

DATE: April 2, 2010

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Mae Carpenter, Commissioner  
Department of Senior Programs and Services

RE: Authority to enter into an Agreement with the New York State Office for the Aging to accept a grant in the amount of \$2,501,626.00 to provide services under the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program for the program period April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011

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The County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through the Department of Senior Programs and Services (the "Department"), seeks authority from your Honorable Board to enter into an agreement with the New York State Office for the Aging ("NYOSFA") to accept a grant in the amount of \$2,501,626.00 to provide funding for the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program ("EISEP") for the program period April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011.

Of the \$2,501,626 in grant funds, \$1,969,624 will be used to provide subcontracted homemaker, housekeeper, respite care, case management and personal emergency response system services to frail, homebound seniors under EISEP. The balance of \$532,002 will be used directly by the Department to provide case management services, service management and area agency administration.

The proposed agreement serves a public purpose by providing services that enable seniors to remain at home, as most seniors would prefer, and thereby prevents premature institutionalization, which would come at greater expense and in a less-desired environment.

The goal and objective of the proposed agreement is to help seniors remain in their homes in the community through the provision of quality home care services, emergency response systems, sitter companions and social model day care programs to provide relief and respite to their caregiver(s).

The goal and objective of the proposed agreement is in the best interests of the County in terms of health and environment. The services to be provided with the grant funds will offer improved health and quality of life for the frail elderly and their caregivers by easing their burden through the provision of homemaker and housekeeper services, emergency response services and providing respite care through sitter companions and social model day care programs. The proposed agreement is also in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility, as it will supply New York State (the "State") funds for services to be provided to County residents, at no cost to the County.

The goal and objective of the proposed agreement will be tracked and monitored by case managers through bi-monthly calls to seniors and their caregivers as to the quality of the services they are receiving and their satisfaction with the services. In addition, staff monitors and reviews case managers' client case records and records of service at the agencies providing these services, using forms approved by NYSOFA. Review of the program is done annually by a County monitor, as well as a monitor from NYSOFA.

For the previous fiscal year, 326 seniors received a personal emergency response system and 145,562 hours of homemaker and housekeeping services. There were 35 families who benefited from 9,296 hours of respite services through the In Home Sitter Companion program. There were also 30 seniors who attended a Social Model Adult Day Care Program that provided their caregivers with 19,078 hours of respite.

If this resolution were not approved, the County would not receive these available funds from the State, and would not be able to provide the aforementioned services to the elderly residents of the County in the manner envisioned by the County and State, when the State made these funds available. If these services were not in place, seniors in need of these services would be forced to go into nursing homes to receive the care they need, which would be more costly for the person, their family and the County, as they would immediately or shortly need Medicaid dollars to pay for their care. In addition, as seniors see nursing homes as bringing them a step closer to the end of life, they would, in many cases, lose hope and become depressed, which would affect their health most negatively. Their caregivers would suffer with guilt, as well as, in many instances, finding that they would not have the time to visit their loved one as much as they cared to, or as much as they needed to.

Accordingly, I recommend adoption of the proposed annexed resolution.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION  
JAMES J. HARRIS, COUNTY CLERK  
SECRETARY

## RESOLUTION

UPON COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, BE IT HEREBY:

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the New York State Office for the Aging, to accept a grant in the amount of \$2,501,626.00 to provide case management, in-home homemaker, housekeeper, respite, and personal emergency response system services to frail, homebound elderly who reside in Westchester County under the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program, for the program period April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee be, and hereby is, authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

This Agreement        \$2,501,626  
 TOTAL                    \$2,501,626  
 Agreement #

Account to be  
 Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
263	85	048K	9854	T048	\$2,501,626

Budget Funding Year(s) 2010-2011 Start Date 4/1/10 End Date 3/31/11  
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source                    Tax Dollars \_\_\_\_\_  
     State Aid        \$2,501,626  
\$2,501,626                            Federal Aid        \_\_\_\_\_  
 (must match resolution)        Other                \_\_\_\_\_