

18911

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Diane G. Balistreri
Coordinator, Office for Women

DATE: June 27, 2011

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into an agreement with Pace University, acting by and through the Women's Justice Center of the Pace University School of Law, for the provision of a trainer/attorney at the Family Court Legal Program of the Family Justice Center for an amount not-to-exceed \$92,372 for the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011

The attached Resolution, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County of Westchester (the "County") to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with Pace University, acting by and through the Women's Justice Center of the Pace University School of Law ("Pace"), pursuant to which Pace would provide a trainer/attorney at the Family Court Legal Program of the Family Justice Center, for the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, for an amount not-to-exceed Ninety-Two Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Two Dollars (\$92,372), to be paid quarterly pursuant to an approved budget.

The trainer/attorney to be provided by Pace under the proposed Agreement will be assigned to provide legal representation for victims for emergency Orders of Protection as well as develop/update training curriculum and conduct trainings for the program on the legal perspective of: victim confidentiality, stalking, dating violence, sexual assault, and domestic violence. Pace will also be compensated for travel expenses necessary to accomplish this work.

The funding for the proposed Agreement would be provided by part of a \$1,000,000 Federal Grant to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program awarded to the Office for Women by the Office on Violence Against Women of the U.S. Department of Justice. Pace is one of several partner agencies involved in all three aspects of this federal grant: 1) implementing the Family Justice Center; 2) implementing an automated victim notification of protective orders (VNPO) system; and 3) training police, prosecutors, the judiciary, advocates and service providers.

The proposed Agreement will serve a public purpose by promoting the public health, safety and general welfare by enhancing the safety and independence of abused women. If abused women are empowered to learn how to develop and maintain their own safety, they are not as likely to return to dependence on their abusers, thereby reducing public safety costs and medical costs. If they are helped to empower themselves to be independent and self-sufficient they are not as likely to be dependent on public assistance.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreement are for Pace to provide assistance in 125-175 client contacts for victims referred by the Family Justice Center.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are in the best interests of the County in terms of public health and safety because of the aforementioned anticipated results of enhancing the safety and independence of abused women by empowering them to develop and maintain their own safety.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement will be tracked and monitored by the Office for Women, which will be responsible for monitoring Pace's performance under this Agreement by means of site visits, as well as their monthly statistics and quarterly narratives. The effectiveness of this program will be determined in a variety of ways. Some of the outcomes of family law matters may include whether or not the victim obtained an Order of Protection. Outcomes of trainings will be determined by participants' increased knowledge of specialized topics based on pre- and post-tests and evaluations.

Authority to exempt this Agreement from the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) thereof has been submitted to your Honorable Board in accordance with a separate resolution of even date herewith.

Accordingly, I recommend approval of the attached proposed Resolution.

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Coordinator of the Office for Women, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the "County") is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with Pace University, acting by and through the Women's Justice Center of the Pace University School of Law ("Pace"), pursuant to which Pace will provide a trainer/attorney at the Family Court Legal Program of the Family Justice Center, for the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, for an amount not-to-exceed Ninety-Two Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Two Dollars (\$92,372), to be paid quarterly pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee be and hereby is authorized and empowered to execute any and all documents and take any actions necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be charged/credited:

FUND	DEPT	Major Program, Program & Phase, Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars	Funding Year
263	11	988J	4380	T988	\$92,372	2011

Budget Funding Year(s) 2011
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 1/1/2011 **End Date:** 12/31/2011

\$92,372
(must match resolution)

Funding Source: Tax Dollars _____
State Aid _____
Federal Aid \$92,372
Other _____

Schedule A

PACE WOMEN'S JUSTICE CENTER Family Justice Center Workplan – Arrest Grant 2011

The Pace Women's Justice Center (PWJC) joined the Office for Women as a partner in the OFW FY 2009 Arrest Grant/Family Justice Center initiative. The Pace Women's Justice Center will collaborate on the initiative as follows:

Services to be provided:

Family Justice Center (FJC)

- PWJC will collaborate on the development, implementation and assessment of the FJC:
 - Attend partner meetings
 - Provide input for the development of policies, operations and sustainability of FJC.
 - Provide direct civil legal representation through the Family Court Legal Program (FCLP) as an in-kind contribution

Victim Notification of Protective Orders (VNPO)

- Include in training

Train police, prosecutors, the judiciary, advocates and service providers

- Assist in establishing training priorities
- Develop legal aspects of training modules
- Train at Police Academy
- Train police at largest PD's and other PD's as scheduled
- Train judiciary, prosecutors, court personnel

Who will provide:

- Jane Aoyama-Martin, Executive Director 5% of time
 - Will provide supervision for staff in project
- Cindy Kanusher, Assistant Director 80 % of time (at .75FTE)
 - Will attend meetings, will oversee and develop legal aspects of training modules and oversee and participate in training
- Tracey Alter, Director, Family Court Legal Program, 20 % of time
 - Will attend meetings, provide input on information sharing and victim confidentiality issues, collaborate with partners on providing legal services to FJC clients through the FCLP and provide oversight of FCLP, participate in training as needed.

Goals:

Training

PWJC will:

- Develop legal components of training modules
- Train police at Police Academy
- Train police at largest departments and other PD's as schedule permits.
- Train judiciary, prosecutors, court personnel

Outcome measurements:

Training

- Number of training modules produced
- Number of training sessions conducted
- Number of police trained at Police Academy
- Number of police trained at Police Departments
- Number of judiciary, prosecutors and court personnel trained

Legal Services

The White Plains Family Court Legal Program anticipates providing assistance in 125-175 client contacts for victims referred by the Family Justice Center