

79145

Date: September 2, 2020

To: Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Aleksandar Milovanovic, M.D.
Pathologist/ Deputy Medical Examiner

Re: Request for authority to enter into an agreement with the State of New York, acting by and through the New York State Department of Health, to accept a grant in the amount of \$120,000 for the Department of Laboratories and Research to be reimbursed for providing SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 testing for the term 5/18/20 - 5/17/21.

Authority is requested for the County of Westchester, acting by and through the Department of Laboratories & Research (the "Department"), to enter into an agreement with the State of New York, acting by and through the New York State Department of Health ("NYSDOH"), to accept a grant in the amount of \$120,000 for the Department to be reimbursed the costs of providing SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 testing (the "Grant") for the period from 5/18/20 through 5/17/21 (the "Agreement"). The grant is being administered through Health Research, Inc., the contractor of the NYSDOH.

The NYSDOH awarded the Grant because the Departments' Public Health Laboratory is the only lab in the region that is approved as a Laboratory Response Network ("LRN") Reference laboratory by NYSDOH and the Centers for Disease Control ("CDC"), and is approved to receive LRN assays provided by the CDC. The Department participates in proficiency testing through the LRN as well as the Quality Assurance Program provided by the Wadsworth Center and maintains the capability to accept samples 24/7/365 for laboratory testing when required during a public health emergency and/or requested by law enforcement. The Department will also provide scientific and technical guidance to their local labs regarding SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 specimen collection, packaging, transport, testing and reporting, and assist with compliance related issues.

The proposed Grant will provide reimbursement to the County for SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 testing and related costs. The Grant funds will enable the Department to cover expenses related to providing necessary testing during the current COVID-19 public health emergency.

The Agreement will serve a public purpose by enhancing the quality of SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 specimen collection, packaging, transport, testing and reporting during the pandemic.

Entering into the proposed Agreement is in best interests of the County because during the current public health emergency, increasing the SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 testing availability in Westchester County will provide information necessary to end the pandemic.

The Grant will be tracked and monitored through quarterly progress reports provided to the granting authority.

As this Agreement does not constitute a procurement of goods or services, the provisions of the Westchester County Procurement Policy are not applicable.

I certify that my department, a) has copies of, or access to all applicable laws, rules, regulations, grant applications, and grant agreements (including any master agreement), as well as any guidance or instructions received from the agency making the grant (the "Grant Terms"), b), has reviewed the Grant Terms, c) is aware of and understands all of the Grant Terms, and d) can and will comply with all of the Grant Terms.

An appropriate resolution is herewith attached for your Honorable Board's consideration.

AM/DI

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Pathologist/Deputy Medical Examiner, be it hereby:

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester, acting by and through the Department of Laboratories & Research (the "Department"), is authorized to enter into an Agreement with the State of New York, acting by and through the New York State Department of Health as administered by Health Research, Inc. to accept a grant in the amount of \$120,000 for the Department to provide SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 testing and related services for the period from May 18, 2020 through May 17, 2021; 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 effect the purposes hereof.

Account to be
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
263	31	G022-V022	9853	G022	\$120,000

Budget Funding Year(s) Current Start Date 5/18/2020 End Date: 5/17/2021
(must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars _____
State Aid _____
\$ 120,000 Federal Aid \$120,000 Federal Pass Thru _____
(must match resolution) Other _____