

84546

To: Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Leonard G. Townes
Commissioner of Social Services

Date: April 23, 2021

Re: **Authority for the County to enter into an Agreement with Youth Shelter Program of Westchester, Inc. ("Youth Shelter") to operate an alternative to incarceration program entitled Mount Vernon Emerging Adult Justice Initiative for individuals aged 18 to 25 in the adult criminal court system for the term April 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$53,000, payable pursuant to an approved budget.**

Authority is requested for your Honorable Board to authorize the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Social Services ("Department"), to enter into an agreement with the Youth Shelter Program of Westchester, Inc. ("Youth Shelter") to operate an alternative to incarceration program entitled the Mount Vernon Emerging Adult Justice Initiative for individuals aged 18 to 25 in the adult criminal court system for the term April 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$53,000, payable pursuant to an approved budget (the "Agreement"). The proposed program will serve as a specialty part of Mount Vernon City Court and will work in collaboration with the Office of Chief Administrative Judge of the Ninth Judicial District, local city court judges, Westchester County District Attorney's office and the defense bar to establish the appropriate and suitable criteria for participation in the program. The program will provide a model using accountability, structure, mental health and substance abuse counseling, community service, job opportunities, skills training and development, apprenticeship and mentoring opportunities, and educational development as well as GED opportunities to achieve the goal diverting young people from incarceration.

The proposed agreement serves the **public purpose** of an alternative to incarceration program for emerging adults aged 18 through 25. Thus program is in the best interests of the County and is fiscally responsible as it will ensure the health and safety of the emerging adults by diverting them from the criminal justice system.

The proposed agreement serves the **public purpose** of providing accountability, structure, mental health and substance abuse counseling, community service, job opportunities, skills training and development, apprenticeship and mentoring opportunities, and educational development as well as GED opportunities to individuals aged 18 to 25.

The goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored through performance measurement indicators developed by the Department. The tracking and monitoring include the submission of monthly statistics and quarterly reports as well as direct contact with the Department staff in order to swiftly address any impediments to the program's success.

The proposed agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a)(xiv) thereof as this is an agreement with a not-for-profit organization for the purpose of providing aid, care and support to persons in need of public assistance.

A resolution is annexed hereto, which I recommend for your favorable consideration.

LGT/DI
Attachment

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 03/20/2021 - USM/PAJ, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from 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 Youth Shelter Program of Westchester, Inc. (“Youth Shelter”) to operate an alternative to incarceration program entitled the Mount Vernon Emerging Adult Justice Initiative for individuals aged 18 to 25 in the adult criminal court system for the term April 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an amount not to exceed \$53,000, payable pursuant to an approved budget (the “Agreement”); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 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 (“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 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 impact of any such budget(s) 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 the Contractor then the Contractor shall have the right to terminate the Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is empowered to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be
Charged/credited
2021

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub Object	Trust Account	Dollars
101	22	8900	5960		\$53,000

Budget Funding Year(s) 2021
(must match resolution)

Start Date 4/1/21 End Date 12/31/21

Funding Source

Tax Dollars: 49% _____

State Aid: 30% _____

\$53,000
(must match resolution)

Federal Aid: 21% _____

Other: _____

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 05/20/2021 - ELISA MARIJAJ, SECRETARY