

Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin McGuire  
Commissioner

**17277**

**DATE:** February 3, 2011

**TO:** Board of Acquisition and Contract

**FROM:** Kevin McGuire  
Commissioner, Department of Social Services

**RE:** Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to amend an Agreement with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County to provide a Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program to Food Stamp recipients in an amount not to exceed \$300,638 payable monthly pursuant to an approved budget for the period from October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010 by extending the end date of the Agreement from September 30, 2010 to December 31, 2010 and increasing the not to exceed amount by \$74,747, from a total not to exceed amount of \$300,638 to a new total not to exceed amount of \$375,385 to cover the cost associated with the services to be provided during the extended term

In 2009 the New York State Division of Transitional Supports and Policy approved Cornell Cooperative's plan to provide a nutrition education program to Westchester County residents known as "Eat Smart New York." The program is supervised by the State and administered locally.

On November 5, 2009, your Honorable Board approved a resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County to provide a Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program to Food Stamp recipients in an amount not to exceed \$300,638 payable monthly pursuant to an approved budget for the term commencing on October 1, 2009 and terminating on September 30, 2010. The agreement was subsequently executed.

Authority is now requested to amend the agreement by extending the end date of the agreement from September 30, 2010 to December 31, 2010 and increasing the not to exceed amount by \$74,747, from a total not to exceed amount of \$300,638 to a new total not to exceed amount of \$375,385. The increase in funding is requested to pay for services rendered over the extended period.

The services to be provided pursuant to this agreement will demonstrate a **public purpose** by improving the quality of assistance provided to Food Stamp recipients as the program offered by the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County allows low-income families and individuals to learn how to better manage their food resources and to meet nutritional guidelines.

**The goals and objectives** of the program offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County pursuant to the proposed agreement are as follows:

- 1) to provide an education program geared toward encouraging target audiences to manage food resources more effectively
- 2) to increase their consumption of grains, fruits and vegetables,
- 3) to adopt safe food handling techniques and develop healthy eating practices for children and youths

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County will continue to work with low-income families and individuals and the elderly helping them to learn how to better manage their food resources. There are three models of education offered. The first assists low-income adults with nutrition and food resource management topics. The second program instructs low-income adults on how to handle money/resource management and family resource decision making. The third class offered assists low-income families with young children to learn healthy lifestyle choices.

By offering these classes to residents of Westchester County, the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County anticipates that the following objectives will be reached. Participation should increase adoption of healthy food practices. Attendees will learn about healthy weight management practices. Individuals and families in attendance will learn to become more food secure with their limited resources as well as learning how to use a variety of resources to better manage their food money, including meal planning, use of coupons and food sales.

Participants in the educational programs offered through "Eat Smart New York" have shown an increased comprehension of how to manage their Food Stamp benefits by buying nutritious foods for their households. In addition, attendees have learned how to better manage their resources by buying food items on sale and using store and manufacturer's coupons to maximize their purchasing power. Further, participants have gained a greater understanding that the foods they consume can have both positive and negative effects on their health. The programs offered through "Eat Smart New York" have taught participants that wiser food choices combined with a form of regular physical activity is beneficial to the household.

The goals and objectives of this program are in the **best interests of the County in terms of public health** as the program addresses the need for healthy food practices by teaching the targeted population to better manage their Food Stamp benefits to buy nutritious food for themselves and their families.

**The goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored** through reports to be provided by the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County and through the program monitoring reports to be provided by program staff. It is to be noted that the aforesaid program is State supervised and locally administered.

Except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the original agreement shall remain the same.

Accordingly, the County of Westchester is requesting authorization to amend an agreement with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County for the above stated purpose.

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

## RESOLUTION

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

**RESOLVED**, that that County of Westchester is hereby authorized to amend an agreement with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County to provide a Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program to Food Stamp recipients in Westchester County in an amount not to exceed \$300,638 payable monthly pursuant to an approved budget for the term commencing on October 1, 2009 and terminating on September 30, 2010 by extending the end date of the Agreement from September 30, 2010 to December 31, 2010 and increasing the not to exceed amount by \$74,747 from a total not to exceed amount of \$300,638 to a new total not to exceed amount of \$375,385 to cover the cost associated with the services to be provided during the extended term; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the original agreement shall remain the same; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents and to take such other actions necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

<b>Original Agreement:</b>	<b>\$300,638</b>
<b>This Amendment:</b>	<u>74,747</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$375,385</b>

Account to be Charged/Credited

	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase or Unit	Object / Sub-object	Trust Account	Dollars
	263	22	290J	4380	T290	\$74,747

Budget Funding Year(s): 2009-10 (Grant Year)    Start Date: N/A    End Date: 12/31/2010  
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source	Tax Dollars: _____
	State Aid: _____
	Federal Aid: <u>100%</u>
	Other: _____

\$74,747  
 (must match resolution)