

42455

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Robin Schlaff
Director, Office for Women

DATE: October 22, 2014

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into an agreement with Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc. to provide crisis intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, information and facilitated referrals, counseling and trauma therapy services to victims of crime, for a term commencing January 1, 2014 and continuing through December 31, 2014, for an amount not-to-exceed \$50,000

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 enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc. ("WestCOP"), pursuant to which WestCOP will provide, through its Victims Assistance Services Program ("VAS"), crisis intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, information and facilitated referrals, counseling and trauma therapy services to victims of domestic and sexual violence, child and elder abuse, labor and sex trafficking, physical assault, robbery, burglary, stalking, identity theft and cybercrimes, and other serious crimes throughout the larger Westchester community, with special emphasis on victims served at WestCOP's Peekskill location, for a term commencing January 1, 2014 and continuing through December 31, 2014, for an amount not-to-exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), payable quarterly, pursuant to an approved budget.

The proposed Agreement will serve a public purpose by enhancing the safety and independence of victims of crime. If victims, particularly those inflicted by interpersonal violence, are empowered to learn how to develop and maintain their own safety, they are not as likely to return to dependence on their abusers, thereby reducing public safety costs and medical costs. If they are helped to become independent and self-sufficient they are not as likely to be dependent on public assistance.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are for WestCOP to provide crisis intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, information and facilitated referrals, counseling and trauma therapy services to victims of domestic and sexual violence, child and elder abuse, labor

and sex trafficking, physical assault, robbery, burglary, stalking, identity theft and cybercrimes, and other serious crimes throughout the larger Westchester community, with special emphasis on victims served at WestCOP's Peekskill location.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are in the best interests of the County in terms of the public health, safety and general welfare, as providing these services may help alter the cultural context that allows interpersonal violence to thrive, reduce the shame-inducing stigma of victimization, and provide former victims the opportunity to regain a sense of dignity and self-worth.

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

Authority to exempt these services from the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) thereof has been requested from your Honorable Board in accordance with a separate resolution of the same date hereof.

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 enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc. ("WestCOP"), pursuant to which WestCOP will provide, through its Victims Assistance Services Program, crisis intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, information and facilitated referrals, counseling and trauma therapy services to victims of domestic and sexual violence, child and elder abuse, labor and sex trafficking, physical assault, robbery, burglary, stalking, identity theft and cybercrimes, and other serious crimes throughout the larger Westchester community, with special emphasis on victims served at WestCOP's Peekskill location, for a term commencing January 1, 2014 and continuing through December 31, 2014, for an amount not-to-exceed Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), payable quarterly, pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Agreement is subject to County appropriations; 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 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	Trust Account	Dollars	Funding Year
263	11	111L	4380	T111	\$50,000	2014

Budget Funding Year(s) 2014 Start Date: 1/1/2014 End Date: 12/31/2014
 (must match resolution)

\$50,000
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source: Tax Dollars \$50,000
 State Aid _____
 Federal Aid _____
 Other _____