

38610

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Robin Schlaff
Director, Office for Women

DATE: February 24, 2014

SUBJECT: Authority to amend each of three (3) grant-funded agreements, each of which has a term April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014, in order to extend the term of each agreement by six (6) months, to a new termination date of September 30, 2014

On October 3, 2013, your Honorable Board approved a resolution authorizing the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Office for Women, (the "County") to enter into three (3) separate agreements that were to be funded by a portion of a grant awarded to the County by the United States Department of Justice, acting by and through its Office on Violence Against Women, (the "DOJ") under its Domestic Violence Homicide Reduction Demonstration Initiative (the "Grant"). Each of the three (3) agreements was to be for a term April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014, and be for the following particular services and amounts not-to-exceed:

- 1.) For the agreement with My Sisters' Place, Inc. ("MSP"), MSP was to assist in conducting a community needs assessment, including 'system mapping' for Westchester, and provide ongoing coordination, for an amount not-to-exceed Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-Seven Dollars (\$20,997) (the "MSP Agreement");
- 2.) For the agreement with The Research Foundation For The State University of New York, on behalf of the Center for Human Services Research, University at Albany ("CHSR"), CHSR was to collect data, conduct interviews, co-facilitate focus groups, develop data-sharing agreements, analyze data, and present findings as part of the community needs assessment, for an amount not-to-exceed Ninety-Four Thousand Seventy-Five Dollars (\$94,075) (the "CHSR Agreement"); and
- 3.) For the agreement with Amy Barasch, she was to serve as project coordinator and organize and monitor the work of MSP and CHSR under the above-listed agreements, as well as produce a work plan based on the findings of the community needs assessment, for an amount not-to-exceed Fifty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Six Dollars (\$52,686) (the "Barasch Agreement").

The MSP Agreement, the CHSR Agreement, and the Barasch Agreement were all subsequently executed.

DOJ recently informed the County that it has given the County a no-cost extension of the term of the Grant, which extends the term of the Grant by six (6) additional months, to a new termination date of September 30, 2014. By separate resolution, the County is currently seeking authority from your Honorable Board to amend the grant in order to extend its term by six (6) additional months, to a new termination date of September 30, 2014, in accordance with the no-cost extension from DOJ.

Accordingly, authority is now respectfully requested from your Honorable Board for the County to amend the MSP Agreement, the CHSR Agreement, and the Barasch Agreement in order to extend the term of each agreement by six (6) months, to a new termination date of September 30, 2014.

Except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the MSP Agreement, the CHSR Agreement, and the Barasch Agreement shall remain the same.

The proposed amendments will serve a public purpose by providing additional time to facilitate a comprehensive community needs assessment of local services, the overall goal of which is to improve identification of, and services for, high-risk victims of domestic violence. This will provide additional time to allow identification of key barriers and gaps faced by domestic violence victims and their children, and additional time for the development of a work plan to address the identified barriers and gaps.

The goals and objectives of the proposed amendments are to provide additional time to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of local services, including assessing the processes, systems and partnerships of local agencies that address domestic violence, and thereby identify key barriers and gaps faced by domestic violence victims and their children and develop a work plan to address the identified barriers and gaps.

The goals and objectives of the proposed amendments are in the best interests of the County in terms of the public health, safety and general welfare, as providing additional time for services that are intended to help enhance the safety of victims of abuse, including improving identification of, and services for, high-risk victims of domestic violence, will ultimately reduce the number of domestic-violence-related homicides in Westchester County.

The goals and objectives of the proposed amendments will be tracked and monitored by the Office for Women.

The procurement of the proposed amendments is exempt from the requirements of the County's Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a)(xi) thereof, which exempts "any procurement made pursuant to procurement procedures provided for under any other federal or state law applicable to such procurement," as the County complied with the procedures specified by DOJ for the Grant.

Attached for your consideration is a proposed resolution.

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Office for Women, (the "County") is hereby authorized to amend each of the three (3) agreements listed below, each of which has a term April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014, in order to extend the term of each agreement by six (6) months, to a new termination date of September 30, 2014:

- 1.) An agreement with My Sisters' Place, Inc. ("MSP"), pursuant to which MSP was to assist in conducting a community needs assessment, including 'system mapping' for Westchester, and provide ongoing coordination, for an amount not-to-exceed Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-Seven Dollars (\$20,997) (the "MSP Agreement");
- 2.) An agreement with The Research Foundation For The State University of New York, on behalf of the Center for Human Services Research, University at Albany ("CHSR"), pursuant to which CHSR was to collect data, conduct interviews, co-facilitate focus groups, develop data-sharing agreements, analyze data, and present findings as part of the community needs assessment, for an amount not-to-exceed Ninety-Four Thousand Seventy-Five Dollars (\$94,075) (the "CHSR Agreement");
- 3.) An agreement with Amy Barasch, pursuant to which she was to serve as project coordinator and organize and monitor the work of MSP and CHSR under the above-listed agreements, as well as produce a work plan based on the findings of the community needs assessment, for an amount not-to-exceed Fifty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Six Dollars (\$52,686) (the "Barasch Agreement").

; and be it further

RESOLVED, that except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the MSP Agreement, the CHSR Agreement, and the Barasch Agreement shall remain the same; 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	Dollars	Funding Year(s)
				\$0	

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

Start Date: 4/1/2014

End Date: 9/30/2014

\$0
(must match resolution)

Funding Source:

Tax Dollars _____
 State Aid _____
 Federal Aid _____
 Other _____