

Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

First Deputy Commissioner
Philippe Gille

55243

DATE: February 13, 2017

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin McGuire
Commissioner of Social Services

SUBJECT: **Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter an agreement with The Children's Village, Inc. for the provision of its Safe Harbor Program for the period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 in an amount not to exceed \$90,000 to be paid pursuant to an approved program budget and subject to appropriation.**

Authority is hereby requested for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services (the "Department"), to enter into an agreement with The Children's Village, Inc. ("Children's Village") pursuant to which Children's Village will provide its Safe Harbor Program (the "Program"), a multi-faceted approach to support and serve youth who have been sexually exploited for a term beginning on January 1, 2017 and ending on December 31, 2017 for an amount not to exceed Ninety Thousand (\$90,000) Dollars to be paid pursuant to an approved program budget and subject to appropriation.

The public purpose of this Program is to protect and serve exploited youth, thereby promoting public safety.

The goals and objectives of the Program are to strengthen the County's ability to serve sexually exploited youth in Westchester County. This includes a combination of individual clinical services, psycho-educational process groups, creative expression groups, as well as being more intentional this year with offering access to the programming and services available and the Children's Village Education and

Employment Center. In addition, the program provides youth with the opportunity to further their education and gain the invaluable job readiness skill required for them to acquire gainful employment.

These modalities will be blended, complimentary, and structured to help participants to process trauma, build self-esteem, establish coping mechanisms, promote personal and financial independence, and help achieve a higher level of functioning.

Target Referral: The definition of sexually exploited youth is quite broad and refers to a continuum of behaviors and circumstances ranging from being sexually abused by a family member or friend to being forced into the sex trade for food, money, or shelter- to being a victim of sexual assault or trafficked. All of these youth in this program, whether they have been previously charged with a crime or not, are victims of sexual assault and child sexual abuse.

Program performance will be tracked through milestones such as:

- Youth outreach and engagement measured by youth participation, attendance and program completion
- Youth reduced criminal behavior and/or satisfy the requirements of court or probation measured by arrest and/or probation report
- Youth involvement in pro-social positive activities including education, volunteer, employment, or recreational activity; measured by confirmation of youth participation in one of the aforementioned activities.

The Department is able to report that the Safe Harbor team, since its inception in June 2013 through our collaboration with Children's Village and the Department of Social Services Cross systems Unit (CSU), that 322 youths were referred to Safe Harbor for assessment and services for sex trafficking. 19 of these youths are still in the process of being assessed, therefore, outcomes are still pending. Out of the 322 youth who have been assessed, 118 were federally confirmed victims, 56 NYS confirmed victims (8 pending) with the remaining 174 having had low/medium indicators. In 2016 there were 193 referrals to the Safe Harbor Unit.

This agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures pursuant to Section 3(a) (xviii) as this contract is for the purpose of the providing programs for the advancement of the moral, physical, mental and social wellbeing of the youth of Westchester County.

The funding for this program is through the New York State Office of Children and Family Services.

Accordingly, the County of Westchester is hereby requesting authority to enter into an agreement with The Children's Village Inc. for the aforesaid purpose. An appropriate resolution is attached herewith for your Honorable Board's approval.

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with The Children’s Village, Inc. for the provision of the Safe Harbor Program for the period from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 for amount not to exceed Ninety Thousand (\$90,000) Dollars to be paid pursuant to an approved program budget; 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 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 either to 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 is hereby authorized to take such action and execute such documents as may be necessary and proper to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
263	22	487S	4380	T487	\$90,000

Budget Funding Year(s): 2017
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 01/01/17 End Date: 12/31/17

Funding Source

Tax Dollars: 0%
State Aid: 100%
Federal Aid: 0%
Other:

\$90,000
(must match resolution)