

#21578

Voice of the People of Westchester County for over 300 years

Date: March 28, 2011

To: Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Hon. Kenneth W. Jenkins, Chairman
Westchester County Board of Legislators

Re: **Authority to enter into an agreement with the Women's Enterprise Development Center, Inc. ("WEDC") to provide micro-enterprise training and assistance to poor and minority women, for a period of one year commencing January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011 in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00**

The attached Resolution, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County of Westchester (the "County") to enter into an agreement with Women's Enterprise Development Center, Inc. ("WEDC") pursuant to which WEDC will provide micro-enterprise training and assistance to low-to-moderate income women, including women who are transitioning off public assistance, displaced homemakers, survivors of domestic violence, Latinas and women of Hispanic descent, disabled individuals, dislocated workers, mature adults 50+, and child care providers.

The term of this agreement will be for the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 Dollars payable 50% upon contract execution, 25% upon receipt of an interim report due on June 30, 2011 and the balance upon completion of the contract and receipt of a final report due within thirty days of the end of the contract.

The goals and objectives of this agreement are to help women with recruitment and assessment; entrepreneurial training; life skills training; post training; technical assistance and peer support; mentoring; ongoing technical assistance and access to capital.

The proposed agreement will promote the public health, safety and general welfare by providing women with the training necessary to become economically self-sufficient. The skills learned by participants enable them to depend less on government entitlements or not at all. Some graduates augment their low incomes with entrepreneurship, while others are able to support themselves entirely. Some even hire staff, creating new avenues for employment for Westchester residents.

In accordance with the attached workplan, the effectiveness of this program will be determined in a variety of ways. By the end of the program, 65-95 women will complete the entrepreneurial training; 60-90 will complete business plans; and 50-70 women will open their own businesses. Of the 700 projected workshop participants, besides gaining business information, more than 90% will return positive evaluations. In addition, at least 15 women participating in the Microenterprise Fairs are expected to increase their sales and customer base.

WEDC will report on its progress to the Board of Legislators with a copy to the County Executive's Office.

Exemption of this Agreement from the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures has been authorized by separate resolution of your Honorable Board.

Accordingly, I recommend and urge your Honorable Board's approval of the annexed Resolution.

KWJ/mlg

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 12/08/2011 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Chairman of the Westchester County Board of Legislators, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the "County") is authorized to enter into an agreement with Women's Enterprise Development Center, Inc. ("WEDC") pursuant to which WEDC will provide an entrepreneurial training program to low-to-moderate-income women to assist them in reaching economic self-sufficiency for the period of January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011 for an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 payable 50% upon contract execution, 25% upon receipt of an interim report due on June 30, 2011 and the balance upon completion of the contract and receipt of a final report due to the County Executive's Office and the Board of Legislators within thirty days of the end of the contract; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Agreement is subject to County appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 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 the Agreement or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to the Service Provider, then the Service Provider shall have the right to terminate the Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Westchester County Board of Legislators, or his authorized designee, is hereby authorized to execute any documents and take any actions reasonably necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

Account to be
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
101	52	2504	5100		\$40,000.00

Budget Funding Year(s) 2011 ___ Start Date 1/1/2011 End Date 12/31/2011 (must match resolution)

Funding Source

Tax Dollars \$40,000.00

State Aid _____

\$ 40,000.00

Federal Aid _____

(must match resolution)

Other _____

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 12/08/2011 - SOMARY WEIR, SECRETARY