and objectives of this contract will be tracked and monitored** using the mutually established Performance Measurement Indicators formulated by the Department and approved by the Westchester County Budget Office. Performance Measurement reports include, but are not limited to, monthly and quarterly reports on the participants submitted by the vendor agency to the program office. The program office will maintain responsibility for evaluating the effectiveness of the program.

Based on the **Performance Measurement Indicators, the Department is able to report that** the program exceeded all the targeted goals during the 2009-2010 school year. The data collected reflects that the program served an average of 20 TANF students per month during the 2009-2010 school year. Of the 20 served, 80% participated in homework help and tutoring at least 6 hours per week. Of the 20 served, 60% experienced improved grades as measured by their academic progress reports. Of the same 20 youth, 85% had improved school attendance.

This Agreement is exempt from the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures pursuant to Section 3 (a) xviii as the agreement is for the advancement and social well being of youth in Westchester County.

Accordingly, the County of Westchester is hereby requesting authorization to enter into an agreement with the Young Men's Christian Association of Yonkers, Inc. (the "YMCA") for the purpose of providing the aforesaid services.

A resolution requesting the same is attached for your Honorable Board's approval.

**RESOLUTION**

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Social Services, be it hereby

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the Young Men’s Christian Association of Yonkers, Inc. (the “YMCA”) for the provision of operating an after school activity and summer day program for TANF eligible youth who reside in Yonkers for the period from September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011 (the “Agreement”); and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that in consideration for services to be rendered, the County shall pay the YMCA an amount not to exceed \$36,000 in accordance with an approved budget; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this Agreement is also subject to further financial analysis of the impact of any New York State Budget (the “State Budget”) proposed and adopted during the term of this Agreement. The County shall retain the right, upon the occurrence of any release by the Governor of a proposed State Budget and/or the adoption of a State Budget or any amendments thereto, and for a reasonable period of time after such release(s) or adoption(s), to conduct an analysis of the impacts of any such State Budget on County finances. After such analysis, the County shall retain the right to either terminate this Agreement or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to the Contractor, then the Contractor shall have the right to terminate this Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is hereby authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be  
Charged/Credited

	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	
2010	263	22	708K	4380	T708	\$36,000

Budget Funding Year(s): 2010- 2011 (Grant Year) Start Date: 09/01/10 End Date: 08/31/11  
(must match resolution)

Funding Source

Tax Dollars: \_\_\_\_\_

State Aid: \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Aid: \_\_\_100%\_\_\_\_\_

Other\_\_\_\_\_

**\$36,000**

(must match resolution)

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 7-29-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY