

Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

Philippe Gille  
First Deputy Commissioner

**41107**

DATE: July 8, 2014

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner, Department of Social Services

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to amend an agreement with the Urban League of Westchester County, Inc. to operate a Homeless Student Educational Success program for homeless school age children for the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 for an amount not to exceed \$262,026 by extending the term of the agreement through December 31, 2014 and increasing the amount not to exceed by \$131,013, from a total not to exceed amount of \$262,026 to a new total not to exceed amount of \$393,039.

By resolution approved on June 6, 2013, your Honorable Board authorized the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, to enter into an agreement with the Urban League of Westchester County, Inc. for the provision of a Homeless Student Educational Success program to facilitate the completion of educational designations, counseling, school registration, educational compliance and arrangement of school transportation for homeless school age children for the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 for an amount not to exceed \$262,026 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriations. The contract was subsequently executed.

Authority is now requested for the County of Westchester to amend the agreement with the Urban League of Westchester County, Inc., by increasing the amount not to exceed by \$131,013 from a total amount not to exceed \$262,026 to a new total amount not to exceed \$393,039, and extending the end date of the contract from June 30, 2014 to December 31, 2014.

With the implementation of the OTHA (Office of Temporary Housing Assistance) casework services division, each caseworker will be assigned a specified number of homeless families to work closely with and provide coordinated case management services. As the number of homeless families decreases and families are sheltered in their district of origin, the department anticipates a reduced need for these services. The Department would like to extend the existing contract for another six months to end on December 31, 2014 in order to continue providing the above said services to the targeted population. The Department will work on a Request for Proposal ("RFP") at the end of the extension if it decides to continue this program beyond the six months' extension.

The **public purpose** of this program is to assist homeless families, with school age children placed in emergency housing outside the school district of their last permanent address, with school registration, educational compliance and arrangement of school transportation.

The **goals and objectives** of the proposed agreement are to operate a program providing the homeless school age children placed in emergency housing outside the school district of their last permanent address with a choice of schools to attend and coordinate appropriate transportation. The program will also provide interventions necessary to improve the school attendance and school performance of Westchester County homeless students.

The goals and objectives of this program are in **the best interest of the County in terms of public health and public safety** as they are aimed at providing services that will ensure that eligible homeless school-age children will attend school and receive appropriate support services. The goals and objectives are also aimed at helping to identify children who require special education. Referrals will be made to the appropriate service providers for medical evaluations and immunizations.

The goals and objectives are in the County's **best interests in terms of fiscal responsibility** because they ensure educational opportunity and support services for young homeless children. Due to the program's coordination and intervention efforts to improve school attendance and school performance, the students, many of whom remain in their school of origin, will experience fewer disruptions and a lower truancy rate. Frequent interventions by the case managers often times result in a reduction in the number of referrals for educational neglect to the Child Protective Services division.

**The goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored** through performance measurement indicators developed by the Department. The tracking and monitoring include the submission of monthly statistics and quarterly reports as well as direct contact with the D.S.S. staff in order to swiftly address any impediments to the program's success.

The **Department is able to report** that during the 2013 contract term, the Urban League of Westchester Homeless Student Educational Success Program has achieved the following program outcomes as of March 31, 2014:

- 1) Total unduplicated number of children served = 348
- 2) 4% of homeless student participants are Honor Roll students
- 3) 83% of homeless student participants have a grade point average of a C or better

Except as specifically amended herein, all other terms and conditions of the original agreement shall remain the same.

Accordingly, the County of Westchester is hereby requesting permission to amend the agreement with the Urban League of Westchester County, Inc. for the aforesaid purpose.

An appropriate resolution is attached 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 amend an agreement with the Urban League of Westchester County, Inc., to operate a Homeless Student Educational Success program for the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 for an amount not to exceed \$262,026 by increasing the amount not to exceed by \$131,013 to a new total amount not to exceed \$393,039 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and by extending the end date of the contract from June 30, 2014 to December 31, 2014; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this Contract is subject to County Appropriation; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this Agreement is also subject to further financial analysis of the impact of any 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 adoption (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 this Agreement or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to the Contractor, then the Contractor shall have the right to terminate this Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that except as specifically amended herein, all other terms and conditions of the original agreement shall remain the same; and be it further.

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is empowered to execute any document necessary to implement this Resolution.

Original Contract Amount: \$262,026  
**This Amendment: \$131,013**  
 Total \$393,039

Account to be  
 Charged/Credited

	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
2014	101	22	8900	5630	-----	\$131,013
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Budget Funding Year(s): 2014  
 (must match resolution)

Start Date: N/A

End Date: 12/31/14

Funding Source

Tax Dollars: 28%  
 State Aid: 41%  
 Federal Aid: 31%  
 Other:

**\$131,013**  
 (must match resolution)