

11468

May 10, 2010

TO: The Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Marlene E. Furtick, Executive Director
Westchester County Youth Bureau

RE: Authority to enter into an Agreement with Family Services of Westchester, Inc. to operate the Respite II program for the program period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 in a total amount not to exceed \$111,600.

Authority is hereby requested for the County of Westchester to enter into an Agreement with Family Services of Westchester, Inc. (the "Agency") to operate the Respite II Program for the program period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 in a total amount not to exceed \$111,600, subject to appropriation and pursuant to an approved individual budget. The County Department of Social Services will provide Community Optional Preventive Services (COPS) funding in the amount of \$71,090 as well as the local tax levy match requirement in the amount of \$40,510 for a total contract amount of \$111,600.

The COPS funding is designed to support community/neighborhood based youth services and parenting programs aimed at reducing youth risk-taking behaviors. Examples of services include family resource centers, drop out prevention programs, parent skills training, mentoring and tutoring programs, independent living skills, job training and linkage with employment, pregnancy prevention, HIV/AIDS prevention, conflict resolution and gang and youth violence prevention.

The Respite II Program will provide 110 youth, who have significant mental health needs, with therapeutic activities and wrap around supports designed for their special needs and circumstances, all of which foster the development of protective factors so that they can remain in the community and avoid deterioration, hospitalization and out of home placement, and to provide family support and respite for their multi-stressed caregivers. The program is also designed to promote and support community-based activities (like summer Camp Success) for the high risk children.

The goals and objectives of this agreement are as follows:

- Of the 110 youth who will participate in the Respite II Program, 81 will improve their ability to remain safely in the community as measured by a decrease in hospitalizations and out-of-home placements during 2010.
- Of the 31 children who will participate in the Summer Camp Success component of the program, 25 will report having felt safe and having had a good time as measured by their responses to the Camp Success Camper Evaluation. This is especially important with this population, as none of the children accepted to the summer program have had positive summer program experiences (in other programs) in the past.
- Of the 31 children who will participate in the Summer Camp Success component of the Respite II Program, 25 caregivers and case managers will report positive achievement of goals for their children as measured by responses to the Camp success Caregiver and Caseworker Evaluations.

- Of the 110 youth who will participate in the Respite II Program, 81 will demonstrate an increase in positive social skills by achieving one or more of the following:
 - Interacting appropriately with peers / building friendships
 - Asking for assistance from staff when needed (especially important because many children in the program tend to be oppositional with adults)
 - Demonstrating anger management skills
 - Demonstrating cooperation by taking turns, waiting on line, etc.

Each of these achievements will be evidenced by the staff members' written narrative reports of the children's participation in Respite II programming.

This agreement is in the best interest of the County in terms of public safety, because Respite's primary focus is to serve children and adolescents who have serious emotional disorders and who are identified by a mental health program or Family Ties as being at immediate risk of residential or correctional placement or psychiatric hospitalization. Respite care reduces family stress, supports family stability, prevents abuse and neglect, and minimizes the need for out of home placement. In one of the few controlled studies of the effectiveness of respite care for families of children with emotional and behavioral disorders, families who received an average of 23 hours per month of respite care reported fewer out-of-home placements, greater optimism about caring for their child at home, and reduced care-giving stress compared with similar families that were on a waiting list (Bruns and Burchard, 2000). Serving these youth in their own community is more cost effective than sending them to a residential facility or a hospital for treatment, saving taxpayers money. If this resolution were not approved, the taxpayer would be faced with increased costs associated with placing these youth in residential or correctional placement or psychiatric hospitalization.

Each of the goals and objectives as stated above will be tracked and monitored through monthly, quarterly and annual reports and by site visits from Youth Bureau Program Monitors.

This program was funded in 2009 and achieved its stated outcomes. The outcomes are as follows:

- Of the 233 (123 more than contracted for) youth who participated in the Respite II Program, 202 (121 more than contracted for) remained safely in the community as measured by a decrease in hospitalizations and/or out of home placements during 2009.
- Of the 233 (123 more than contracted for) youth who participated in the Respite II program, 233 (152 more than contracted for) demonstrated an increase in positive social skills by achieving one or more of the following:
 - Interacting appropriately with peers / building friendships
 - Asking for assistance from staff when needed (especially important because many children in the program tend to be oppositional with adults)
 - Demonstrating anger management skills
 - Demonstrating cooperation by taking turns, waiting on line, etc.
- Of the 32 (One more than contracted for) children who participated in the Summer Camp Success component of the program, 25 (3 more than contracted for) attended the Camp Reunion and completed evaluations which verified all youth having felt safe and having had a good time. This is especially important with this population as none of the children accepted to the Summer Camp Success program have had positive summer program experiences in other programs in the past.
- Of the 32 (one more than contracted for) children who participated in the Summer Camp Success component of the Respite II program, 25 caregivers and case managers reported positive achievement of goals for their children as measured by responses to the Camp Success Caregiver and Caseworker evaluations.

This Agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to section 3(a)xviii thereof. Nevertheless, in 2008 the Youth Bureau issued an RFP to cover the

program years 2009 – 2011. This agency is one of 94 agencies that submitted a proposal in response to the RFP.

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

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 5-27-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Executive Director of the Westchester County Youth Bureau, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an Agreement with Family Services of Westchester, Inc. to operate the Respite II Program for the program period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 in a total amount not to exceed One Hundred Eleven Thousand Six Hundred (\$111,600) Dollars, subject to appropriation and pursuant to an approved individual budget. The County Department of Social Services will provide Community Optional Preventive Services (COPS) funding in the amount of Seventy One Thousand Ninety (\$71,090) Dollars as well as the local tax levy match requirement in the amount of Forty Thousand Five Hundred Ten (\$40,510) Dollars for a total contract amount of \$111,600; 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 the Contractor, then that Contractor shall have the right to terminate their Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; 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.

Original Agreement
 First Amendment
 This Amendment
 New Total Amount

Account to be Charged/Credited	Fund	Dept.	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub Object	Trust Account	Dollars
DSS	263	11	613K	4380	T613	\$111,600

Budget Funding Year(s) Start Date January 1, 2010
 (must match resolution)

End Date December 31, 2010

Funding Source: Tax Dollars \$40,510

Contractor Federal I.D. No./
 Social Security No.: _____

State Aid \$71,090
\$ 111,600 Federal Aid _____
 (must match resolution)

Vendor No.: 991849

Other _____

Encumbrance No.: YTH1016