



George Latimer
Westchester County Executive

Benjamin Boykin II
Chairman,
Westchester County Board of
Legislators

ID# 78001

DATE: June 22, 2020

TO: The Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Honorable Benjamin Boykin II
Chairman, Westchester County Board of Legislators
and
Honorable George Latimer
Westchester County Executive

DATE: June 22, 2020

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into an agreement with Hudson Valley Justice Center, Inc., pursuant to which it would provide legal assistance to poor and low income immigrant communities in northern Westchester, specifically residing in Ossining and Peekskill, in matters related to housing, including eviction defense services, as well as conduct community outreach events and legal education presentations, for a term from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, for an amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00.

Authority is hereby requested from your Honorable Board for the County of Westchester (the "County"), to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with Hudson Valley Justice Center, Inc. (the "HVJC"), pursuant to which HVJC would provide legal assistance to poor and low income immigrant communities in northern Westchester, specifically Ossining and Peekskill, in matters related to housing, including eviction defense services, as well as conduct community outreach events and legal education presentations, for an amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00, payable quarterly, pursuant to an approved budget, for a term commencing on January 1, 2020 and continuing through December 31, 2020.

Pursuant to the Agreement, HVJC will, among other things, offer direct representation in eviction defense cases in northern Westchester and educate immigrants and community organizations on tenants' rights by offering remote presentations, workshops and distributing multilingual factsheets.

The proposed Agreement will serve a public purpose by providing legal assistance to low-income immigrant residents of northern Westchester County who face a shortage of affordable housing and access to subsidized housing units due to their legal status. HVJC will provide legal assistance to poor and low-income Northern Westchester County immigrant residents as well as conduct outreach events and legal education presentations.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are to provide legal assistance to poor and low-income Westchester County immigrant residents who cannot afford an attorney, regardless of immigration status, where basic human needs are at stake.

Authority to exempt the proposed Agreement from the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures, pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) thereof, has been submitted for your Board's consideration via separate resolution.

We respectfully recommend the adoption of the attached resolution.

BB/CMC

Encl.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION
2020 LICENSING SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Chairman of the Westchester County Board of Legislators and the Westchester County Executive, it is hereby:

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with Hudson Valley Justice Center, Inc. ("HVJC"), pursuant to which HVJC will legal assistance to poor and low-income northern Westchester County immigrant residents, specifically residing in Ossining and Peekskill, in matters related to housing, including eviction defense services as well as conduct outreach events and legal education presentations, for a term commencing on January 1, 2020 and continuing through December 31, 2020; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in consideration for the services to be rendered, HVJC will be paid an amount not to exceed \$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 HVJC, then HVJC shall have the right to terminate this Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Westchester County Board of Legislators or his duly authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute any documents and take any actions reasonably necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

Account to be charged/credited:

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase, Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Sub-Unit	Trust Account	Dollars	Funding Year
101	52	2508	5100	0010		\$25,000.00	2020
101	52	2508	5100	0011		\$25,000.00	2020

Budget Funding Year(s) 2020
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 1/1/2020

End Date: 12/31/2020

\$50,000.00

(must match resolution)

Funding Source:

Tax Dollars \$50,000.00

State Aid _____

Federal Aid _____

Other _____