

Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Grant E. Mitchell, M.D.
Acting Commissioner

15151

DATE: October 25, 2010

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Grant E. Mitchell, MD
Acting Commissioner, Department of Social Services

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the **Youth Shelter Program of Westchester, Inc.** for the provision of shelter services as an alternative to jail for boys aged sixteen to twenty-one who have been arraigned and assigned to the program by a judge for the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 for an amount not to exceed \$788,372 to be paid monthly at an approximated per diem of \$179.99 pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation

The County of Westchester requests authorization to enter into an agreement with the Youth Shelter Program of Westchester, Inc. to provide shelter services as an alternative to jail for boys, aged sixteen to twenty-one, who have been arraigned and assigned to the program by a judge, for the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, for an amount not to exceed \$788,372 to be paid monthly at an approximated per diem of \$179.99 pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation.

The Youth Shelter Program of Westchester, Inc. has been successfully operating this program for the past twenty-one years. It provides youth assigned to the program, who are awaiting disposition of criminal charges in various courts in Westchester County, with counseling, substance abuse treatment, food, shelter and medical care in a structure that emphasizes responsibility and individualized attention. The amount requested is the same as that of last year.

The **public purpose** of the program is to ensure the public safety of Westchester County residents as well as those persons in danger of becoming involved with criminal activities, by assisting referred youth to become educated, productive members of society, rather than marked by criminality and incarceration, thus promoting a safer community for Westchester County residents. Without the intervention of the support services provided by the Youth Shelter Program of Westchester, Inc., the county's at-risk youth population could become further involved with illegal activities, thus impacting on an increase in crime.

The **goals and objectives** of the program are to provide the following services:

- ensure a home-like environment as an alternative to jail for the program's young men ages 16 to 21, who are first and second time offenders awaiting adjudication for various charges in courts throughout Westchester County.
- educate these residents through state certified high school education programs

- motivate these residents through various types of social and recreational programs
- offer these residents the means to function as positive, contributing members of society by providing linkages to counseling, treatment and other supportive services

The goals and objectives of this program are in **the best interest of the County in terms of public safety and the environment** as they are aimed at creating a safer environment for County residents by educating, motivating and providing the arraigned youth with opportunities to become better persons upon their final adjudication and release.

The goals and objectives are in **the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** as the program is designed to reduce the number of youth entering into the County's jail.

- The cost per child for the youth shelter is \$179 per day
- The cost for the Westchester County Jail is \$250 per day.
- The cost for secured detention is \$317 per day
- The cost for non-secured detention is \$323 per day

The **goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored** using the performance measurement indicators developed by the Department and approved by the County Budget Office. They include submission of quarterly reports and meetings and other direct contact with D.S.S. staff in order to swiftly address any impediments to the successful execution of the objectives and intents as detailed in the contract.

The **Department is able to report that the vendor's Performance Measurement Indicators** reflect that the shelter program met its goal of housing eligible customers referred by the Department. The facility accepted 100% of appropriate referrals during the 2010 contract period. As of 9/30/10, this program effectively served 43 residents who were admitted directly from the Valhalla Correctional Facility; 20 or 47% of the 43 young men served returned to their homes.

This contract is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a) (xviii) as the proposed agreement is for the purpose of youth service projects and other appropriate programs aimed at preventing youth crimes and advancing the moral, social and mental well-being of the youth in Westchester County.

Accordingly, the County of Westchester is hereby requesting permission to enter into an agreement with the Youth Shelter Program of Westchester, Inc. for the above said purpose.

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

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACTS 12/2/10 - JONATHAN VERA, SECRETARY

R E S O L U T I O N

Upon a communication from the Acting Commissioner 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.** to operate a shelter as an alternative to jail for boys, aged sixteen to twenty-one, who have been arraigned and assigned to the program by a judge at a facility known as the Youth Shelter of Westchester, for the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, for an amount not to exceed \$788,372 to be paid monthly at an approximated per diem of \$179.99 pursuant to an approved budget, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Contract is subject to County Appropriation; 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 the Contractor shall have the right to terminate this Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is empowered to execute any document necessary to implement this Resolution.

Account to be
Charged/Credited

	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
2011	101	22	8900	5630	_____	\$788,372

Budget Funding Year(s): 2010
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 01/01/11

End Date: 12/31/11

Funding Source

Tax Dollars: 25%

State Aid: 25%

\$788,372
(must match resolution)

Federal Aid: 50%

Other _____