

17047

Memorandum

Department of Public Safety
Drug Prevention & STOP DWI

January 20, 2011

TO: The Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: George N. Longworth
Commissioner-Sheriff of Public Safety

Vito Pinto
Director, STOP-DWI

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into an agreement with Student Assistance Services Corporation to provide the educational program Reduce Our Adolescents' Drinking, Drugging and Driving ("ROADD"), the STOP-DWI Teen Drinking Project and other related programs in selected high schools throughout Westchester County for the term January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, at a cost not to exceed \$325,000.00

Authority is requested for the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with Student Assistance Services Corporation to provide the educational program Reduce Our Adolescents' Drinking, Drugging and Driving ("ROADD"), the STOP-DWI Teen Drinking Project and other related educational programs in selected high schools in Westchester County for a term commencing on January 1, 2011 and continuing through December 31, 2011 for an amount not to exceed \$325,000.00 to be paid in accordance with an approved budget.

This contract is necessary to continue the current level of in-school services to high school students served by ROADD counselors. Westchester teenagers have exhibited increased alcohol and drug use as well as other risky behaviors. The services provided under this contract will enable the County to continue to offer in-school educational and

counseling services to area High Schools, which will teach students alternatives to drinking, drugging and driving while impaired.

The goals and objectives of this project shall be tracked and monitored by the STOP-DWI Program staff by meeting monthly with the Student Assistant Services staff and high school counselors. The goal of the Reduce Our Adolescents' Drinking, Drugging and Driving (ROADD) Program is to prevent alcohol and other drug impaired driving among high school students in Westchester County. The target population is 1600 students in grades 9-12 in at least 12 public, private, and parochial schools in Westchester County.

The objectives of the program are:

1. To increase knowledge related to alcohol, marijuana, and other drugs and driving among the target population;
2. To increase perception of the risk of harm of driving under the influence of alcohol, marijuana, and other drugs among the target population;
3. To increase behavioral intention to avoid using alcohol, marijuana and other drugs among the target population.

Progress towards these objectives will be measured through a pre/post-test design. The pre-test is administered to students in the first session. The post-test is administered in the last session. All surveys are completely anonymous, confidential and voluntary. A letter to parents/guardians is sent home prior to the start of program to allow them to exclude their child(ren) from the survey administration.

The Office of Drug Prevention and STOP-DWI will visit at least one class each month during the school year, in addition to attending all TDAC meetings, Westchester Coalition for Drug and Alcohol Free Youth meetings and shall supervise and direct all other summits, meetings and trainings conducted by SAS for the Office of STOP-DWI. The department shall also receive an annual report which will include the results of pre and post-test evaluation.

This educational project is funded entirely by the STOP-DWI Program at no cost to the taxpayers or the participating schools of Westchester County. STOP-DWI funds education and enforcement activities designed to prevent intoxicated driving in Westchester County. The County has experienced a significant decline in DWI deaths as a result of STOP-DWI projects. STOP-DWI is funded by return to the County of all fines paid by those convicted of violating the driving while intoxicated laws.

Results of the 2009-2010 ROADD Program are indicated below:

STUDENT ASSISTANCE SERVICES

ROADD (Reduce Our Adolescents' Drinking, Drugging and Driving) is an educational program aimed at preventing drinking, drugging, and driving among high school students. The goals of the ROADD Program include:

Providing accurate information and correcting erroneous beliefs regarding alcohol, other drugs, and their effects on driving.

Teaching students the skills to set goals, make decisions, refuse situational pressures around drinking, drugging and driving, and find where to go for help.

Encouraging students to become involved with related issues on a community level.

The ROADD Program reached 1,527 students in the 2009-2010 school year. These students each received the full six session educational program and the opportunity to meet separately with the ROADD health educator. Of these students, 13% were in 9th grade, 64% in 10th grade, 12% in 11th grade and 11% in 12th grade. This fits with the target of the ROADD program, which is to work with students who are just beginning to drive.

In addition, 333 students met separately with their assigned ROADD staff. This represents 22% of the total number of students participating in the program. Of these students, ROADD staff referred 98 students for additional services. These are students currently abusing alcohol or other drugs or affected by a family member's alcohol or drug use. ROADD staff referred a total of 29% of the students interviewed. This exceeds the target range of referrals, which is 15%.

All ROADD Program counselors, who work with the students, participate in at least 35 hours of professional development during the reporting period. The topics of the trainings include current alcohol and other drug trends, impaired driving, and effective prevention and intervention techniques.

The ROADD Program continues to support the Teen Drinking Action Council (TDAC). TDAC is a group of Westchester High School Students who are dedicated to providing leadership in supporting alcohol and drug free lifestyles among their peers. During this reporting period, over 75 students participated in at least one TDAC activity, with a core group of about 20 students who have participated in at least three TDAC activities over the year.

To assess the ROADD program, an 18-item survey was constructed assessing knowledge, perception of harm, behavioral intentions, attitudes, and perception of peer disapproval associated with drinking, drugging and driving. During the 2009-2010 school year, 1,403 students completed the survey.

Data from the pretest and post-test surveys were examined and analyzed to determine the overall effectiveness of the ROADD Program. T-tests were performed to determine if there were changes on students' knowledge, attitudes and behaviors associated with drinking, drugging and driving after participating in the ROADD Program.

The results showed an improvement from pre to post test on 89% of the measures of perception of risk or harm and behavioral intention. The following are among the results that are statistically significant:

- Students were more likely to stop and think about their options and how their decisions affect their health and safety.
- Students increased their perception of the harmfulness of using marijuana and driving and using other drugs and driving.
- Students reported they would be less likely to drive after smoking marijuana and less likely to accept a ride from someone who had been smoking marijuana.

All of these results are statistically significant.

This agreement is exempt from the Procedures of the Westchester County Procurement Policy under section 3(a)xviii.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 2-10-2011 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

R E S O L U T I O N

Upon a communication from the Commissioner-Sheriff of Public Safety and the Director of STOP-DWI, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Public Safety, is authorized to enter into an agreement with Student Assistance Services Corporation to provide the educational program Reduce Our Adolescents' Drinking, Drugging and Driving ("ROADD"), the STOP-DWI Teen Drinking Project and other related programs in selected high schools in Westchester County for a term commencing on January 1, 2011 and continuing through December 31, 2011 for an amount not to exceed \$325,000.00 to be paid in accordance with 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 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 the State Budget or any amendments thereto, and for a reasonable period of time after such release(s) or Adoptions(s), to conduct an analysis 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 authorized designee is authorized and empowered to execute and deliver all instruments and take all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purpose hereof.

Account to be
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
711	71	004L	4380	T004	\$325,000.00

Budget Funding Year(s) **2011** Start Date: **January 1, 2011** End Date: **December 31, 2011**
(must match resolution)

Funding Source

Tax Dollars _____

State Aid _____

\$325,000.00

Federal Aid _____

(must match resolution)

Other: STOP-DWI Fines and Funding iaw VTL s/s 1192-1194

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 240-2011 - JOMAR VIEIRA, SECRETARY