

36564

DATE: October 17, 2013

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Edward Buroughs
Commissioner of Planning

RE: Resolution authorizing an exemption from the County of Westchester Procurement Policy and Procedures for an agreement with Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless, Inc. to administer a tenant eviction prevention program for the County, pursuant to Section 3(a)xxi of the Westchester County Procurement Policy

The attached resolution authorizes an exemption from the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures for the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless, Inc. to administer a tenant eviction prevention program for the County. Approximately thirty-eight (38) income eligible households will benefit from this program. The term of the agreement will be November 1, 2013 through May 31, 2014, in the not-to-exceed-amount of \$50,000.00 pursuant to an approved budget.

The Department is requesting an exemption because this organization serves as the clearinghouse for all the eviction prevention providers in Westchester County to assure that no family is assisted more than once in a twelve-month period. Families facing eviction usually turn to a local community-based non-profit for assistance. There are only a handful of non-profits that provide excellent eviction prevention services in this area. This agency has an established history of completing previous eviction prevention contracts for the County in a timely manner and working with the eviction prevention network with other non-profit housing agencies. They can provide assistance to clients of other eviction prevention agencies and ensure that no duplicative service is delivered to any family.

It is also in the best interest of the County to award these funds to this organization as they have a history of providing housing counseling and budgeting services to low income populations, who are more at risk of eviction, as they often don't have other resources available to prevent eviction from their housing. The agency would use these funds to stabilize the housing of income-eligible low income families. This agency has the ability to get the necessary funds to the landlords of the clients requiring assistance, without additional administrative costs, as no administrative reimbursement is being provided.

Therefore, it is proposed that the best interests of the County would be served by exempting Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless, Inc. from the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures, pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) thereof. Accordingly, a resolution to exempt this procurement is hereby submitted for your consideration.

EB/cp
Attachment

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures, it is hereby determined that application of the procedural requirements contained therein, including the necessity of soliciting proposals, is neither cost effective nor expedient, and accordingly not in the best interests of the County in connection with the procurement of an agreement with Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless, Inc. to administer a tenant eviction prevention program.

S:\ADMINISTRATION\CONTRACTS\Completed Contracts\Planning\CPI\1387\Exemption.doc

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 11/14/2013 - JOAQUIM VEIRA, SECRETARY