

25495

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Diane G. Balistreri
Coordinator, Office for Women

DATE: May 25, 2012

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into an agreement with Victims Assistance Services of Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc. to provide, through its Rape Crisis Program, crisis intervention services to victims of rape and services to children who have been victims of or witnesses to violence for a total amount not-to-exceed \$262,170 for the period January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2014

The attached Resolution, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County of Westchester (the "County") to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with Victims Assistance Services of Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc. ("VAS") to provide, through its Rape Crisis Program, crisis intervention services to victims of rape and services to children who have been victims of or witnesses to violence, for the period January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2014, for a total amount not-to-exceed Two Hundred Sixty-Two Thousand One Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$262,170), to be paid quarterly pursuant to an approved budget. The funding amount per year will not exceed Eighty-Seven Thousand Three Hundred Ninety Dollars (\$87,390).

Through the Rape Crisis Program, VAS provides supportive casework and counseling services to victims of rape, sexual assault and sexual abuse in Westchester County. In addition to providing counseling and assistance services to residents of Westchester County who have been victims of rape and child victims who have witnessed violence, VAS provides clinical services to adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse, families of rape victims and special populations including adolescents.

In addition, the Rape Crisis Program utilizes volunteers for many services. These volunteers assist with answering hotlines, act as hospital advocates, and assist in evening and/or weekend community event presentations.

The proposed Agreement will serve the public purpose of promoting public safety by providing immediate crisis intervention to rape victims as well as services and support to children who witness violence, including domestic violence and sexual assault.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are as follows:

- VAS will maintain a 24-hour Rape Crisis helpline to provide immediate crisis intervention information and referral for 300 victims of rape. During the 2011 contract period, the helpline served 467 victims.
- VAS advocates will accompany at least 50 rape victims through the forensic exam process. During the 2011 contract period, advocates accompanied 65 victims.
- VAS Rape Crisis Community Educators will provide training in rape and sexual assault to law enforcement through the Westchester County Police Academy at least four times a year. During the 2011 contract period, VAS conducted six training sessions at the Academy.
- Community Educators will provide 20 presentations to colleges, middle and high schools. During the 2011 contract period, 93 presentations were provided.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement will be tracked and monitored by the Westchester County Office for Women, which will be responsible for monitoring VAS' performance under this Agreement by means of site visits, as well as their quarterly statistics and narratives.

This Agreement is exempt from application of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures pursuant to Section 3(a)(viii) thereof.

Accordingly, I respectfully request approval of the attached proposed Resolution.

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Coordinator of the Office for Women, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the "County") is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with Victims Assistance Services of Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc. to provide, through its Rape Crisis Program, crisis intervention services to victims of rape and services to children who have been victims of or witnesses to violence, for the period January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2014, for a total amount not-to-exceed Two Hundred Sixty-Two Thousand One Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$262,170), to be paid quarterly pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Agreement's annual not-to-exceed amount will not exceed Eighty-Seven Thousand Three Hundred Ninety Dollars (\$87,390); 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 duly authorized designee be and hereby is authorized and empowered to execute any and all documents and take any actions necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be charged/credited:

FUND	DEPT	Major Program, Program & Phase, Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars	Funding Year
101	11	0900	4132	N/A	\$87,390	2012
101	11	0900	4132	N/A	\$87,390	2013
101	11	0900	4132	N/A	\$87,390	2014

Budget Funding Year(s) 2012-2014 **Start Date:** 1/1/2012 **End Date:** 12/31/2014
(must match resolution)

Funding Source: Tax Dollars \$262,170
State Aid _____
Federal Aid _____
Other _____

\$262,170
(must match resolution)

Schedule A

Victims Assistance Services Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc. Rape Crisis Treatment and Prevention Program

Proposed Budget: \$87,390 x 3 Years = \$262,170
Contract Period: January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2014

Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc., through its Victims Assistance Services Rape Crisis Program, will provide crisis intervention, advocacy and counseling services to victims of rape, sexual assault and sexual abuse throughout the Westchester community, will assist clients with applications to the NYS Office For Victims Services (OVS), and will maintain a 24-hour Rape Crisis Hotline.

Performance Measures:

Each year of the 3-year contract, Victims Assistance Services Rape Crisis Program will:

1. Maintain a 24 hour Rape Crisis Hotline with full coverage:
 - Provide immediate crisis intervention, information and referral for sexual assault victims
 - Assist 300 victims utilizing the Hotline for assistance during the contract year, 100 of whom will be sexual assault-related calls.
 - Accompany 50 rape victims through the forensic exam process.
 - Recruit and train 13 volunteers and supervise a volunteer counselor-advocate corps.
2. Offer and/or provide a full range of follow-up services to at least 200 rape and sexual assault victims (including Hotline callers and SAFE Program clients who agree to allow follow-up contact). Services include advocacy, accompaniment, information, referrals, crisis intervention, counseling, trauma therapies and access to NYS OVS applications and emergency awards for HIV PEP medications and/or other immediate critical needs.
3. In conjunction with the SAFE Program, provide training on rape and sexual assault to law enforcement personnel through the Westchester County Police Academy at least four times a year.
4. Provide 20 trainings on sexual assault, dating violence, and/or stalking to college students and/or staff at local colleges.
5. Provide 12 presentations on sexual and intimate partner violence to professionals and community groups.