



Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

**42617**

DATE: October 7, 2014

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into an agreement with the Vera Institute of Justice, Inc. in the sum of \$30,000 to participate in the Juvenile Justice Reentry Consortium pursuant to a grant received by the Vera Institute of Justice, Inc. from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for the term July 1, 2014 through January 31, 2016.

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Authority is respectfully requested from your Honorable Board for the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Social Services (the "Department"), to enter into an agreement with the Vera Institute of Justice, Inc. for the County, as subrecipient, to participate in the Juvenile Justice Reentry Consortium pursuant to a grant received by the Vera Institute of Justice, Inc. from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services ("DCJS") for the term July 1, 2014 through January 31, 2016 (the "Agreement"). The Juvenile Justice Reentry Consortium is a group of Counties cooperating together to improve reentry planning, coordination and services for youth involved in the criminal justice system and returning from out-of-home placements made by the New York State Family Court. Vera will provide the County with in-depth research and strategic planning support as well as with the \$30,000 stipend to support the County's participation in Consortium events. The Agreement funds will be utilized to provide travel, lodging and per diems for attendees at two Consortium events, one this fall and the other in the spring of 2015. Attendees at these events will consist of six County employees, as well as one participant from each of the following: Family Services of Westchester, Inc.; North American Family Institute, Inc.; Children's Village, Inc.; Mount Vernon City School District and the New York State, Unified Court System for a total of eleven participants. Each of these participants will be attending the Consortium events at the request of the Department. Please be of note that of the \$30,000 grant funds, only \$18,000 will be used for paying participants from outside agencies. The remainder in

the amount of \$12,000 will be used to pay the County employees who participate in the aforesaid Consortium events upon submission of County Claim forms.

The Agreement will at all times comply with the DCJS grant to Vera and will result in the preparation of a finalized juvenile reentry action plan, along with implementation processes, implementation of reform efforts and the promotion of sustainability of those efforts.

Because the County is acting as a pass-through, subgrantee, as are all the Consortium event attendees, under the grant from DCJS to Vera, the proposed Agreement is not a procurement and therefore, the provisions of the Westchester County Procurement Policy do not apply.

The proposed agreement will serve a **public purpose** by providing better outcomes for youth and their families in quality of life as well as safety to the community and cost savings.

**The goals and objectives** of the proposed agreement are to change existing resources, policies, and practices to improve re-entry outcomes for juvenile justice involved youth.

**The goals and objectives of the proposed agreement are in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility**, as the proposed agreement will make available to the County the funds necessary to implement the aforementioned program. The goals and objectives of the proposed agreement are also in the best interests of the County in terms of both fiscal responsibility and public health and safety as the programs funded by the proposed agreement will be aimed toward engaging stakeholders in two forums for discussion of national best practice in key areas of juvenile justice re-entry prevention.

**The goals and objectives of the proposed agreement will be tracked and monitored** by the Department in accordance with the requirements of Vera. The Department will be required to submit Annual Progress Reports to Vera as a requirement of receiving the funding to be provided under the proposed agreement. These multi-page Annual Progress Reports capture statistical data on those served, the various categories they fall into, the milestones reached, the money expended, etc., which must match the program outlined in the Department's Technical Submission.

I respectfully recommend your Honorable Board's approval of the attached Resolution.

KMM/DI

## RESOLUTION

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

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Social Services, is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the Vera Institute of Justice, Inc. ("Vera") for the County, as subrecipient, to participate in the Juvenile Justice Reentry Consortium ("Consortium") pursuant to a grant received by the Vera from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services ("DCJS") for the term July 1, 2014 through January 31, 2016 (the "Agreement"). Pursuant to the Agreement, the County will receive a stipend in the amount of \$30,000 which will be utilized to pay for travel, lodging and per diem expenses for eleven attendees (six County employees, and five agency/government attendees one each from : Family Services of Westchester, Inc.; North American Family Institute, Inc.; Children's Village, Inc.; Mount Vernon City School District and the New York State, Unified Court System) at two Consortium events one in 2014 and the other in 2015; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive, or his authorized designee, is authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be  
Charged/Credit

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
263	22	542P	9853	T542	\$30,000
263	22	542P	4380	T542	\$18,000

Budget Funding Year(s): 2014 -16      Start Date: 7/01/14      End Date: 1/31 /16  
(must match resolution)

Funding Source	Tax Dollars:
<u>\$30,000</u> (Revenue)	State Aid:
<u>\$18,000</u> (Expense)	Federal Aid: <u>100%</u>
(must match resolution)	Other: