

**29874**

DATE: October 15, 2012

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Sherlita Amler, MD  
Commissioner of Health

RE: Authorization to enter into contract with the Community Service Society of New York to accept funding for the Affordable Care Act Consumer Assistance Program Grant, a component of the Community Health Advocates Program, for the period August 24, 2012 through August 23, 2013, in the amount not-to-exceed \$37,688.05, pursuant to an approved budget

The County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Health ("WCDH"), seeks authorization to enter into contract with the Community Service Society of New York ("CSSNY") to accept funding for the Affordable Care Act Consumer Assistance Program Grant ("CAP"), which is a component of the Community Health Advocates Program ("CHA"), for the period August 24, 2012 through August 23, 2013, in the amount not-to-exceed \$37,688.05, pursuant to an approved budget.

In March 2010, the Federal health care reform bill called the Affordable Care Act (the "ACA") was signed into law. As part of the ACA, Consumer Assistance Programs ("CAPs") were formed around the country to help people obtain health insurance information, enroll in plans, file complaints and appeals and solve problems. Although the ACA will not come into full effect until 2014, many of its provisions are being implemented in New York, such as the creation of a New York state-operated Insurance Exchange and establishment of a Consumer Assistance Program. The New York State Department of Health ("NYSDOH") established CSSNY's CHA as its Consumer Assistance Program.

Beginning in 2011, the WCDH entered into an agreement with CSSNY to accept funding to establish a CHA pilot program in Westchester County. Funding through this CHA grant will allow WCDH to offer residents assistance in obtaining and navigating different kinds of health coverage. No County matching funds will be used to support this program.

The public health and general welfare of all Westchester residents including parents, children, seniors, and medically, culturally and linguistically underserved populations will continue to be served by establishing the CAP program in the County.

The goal of the CAPs is to help people who have questions about health insurance, are trying to enroll in an insurance plan, or are having trouble accessing and using their existing coverage or benefits. The objectives are to assist all residents in navigating and understanding changes to our health coverage and care delivery systems. CAPs also serve as "first responders" by reporting back to policy makers on health care system issues identified at the ground level.

During the grant period the WCDH expects to serve a minimum of 60 clients each month through a combination of individualized consumer assistance and presentations to community groups and organizations.

This program will be tracked and monitored through client satisfaction surveys, reporting types and levels of services provided to residents.

I certify that my department, a) has copies of, or access to, all applicable laws, rules, regulations, grant applications, and grant agreements (including any master grant agreement), as well as any guidance or instructions received from the agency making the grant (the "Grant Terms"), b) has reviewed the Grant Terms, c) is aware of and understands all of the Grant Terms, and d) can and will comply with all of the Grant Terms.

Approval of the attached resolution is respectfully requested.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 11/15/2012 - JOMARY VERA SECRETARY

## RESOLUTION

UPON A COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH, BE IT HEREBY

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Health (“WCDH”), is authorized to enter into contract with the Community Service Society of New York (“CSSNY”) to accept funding for the Affordable Care Act Consumer Assistance Program Grant (“CAP”), which is a component of the Community Health Advocates Program (“CHA”), for the period August 24, 2012 through August 23, 2013, in the amount not-to-exceed \$37,688.05, pursuant to an approved budget; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee be and hereby is authorized and empowered to execute all appropriate contracts or documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution in the manner prescribed by law.

Department of Health  
 County of Westchester  
 10 County Center Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
 White Plains, New York 10607  
 October 15, 2012

Agreement #

Account to be Charged/Credited	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
	263	27	370M	9853	T370	\$37,688.05

  

Budget Funding Year(s) (must match resolution)	2012-2013	Start Date	8/24/12	End Date	8/23/13
---	-----------	------------	---------	----------	---------

  

Funding Source	Tax Dollars	
	State Aid	
	Federal Aid	
<b>\$37,688.05</b> (must match resolution)	Other	Community Service Society of NY -PASS THRU