

41870

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Honorable Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Honorable Michael B. Kaplowitz, Chairman
Westchester County Board of Legislators

Robin Schlaff
Director, Office for Women

DATE: August 19, 2014

SUBJECT: Authority to exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy an agreement with United Community Center of Westchester, Inc. to assist immigrants in need of civil legal representation, for a term commencing January 1, 2014 and continuing through December 31, 2014, for an amount not-to-exceed \$10,000.

The attached Resolution, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Office for Women, (the "County") to exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy an agreement (the "Agreement") with United Community Center of Westchester, Inc. ("UCCW") pursuant to which UCCW will assist immigrants in need of civil legal representation, for a term commencing January 1, 2014 and continuing through December 31, 2014, for an amount not-to-exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00), payable quarterly, pursuant to an approved budget.

Since its inception in 2005, UCCW has provided critical resources that bring health care, education, food, refuge and emergency assistance to help those in need in an effort to assure that basic human necessities are provided for Westchester's vulnerable populations, including immigrants, victims of domestic violence, at-risk youth, disabled, elderly and homeless individuals/families. In addition, UCCW has established partnerships with local service providers to create a support system for its clients.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are for UCCW to provide immigrants with services including, but not limited to, information and referral to legal agencies or attorneys as appropriate; follow-up with case process; accompaniment to court or to other agencies, as necessary; and data collection.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement will be tracked and monitored by the Office for Women, which will be responsible for monitoring UCCW's performance by means of quarterly statistics and narratives.

Under the Westchester County Procurement Policy Section 3(a)(xxi), your Honorable Board may determine "by resolution passed prior to commencing procurement that compliance with the Procurement Policy would not be in the best interests of the County." Due to the fact that UCCW has the necessary experience and expertise to provide these services to immigrants in Westchester, and for the reasons set forth above, it is requested that your Honorable Board make the determination that it is in the best interests of the County to exempt from the application of the procedural requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy the proposed Agreement with UCCW.

Attached for your consideration is a proposed Resolution.

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the County Executive, Chairman of the Westchester Board of Legislators and the Director of the Office for Women, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) of the Westchester County Procurement Policy, it is hereby determined that application of the procedural requirements contained therein, including the necessity of soliciting written price quotations, 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 United Community Center of Westchester, Inc. pursuant to which United Community Center of Westchester, Inc. will assist immigrants in need of civil legal representation.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 09/18/2014 - JOMARY NEIRA, SECRETARY