



Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

17794

**DATE:** March 16, 2011

**TO:** Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

**RE:** Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with Pathways to Housing, Inc. to operate up to sixty five (65) units of scattered site permanent housing for individuals previously placed in the Westchester County Shelter System for the period February 1, 2011 through January 31, 2012 for a total amount not to exceed \$1,454,998 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to annual appropriations

The County of Westchester requests authorization to enter into an agreement with Pathways to Housing, Inc. to operate up to sixty five (65) units of scattered site permanent housing for individuals previously placed in the Westchester County Shelter System for the period February 1, 2011 through January 31, 2012 for a total amount not to exceed \$1,454,998 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to annual appropriations. There has been no increase in the amount requested for the proposed agreement.

The services to be provided pursuant to this agreement serve a **public purpose** by providing permanent housing and supportive services to homeless individuals who have a psychiatric disability and/or co-occurring substance use disorders in the County and thereby, assisting the County in improving the quality of life of this population. "The mission of Pathways to Housing is to end homelessness for people who suffer from psychiatric disabilities by providing housing first and giving support and treatment for their recovery and integration into the community." Assisted individuals are provided with supportive services including casework services, crisis management, counseling, life skills and budget management training as well as support and monitoring to connect with community based programs that would provide prescribed treatment services.

The **goals and objectives** of this contract are in compliance with the NYS laws and regulations requiring the provision of emergency housing for the needy. This program is designed to address

the root cause of the individual's inability to become stable in a suitable housing environment and pursue self-sufficiency and independence.

The goals and objectives of this program are in the **best interest of the County in terms of public health and public safety**. The population served routinely suffers from various chronic impediments such as mental illness, substance and/or alcohol abuse, and many are burdened with multiple barriers to permanent housing which have resulted in their current homeless status.

- Through this contract, customers who are eligible, receive housing services, direct supportive services and linkages to programs to address their needs.
- Housing the targeted population will reduce their risk of becoming victims of crime and general health-related issues that result from not having appropriate shelter.
- These services are aimed at improving the quality of life of the homeless population in the County.

Additionally, this contract is in the **best interest** of the County in terms of **fiscal responsibility** in that there is an economic cost to homelessness. According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, "studies have shown that – in practice and not just in theory – providing people experiencing chronic homelessness with permanent supportive housing saves taxpayers' money."

The **goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored** by the program office using the performance measurement indicators developed by the Department and approved by the County Budget Office. The contractor is required to submit to the Department, quarterly statistical reports on all activities related to the program.

The Department is able to report, based on **performance measurement indicators**, that the program has been successful in meeting the goals and objectives in 2010. Pathways to Housing operated at 100% contract capacity, effectively housing 65 persons in permanent housing during the previous contract period.

This contract is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a) (xiv).

Accordingly, the County of Westchester is hereby requesting permission to enter into an agreement with Pathways to Housing, Inc. for the above stated purpose.

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

## RESOLUTION

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

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Pathways to Housing, Inc. to operate up to sixty five (65) units of scattered site permanent housing for individuals previously placed in the Westchester County Shelter System for the period from February 1, 2011 through January 31, 2012 for a total amount not to exceed \$1,454,998 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget; be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this contract is subject to County Appropriation; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this Agreement is also subject to further financial analysis of the impact of any New York State Budget ("State Budget") proposed and adopted during the term of his 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 budget(s) 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 the agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is empowered to execute all documents, necessary and appropriate, to implement this Resolution.

Account to be  
Charged/Credited

|      | Fund | Dept | Major Program,<br>Program & Phase<br>Or Unit | Object/ Sub-<br>Object | Trust<br>Account | Dollars     |
|------|------|------|--|------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 101  | 22   | 8900   | 5860                   | -----            | \$1,333,748 |
| 2012 | 101  | 22   | 8900   | 5860                   | -----            | \$ 121,250  |
|      |      |      |  |                        |                  |             |

Budget Funding Year(s): 2011-12  
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 2/1/2011

End Date: 1/31/2012

Funding Source

**\$1,454,998**  
(must match resolution)

Tax Dollars: 50 %

State Aid: 50 %

Federal Aid: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_