



Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin McGuire
Commissioner

Philippe Gille
First Deputy Commissioner

47483

DATE: June 26, 2015

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin McGuire
Commissioner of Social Services

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to amend contracts with Lifeline Systems Company, Lifestation and Link to Life (GTL-Inc.) for Personal Emergency System services under Title XIX of the Social Security Act and pursuant to the provisions of Sections 365-a and 367-g of New York State Social Services Law for the period September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2015 for a total amount not to exceed \$600,000 by extending the end date from August 31, 2015 to December 31, 2015 with no additional cost to the County.

By resolution approved on June 28, 2012, your Honorable Board authorized the County of Westchester, acting by and through the Department of Social Services, to enter into agreements with American Medical Alert Corporation, Lifeline Systems Company, Lifestation and Link to Life (GTL-Inc.) to provide Personal Emergency Response Systems (PERS) services to Medicaid enrollees who are in receipt of Personal Care Services under Title XIX of the Social Security Act and pursuant to the provisions of Sections 365-a and 367-g of New York State Social Services Law for the period September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$600,000. The four (4) agencies named above were chosen pursuant to a Request for Proposals ("RFP") issued in February, 2012. The County subsequently contracted with only three (3) of the agencies: Lifeline Systems Company, Lifestation and Link to Life (GTL-Inc. There was no contract with American Medical Alert Corporation.

Authority is now requested to amend the agreements with Lifeline Systems Company, Lifestation and Link to Life (GTL-Inc. by extending the end date from August 31, 2015 to December 31, 2015 with no additional cost to the County. The Department is requesting that these contracts be amended to allow time for the completion of the RFP process. The Department is anticipating that the new PERS contracts will take effect on or about January 1, 2016.

This contract serves a **public purpose** by providing PERS support to Medicaid enrollees receiving Personal Care. Personal Emergency Response Systems are telephone electronic monitoring devices that summon emergency assistance to homebound individuals.

The **goals and objectives** of this agreement are to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the elderly, chronically ill and disabled Medicaid recipients by providing them with a device that summons assistance in cases of emergency.

The goals and objectives are in the best interest of the County from a **public health and public safety** perspective since the PERS device acts as a guardian for those individuals who are homebound and vulnerable and ensures a swift response to their emergencies.

These **goals and objectives are also in the best interest of the County** as regards **fiscal** responsibility in that the PERS device reduces the need for the additional Personal Care hours that would be required to assure client safety. Medical Assistance expenditures are significantly reduced without an adverse impact on the recipients' quality of care. Also, the small cost of this device far outweighs the possible consequences for susceptible Medicaid patients whose home safety is an issue.

The **goals and objectives are tracked and monitored** by the Department of Social Services on an on-going basis using compliance indicators established through the contract.

The Department is able to report that during the last contract period, the vendors previously contracted with maintained compliance and timeliness in all of the following areas: provision of service; reliability of service; efficiency of emergency response and accuracy of reporting. From 2012 through May, 2015, the average monthly total of PERS subscribers was **561**. The average quarterly total for new installations was **8**.

We are now requesting that your Honorable Board approve the attached resolution for the County of Westchester to amend agreements with Lifeline Systems Company, Lifestation and Link to Life (GTL-Inc.) for the above stated purpose.

Except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the original agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

A Resolution requesting the same is attached for your approval.

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester be, and hereby is authorized to amend agreements with Lifeline Systems Company, Lifestation and Link to Life (GTL-Inc.) for Personal Emergency Response System services under Title XIX of the Social Security Act and pursuant to the provisions of Sections 365-a and 367-g of the New York State Social Services Law for the period September 1, 2012 through August 31, 2015 for an amount not to exceed \$600,000 by extending the end date from August 31, 2015 to December 31, 2015 at no additional cost to the County; and be it further

RESOLVED, that except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the original agreements shall remain in full force and effect; 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:	\$600,000
This amendment:	<u>\$ 0</u>
Total:	\$600,000

Account to be
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Budget Funding Year(s): Start Date: N/A End Date: 12/31/2015
(must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars: N/A

State Aid: N/A

\$N/A Federal Aid: N/A
(must match resolution)

Other:

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 01/22/2015 COUNTY CLERK SECRETARY