

29052

Date: September 05, 2012

To: Members of the Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Grant E. Mitchell, M.D., Commissioner
Department of Community Mental Health

Re: Authority to enter into an agreement with the New York State Department of Health (“NYSDOH”) and Hudson River Healthcare, Inc. (“HRH”) pursuant to which NYSDOH will provide the County and HRH access to data relating to Medicaid beneficiaries with chronic medical and/or behavioral health illnesses within the County in order to improve the administration of the Health Home program by facilitating the provision of care management and coordination services linked to an integrated health care delivery system and community provider network at no cost to the County

Authority is hereby requested from your Honorable Board for the County of Westchester (the “County”), acting by and through its Department of Community Mental Health (the “Department”), to enter into an agreement with the New York State Department of Health (“NYSDOH”), pursuant to which NYSDOH will provide the County and Hudson River Healthcare, Inc. (“HRH”) access to data relating to Medicaid beneficiaries with chronic medical and/or behavioral health illnesses within the County in order to improve the administration of the Health Home program by facilitating the provision of care management and coordination services linked to an integrated health care delivery system and community provider network at no cost to the County. The agreement will be for a term of three (3) years commencing upon approval of the Agreement from NYSDOH.

The County is a member of the Phase II Health Home which is administered by Hudson River Healthcare, Inc, and will be providing care management services to Health Home members. The goal of the Health Home is to provide a care management model to provide coordinated comprehensive Health Home services for Medicaid beneficiaries with chronic medical and/or behavioral health illnesses. NYSDOH will identify eligible beneficiaries for enrollment by area of each individual Health Home, using a predictive modeling case-finding algorithm. NYSDOH will provide the County and HRH demographic information for the initial and refreshment population(s) for enrollment in a Health Home. NYSDOH will also provide the Health Home specific Medicaid claims data for each enrollee that will facilitate the provision of care management and coordination services linked to an integrated health care delivery system and community provider network. The goals of the Health Home are to:

- assure access to appropriate services
- improve enrollee's health outcomes
- reduce preventable hospitalizations and emergency room visits
- promote use of health information technology (HIT)
- avoid unnecessary care

The proposed contract will serve a public purpose by allowing the department to hold the health homes accountable so that cost shifting to the county shelters and jail is prevented. The public will also be served by the increased overall health of individuals in the County.

The goal and objective of the proposed agreement is to ensure that the health homes in Westchester County serve individuals in need to the fullest. Often times, managed care models—like health homes benefit financially by limiting access to needed services. While care management can save money and improve outcomes, health homes must be monitored so that service limitations do not have negative impacts on those in need. If individuals do not receive needed services, the county will experience a cost shift associated with shelters and the jail.

The goal and objective of the proposed agreement is in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility, as this agreement is of no cost to the County.

The goal and objective of the proposed agreement will be tracked and monitored by the Department through the use of data made available by the DOH and through site visits.

This agreement with NYSDOH does not constitute a procurement and as such, the provisions of the Westchester County Procurement Policy do not apply.

An appropriate Resolution is herewith attached for your Honorable Board's consideration.

GEM/MS/eos/nm

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Community Mental Health, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (“County”), acting by and through its Department of Community Mental Health (the “Department”), is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the New York State Department of Health (“NYSDOH”), pursuant to which NYSDOH will provide the County and Hudson River Healthcare, Inc. (“HRH”) access to data relating to Medicaid beneficiaries with chronic medical and/or behavioral health illnesses within the County in order to improve the administration of the Health Home program by facilitating the provision of care management and coordination services linked to an integrated health care delivery system and community provider network at no cost to the County; and be it further

RESOLVED, that agreement will be for a term of three (3) years commencing upon approval of the Agreement from NYSDOH; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is authorized and empowered to execute and deliver all instruments and take all actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
					N/A

Budget Funding Year(s) _____ Start Date _____ End Date _____
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars _____ N/A _____
 State Aid _____
\$ 0 Federal Aid _____
 (must match resolution) Other _____