

George Latimer  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

74692

DATE: February 5, 2020

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

**SUBJECT: Authority to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. to provide grant funds in the sum of \$375,000, as part of the Youth Homelessness Prevention Initiative entitled Westchester Building Futures and to utilize the grant funds to enter into an agreement with the Children's Village, Inc. to provide the BraveLife Intervention Program in the amount of \$343,500 and to enter into an agreement with Fordham University to provide program evaluation consultant services in the amount of \$343,500 for the term September 30, 2019 through September 29, 2020.**

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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 a Memorandum of Understanding with Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. ("Mathematica") to provide grant funds in the amount of \$375,000, for use by the County as part of its BraveLife Intervention program (the "MOU") and to utilize the grant funds to enter into an agreement with Children's Village Inc. in the amount of \$343,500 to provide the BraveLife Intervention program to provide youth involvement and experience with trauma-informed child welfare professionals focusing of the elimination of homelessness among at-risk youth with foster care histories and to enter into an agreement with Fordham University in the amount of \$343,500 to provide program evaluation consultant services both for the term from September 30, 2019 through September 29, 2020. Mathematica is the prime contractor to the United States Department of Health & Human Services ("HHS"), Administration for Children and Families and is entering into this MOU at the direction of HHS in order to evaluate interventions for youth/young adults with child welfare involvement at risk of homelessness. The balance of the funds required to enter into the agreements with the Children's Village and with Fordham University have been

provided pursuant to a separate grant agreement with HHS to provide a Youth Homelessness Prevention Initiative entitled Westchester Building Futures - Phase Two Extension.

Because the federal funding for the Grant is a Non-Competing Continuation Grant, the agreements with the Children's Village, Inc. and with Fordham University may be entered into on a non-competitive basis because the awarding agency authorizes noncompetitive awards pursuant to 24 CFR 92.36(d)(4). The proposed agreements, above are exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy (the "Policy") pursuant to Policy Section 3(a)(xi) as County funding for this proposed Agreement is pursuant to the Grant Agreement.

The proposed Agreements **will serve a public purpose** by preventing youth homelessness within the County.

The **goals and objectives** of Westchester Building Futures ("WBF"), is a youth and community-driven planning process to develop a detailed blueprint for transforming Westchester's system of public and private resources to prevent homelessness among youth emerging from our child welfare system that can be rigorously evaluated, thoroughly documented, and replicated nationwide.

The **goals and objectives** of the proposed Agreement is **in the County's best interest** regarding **fiscal responsibility** as it will reduce homelessness and dependence on public assistance that not only improves the economic situation of the program participants but of the County as well by reducing the County's public assistance expenditures.

The **goals and objectives** of the proposed Agreement is also **in the County's best interest** regarding **public health and safety** as the operation of the program to obtain permanent housing and self-sufficiency that correspondingly improves the program participants' physical and psychological well-being and provides a safer and more stable overall environment.

The **performance measurement indicators** for WBF will cross four outcome areas: Stable Housing, Permanent Connections, Social and Emotional Well-being and Education/Employment

The **goals and objectives** of the Grant Agreement **will be tracked and monitored** by the Department that will include performance measurement indicator results.

Accordingly, authority is hereby requested for the County to enter into the MOU to receive grant funds and into agreements with the Children's Village, Inc. and with Fordham University to provide program services. I respectfully recommend your Honorable Board's approval of the attached Resolution.

KMM/DI

## R E S O L U T I O N

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 a Memorandum of Understanding with Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. (“Mathematica”) to provide grant funding in the amount of \$375,000 to provide a Youth Homelessness Prevention Initiative entitled Westchester Building Futures for approximate term September 30, 2019 through September 29, 2020 (the “MOU”); and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County is hereby further authorized to enter into an agreement with the Children’s Village, Inc. in the amount of \$343,500 to provide the BraveLife Intervention Program and to enter into an agreement with Fordham University in the amount of \$343,500 to provide program evaluation consultant services both for the term from September 30, 2019 through September 29, 2020, payable pursuant to an approved budget, 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/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
263	22	526S	9852	T526	\$375,000
263	22	526S	4380	T526	\$687,000

Budget Funding Year(s): 2019-2020      Start Date: 09/30/2019      End Date: 09/29/2020  
(must match resolution)

Funding Source	Tax Dollars:
<u>\$687,000</u> (expense)	State Aid:
<u>\$375,000</u> (Revenue):	Federal Aid: <u>100%</u>
must match resolution)	Other: