

12948

DATE September 13, 2010

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Edward Buroughs
Acting Commissioner of Planning

SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing the County of Westchester to Enter Into an Agreement With Legal Services of the Hudson Valley for the Provision of Legal Services to Eligible Low Income Families in Connection with Housing Resettlement and Eviction Prevention in an Amount Not to Exceed \$343,248.00 for the period of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010

The attached Resolution authorizes the County of Westchester to enter into an Agreement with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley for the provision of legal services for eligible low income families and families who are at risk of becoming homeless to ensure that they obtain permanent habitable housing. The term of the agreement will commence on January 1, 2010 and continue through December 31, 2010. The amount of the agreement shall not exceed \$343,248.00 pursuant to an approved budget.

Legal Services of the Hudson Valley provides legal representation to eligible low income families to assist with housing resettlement and eviction prevention. Many of these families are homeless or are incurring rental obligations which exceed the housing allowances provided by the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance. Many are also eligible for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families ("TANF"). It is anticipated that Legal Services of the Hudson Valley will assist at least 210 households in receiving eviction prevention services, in order to prevent them from becoming homeless. All families in this program will be eligible for some form of public assistance.

This agreement will serve the public purpose of preventing homelessness in Westchester County and exhibit fiscal responsibility through reduced dependency on Social Service benefits.

The goal and objective is to provide legal assistance for approximately 500 new legal matters involving housing matters for low income households who are in imminent danger of becoming homeless in Westchester County. The program will be monitored by the Department of Planning staff, who will review the payment requests to make sure all contractual requirements are met.

This procurement is exempt from the procedures of the County Procurement Policy and Procedures, pursuant to Section 3a(xiv) of said Policy.

Accordingly, a resolution to authorize an agreement with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, is hereby submitted for your consideration.

I recommend approval of this agreement.

EB/dg
Attachment

RESOLUTION

UPON A COMMUNICATION FROM THE ACTING COMMISSIONER OF PLANNING, BE IT HEREBY

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley for the provision of legal services to public assistance eligible families in connection with housing resettlement and eviction prevention, for the period January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, for a total amount not-to-exceed \$343,248.00, 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 subject to County Appropriations and this contract is 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. That the County shall retain the right, upon the occurrence of any release by the Governor of a proposed budget of the State of New York and/or the adoption of the State budget or any amendments thereto, and after the County has a reasonable period of time to conduct an analysis of the impact of such budget(s) on County finances, to terminate this Agreement authorized herein 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 this Agreement upon reasonable written notice, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee be and hereby is authorized to execute any and all documents necessary and appropriate to effectuate purposes hereof, and be it further

Recommended for Approval:

Account to be Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub Object	Trust Account	Dollars
101	19	0100	4420	N/A	\$343,248.00

Budget Funding Year(s) 2010 Start Date January 1, 2010 End Date December 31, 2010
(must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars \$343,248.00
State Aid _____
\$343,248.00 Federal Aid _____
(must match resolution) Other _____