



Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin McGuire  
Commissioner

First Deputy Commissioner  
Philippe Gille

**37683**

DATE: January 10, 2014

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin McGuire  
Commissioner, Department of Social Services

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless, Inc. (“Coalition”) in order that the Coalition may assist non-profit food distribution centers for the period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 in an amount not to exceed \$72,000 to be paid in accordance with the approved program budget and subject to appropriations

Transmitted herewith is a resolution requesting authority for the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless, Inc. (“Coalition”) in order that the Coalition may assist non-profit food distribution centers for the period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 in an amount not to exceed \$72,000 to be paid in accordance with the approved program budget and subject to appropriations.

The **public purpose** of the program is to provide assistance to community-based food pantries and soup kitchens so that hungry and/or homeless Westchester residents can receive food, clothing and shelter.

**The goals and objectives of this program are** to aid the non profit-food distribution centers in distributing food supplies to needy persons in Westchester County and also to provide an opportunity for soup kitchens, food pantries and shelters, particularly those that are volunteer-driven with no visible means of support, to apply for funding to support their ongoing services. A grants application process is available to allow these distributors equal and fair access to funding for their programs.

**The goals and objectives are in the best interests of the County in terms of public health because this program** serves as an intermediary to assist non-profit soup kitchens, food pantries and shelters with both food and non-food expenses. The program assists in ensuring the well being of the hungry and homeless population of Westchester County. Through this contract, money goes to various neighborhoods, thus preventing families and individuals from going to bed hungry and assisting homeless families to supplement their food supply.

**The goals and objectives are in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility because** in the past three years, the need for food has increased dramatically due to the economic turn down. People who are receiving assistance, including food stamps, may not have sufficient food by month's end. Some people who have become poor due to the recent economic condition may not even qualify for any assistance, or may require supplemental food even with the provision of food stamps. The service that the Coalition provides is aligned with the goals of the Department, which is to assist families and individuals with their basic needs until they can become self sufficient. This contract is aimed at assisting with the distribution of good nutritional food to the hungry and homeless population, which will ensure their health and well being. Fiscally, this contract will assist non-profit soup kitchens, food pantries and shelters with both food and non-food expenses. In addition, the funds from this contract will provide an opportunity for soup kitchens, food pantries and shelters to apply for funding to support their ongoing services. A grants application process is available to allow these distributors equal and fair access to funding for their programs. This program will satisfy the needs of individuals who are hungry and homeless, and who do not want to make an application for Public Assistance or Food Stamp benefits, thereby easing the financial burden on tax payers.

**The goals and objectives of this contract will be tracked and monitored** through performance measurement indicators developed by the Department and approved by the County Budget Office. They include, but are not limited to, submission of quarterly reports.

The Department is able to report that in the first three quarters of 2013, the Coalition distributed over \$42,788 in grant money to thirty (30) community-based food pantries and soup kitchens throughout Westchester County.

The agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a) (xiv) which exempts contracts with not-for-profit organizations for the purposes of providing aid, care and support to persons in need of public assistance.

Accordingly, authority is requested for the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless, Inc. ("Coalition") to operate the above said program.

A resolution requesting the same is annexed herewith for your Honorable Board's approval.

## RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Social Services, be it hereby

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless, Inc. ("Coalition") to assist emergency food providers in securing additional outside funding and to assist non-profit soup kitchens, food pantries and shelters with expenses in their efforts to provide surplus food items to needy persons in Westchester County for the period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 for an amount not to exceed \$72,000 to be paid in accordance with approved program budget; 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 impact of the 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 adoptions(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 amount and rate approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to the Contractor, then the Contractor shall have the right to terminate the agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents and to take such other 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
2014	101	22	8900	5960	-----	\$72,000

Budget Funding Year(s): 2014  
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 1/1/2014

End Date: 12/31/2014

Funding Source

**\$72,000**  
(must match resolution)

Tax Dollars: 100%

State Aid:

Federal Aid:

Other :