

18115

March 29, 2011

TO: The Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Mary Kate Cabaleiro, Coordinator
Westchester County Youth Bureau

RE: Authority to enter into an Agreement with The Children's Village, Inc. to operate the Sanctuary Program - Case Management Services component for the program period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 in a total amount not to exceed \$82,450.00

Authority is hereby requested for the County of Westchester to enter into an Agreement with The Children's Village, Inc. ("Children's Village") pursuant to which Children's Village will operate the Sanctuary Program - Case Management Services component of the Program for the program period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 in a total amount not to exceed \$82,450.00, subject to appropriation and pursuant to an approved individual budget. The Westchester County Department of Social Services will provide Community Optional Preventive Services ("COPS") funding in the amount of \$52,521.00 as well as the required local tax levy funding in the amount of \$29,929.00 for a total contract amount of \$82,450.00.

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, dropout 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.

This agreement aims to meet the immediate needs of 200 runaway and homeless youth and youth needing respite services, through the operation of a 14 bed shelter that is open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. The program provides medical and psychiatric assessment; individual, family and group counseling; preventive education; and referral and aftercare services. Program staff, working in partnership with youth, will utilize a wide array of support systems in an attempt to reunite the youth with their families, or, when that is not possible, to help them make a successful transition to an alternative living situation. This follow up can last as long as 6 months if the family cares to participate.

The goals and objectives of this agreement are as follows:

- Of the 200 at risk or disaffiliated youth who seek shelter, 200 or 100% will be SAFE as defined below:
 - Youth admitted to the program will be safe while in the Sanctuary. Food, shelter and clothing will be provided as needed. They will be listened to as they tell their story about coming to the shelter and this will be documented in the case record.
 - 95 % of the youth admitted to the Sanctuary will attend their school of origin within at least the first 48 hours after admission (or within 2 school days).
 - 150 or 75% will leave for an improved (safer) living situation as witnessed by services provided to the family or origin or a new supported living arrangement. This will be documented in the case notes.
 - 175 or 87.5% will have a safe exit from the Sanctuary by leaving following the agreed-upon discharge plan.

- Of the 500 Hotline calls that the Sanctuary will receive from callers needing either concrete and immediate assistance or information identified in the content of the call –
 - 500 or 100% will be provided with information or community-based referrals to help them resolve whatever difficulty they were experiencing which motivated the call as noted on the Hotline call sheet
 - 100% of those youth between 12 and 17 years of age who request a safe place to stay due to a crisis will be admitted to the shelter as noted in their admission documents
- Of the 200 youth who utilize shelter services 175 or 87.5% will be offered Aftercare Services to maintain a life free of crisis and disruption resulting in family splintering and youth placement.
 - 20 youth and their families will continue with Aftercare services for 90 days
 - 5 youth will become participants of the Youth Advisory Committee as new members
 - 10 families will receive assistance of food or other tangible goods to ease financial burdens at home

The families engaged in Aftercare will remain connected to their community-based agencies identified in the discharge plan to help them stabilize and improve family functioning. The Aftercare worker will advocate with the community-based agencies if a problem is identified and the family feels ill-equipped to address without support.

The proposed program is in the best interest of the County in terms of public safety because the Sanctuary program provides a safe, nurturing environment for youth who might otherwise be homeless and in the streets. The program helps them reunite with their families or find a safe supportive living situation.

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 2010 and achieved their outcomes as follows:

The goals and objectives of this agreement are as follows:

- Of the 200 youth who utilized shelter services, 175 were offered Aftercare Services to maintain a life free of crisis and disruption resulting in family splintering and youth placement.
 - 43 youth (20 more than contracted for) and their families continued with Aftercare services for 90 days
 - 5 youth became participants of the Youth Advisory Committee as new members
 - 27 families (17 more than contracted for) received assistance of food or other tangible goods to ease financial burdens at home
- Of the 200 at risk or disaffiliated youth who seek shelter, 200 or 100% will be SAFE as defined below:
 - 212 youth (12 more than contracted for) were admitted to the program and were considered safe while in the Sanctuary. They will have basic needs of food, shelter and clothing (as needed) provided. They were listened to as they told their story about coming to the shelter and this was documented in the case record.
 - 200 youth (50 more than contracted for) were provided case management services to the youth and their families allowing youth to leave for an improved (safer) living situation as witnessed by services provided to the family of origin or a new supported living arrangement as documented in the case notes.
 - Of the 210 youth discharged (35 more than contracted for) were able to have a safe exit from the Sanctuary by leaving following the agreed upon discharge plan.
- Of the 500 Hotline calls that the Sanctuary were expected to receive,
 - 711 (211 more than contracted for) callers were provided with information and/or community based referrals to help them resolve whatever difficulty they were experiencing, which motivated the call as noted on the Hotline call sheet. 212 youth who

requested a safe place to stay due to a crisis were admitted to the shelter as noted in their admission documents.

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.



RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an Agreement with The Children’s Village, Inc. (“Children’s Village”) pursuant to which Children’s Village will operate the Sanctuary Program - Case Management Services component for the program period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 in a total amount not to exceed Eighty Two Thousand Four Hundred Fifty (\$82,450.00) Dollars, pursuant to an approved individual budget. The County Department of Social Services will provide Community Optional Preventive Services (COPS) funding in the amount of Fifty Two Thousand Five Hundred Twenty One (\$52,521.00) Dollars as well as the required local tax levy funding in the amount of Twenty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Nine (\$29,929.00) Dollars for a total contract amount of \$82,450.00; 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 Agreements. 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.

Account to be charged/credited	Fund	Dept. code	Unit #	Object/ Sub Object	Trust Account	Dollars
DSS	263	11	613L	4380	T613	\$82,450
Budget Funding Year(s) (must match resolution)		2011	Start Date	January 1, 2011	End Date	December 31, 2011
Funding Source	Tax Dollars \$29,929					
	State Aid \$52,521					
\$ 82,450 (must match resolution)	Federal Aid \$					
	Other					