

Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

## 19961

DATE: June 21, 2011

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into an agreement with Public Consulting Group, Inc. ("PCG"), pursuant to which PCG will provide Social Security eligibility services for 'Aid to Families with Dependent Children – Foster Care cases as well as for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Safety Net Assistance cases for the County, for a term July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, with the County having the sole option to extend the term of the agreement for three (3) additional one-year periods, for an amount not-to-exceed \$350,000, to be paid pursuant to an approved budget specifying certain per-case fees

Attached for your consideration is a resolution which, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County of Westchester (the "County") to enter into an agreement with Public Consulting Group, Inc. ("PCG"), pursuant to which PCG will provide Social Security eligibility services for 'Aid to Families with Dependent Children – Foster Care ("AFDC-FC") cases as well as for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("TANF") and Safety Net Assistance ("SNA") cases for the County, for a term July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, with the County having the sole option to extend the term of the agreement for three (3) additional one-year periods, for an amount not-to-exceed \$350,000, to be paid pursuant to an approved budget specifying the following per-case fees:

SERVICE PROVIDED	PER-CASE FEE
AFDC-FC For each medically favorable SSI decision	\$2,000
AFDC-FC For each identification of existing SSI benefits where PCG makes DSS the payee	\$750
AFDC-FC Continuing Disability Review Payment upon determination that the continuing benefits have exceeded the amount of the fee	\$750
AFDC-FC 18 Year Old Adult Conversion Payment upon determination that the continuing benefits have exceeded the amount of the fee	\$1,500

TANF/SNA For each medically favorable SSI/SSDI decision	\$3,000
TANF/SNA - Continuing Disability Review Payment upon determination that the continuing benefits have exceeded the amount of the fee	\$1,500

(the “Agreement”).

On April 19, 2011, the Department of Social Services (“DSS”) issued a Request for Proposals (“RFP”) to solicit proposals to provide Social Security eligibility services for AFDC-FC cases as well as for TANF and SNA cases for the County. Three (3) proposals in response to the RFP were received. The proposals were reviewed, rated, and ranked, based upon the evaluation criteria specified in the RFP, with PCG being the first-ranked proposer, as indicated below.

Proposer	Rev. #1	Rev. #2	Rev. #3	Rev. #4	Rev. #5	Rev. #6	Total	Average
<b>Public Consulting Group, Inc.</b>	84.25	89.50	82.50	76.50	75	75	482.75	80
<b>Firstsource</b>	89.50	76.50	73.50	75.25	46.75	68.75	430.25	72
<b>Diversity Search Group</b>	59	37	45.75	31.75	34.50	72	280	47

The proposed agreement will serve a public purpose providing services to a target population which is faced with multiple barriers and is unable to pursue benefits on their own. By definition, the Federal Social Security Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program is targeted at individuals who are found to be incapable of engaging in substantial gainful activity. Particularly, in the case of mental disability, the very nature of the individual’s impediment is incongruous with self-advocacy. PCG, under the proposed agreement, will provide necessary assistance to the residents of the County who are eligible for SSI benefits by helping secure the benefits to which they are entitled.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreement are to provide services in the establishment and maintenance of SSI benefits for AFDC-FC customers as well as for TANF and SNA customers.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreement are in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility, as it will assist customers in securing benefits to which they are entitled, thereby leading to case closures for DSS and a related savings in terms of County resources expended in assisting such individuals.

Additionally, DSS assumes representative payee status for most of the foster care children who are eligible for SSI benefits, where the benefits are paid directly to DSS. This can help defray the annual cost of foster care.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreement will be tracked and monitored through monthly statistics and quarterly reports, as well as through direct contact with DSS's Program Office.

Accordingly, I most respectfully recommend the adoption of the annexed Resolution.

KMM/MJ/KK/bdm/nn

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 07/07/2011 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

## 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 Public Consulting Group, Inc. (“PCG”), pursuant to which PCG will provide Social Security eligibility services for ‘Aid to Families with Dependent Children – Foster Care (“AFDC-FC”) cases as well as for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (“TANF”) and Safety Net Assistance (“SNA”) cases for the County, for a term July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, with the County having the sole option to extend the term of the agreement for three (3) additional one-year periods, for an amount not-to-exceed \$350,000, to be paid pursuant to an approved budget specifying the following per-case fees:

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TANF/SNA - Continuing Disability Review Payment upon determination that the continuing benefits have exceeded the amount of the fee	\$1,500

(the “Agreement”); and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this Agreement is subject to County appropriations; 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 authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute all instruments and take all actions reasonably necessary to implement this Resolution.

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Account to be  
Charged/Credited

	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
2011	101	22	8900	5850	---	\$54,950
2012	101	22	8900	5850	----	\$54,950
2011	101	22	8900	5860	----	\$48,825
2012	101	22	8900	5860	----	\$48,825
2011	101	22	8900	5880	-----	\$71,225
2012	101	22	8900	5880	-----	\$71,225

Budget Funding Year(s): 2011-12      Start Date: 7/1/11    End Date: 6/30/12  
(must match resolution)

Funding Source	Tax Dollars:	<u>5850</u>	<u>5860</u>	<u>5880</u>
	State Aid:		71%	30%
	Federal Aid:	100%	29%	41%
	Other:	_____		29%

\$350,000  
(must match resolution)

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 07/07/2011 - SOMARY WELLS, SECRETARY