

Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

**19352**

**DATE:** May 23, 2011

**TO:** Board of Acquisition and Contract

**FROM:** Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner, Department of Social Services

**SUBJECT:** Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the Young Women's Christian Association of White Plains and Central Westchester, Inc., to operate a shelter with a monthly capacity of up to twelve (12) homeless single women just released from prison in a program known as Awakenings located at 69 North Broadway, White Plains, New York 10605 for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 for an amount not to exceed \$123,782 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation

The County of Westchester requests authorization to enter into an agreement with the Young Women's Christian Association of White Plains and Central Westchester, Inc. to operate a shelter with a monthly capacity for up to twelve (12) homeless single women just released from prison in a program known as Awakenings located at 69 North Broadway, White Plains, New York for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 for an amount not to exceed \$123,782 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation. There was a 10% reduction in the cost of this contract over that of the 2010-2011 contract year. The reduction in the contract amount requested for 2011-12 would have no impact on the number of clients to be served.

The services to be provided pursuant to this agreement serve a **public purpose** by assisting the County to provide immediate emergency services to eligible homeless women just released from prison, thereby improving the quality of life of the homeless population in the County.

The **goals and objectives** of the proposed agreement are to provide supervision, meals and shelter to homeless single women just released from prison and to provide counseling and supportive services including helping homeless women just released from prison to find permanent housing and employment to support their transition from welfare to economic independence.

The goals and objectives of this program are in **the best interest of the County in terms of public health and public safety** as they are aimed at enhancing and ensuring the health and safety of the

targeted population by providing vulnerable single women just released from prison with emergency housing and supportive services. The ability to house single women will reduce their risk of becoming victims of crime and developing general health related issues that result from not having appropriate shelter. The Awakenings Program also provides linkages to programs to address their medical and mental health needs until permanent housing is secured.

The goals and objectives are in the **best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** as they help single homeless women to transition from public assistance to employment, permanent housing and economic independence, thereby reducing the associated cost of their dependency on public assistance.

**The goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored** through performance measurement indicators developed by the Department and approved by the County Budget Office. The tracking and monitoring include the submission of monthly statistics and quarterly reports as well as through direct contact with the D.S.S. staff in order to swiftly address any impediments to the program's success.

The **Department is able to report that** that the Young Women's Christian Association of White Plains and Central Westchester, Inc., Awakenings Program accepted into their program 85% of the women interviewed at the jail. Of the clients accepted into the program, 100% are enrolled in on-site vocational programs and 100% of the program participants are engaged in off-site community based treatment programs.

As of 3/31/11, this program achieved the following outcomes:

- Average Length of Stay for all customers: 134 days
- Average monthly occupancy rate was 62%
- 3 program participant secured permanent housing
- Shelter and supportive services were provided to 17 homeless single women just released from jail.

This contract is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy under Section 3(a) (xiv) which exempts contracts with not-for-profit organizations for the purposes of providing aid, care and support to persons in need of public assistance.

Accordingly, the County of Westchester is hereby requesting permission to enter into an agreement with the Young Women's Christian Association of White Plains and Central Westchester, Inc , for the aforesaid purpose.

A resolution requesting the same is attached for your Honorable Board's approval.

## RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Social Services; be it hereby

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the Young Women's Christian Association of White Plains and Central Westchester, Inc., to operate a shelter with a monthly capacity of up to twelve (12) homeless single women just released from prison through a program known as Awakenings located at 69 North Broadway, White Plains, New York for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 for an amount not to exceed \$123,782 to be paid monthly 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 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	5860	-----	\$61,891
2012	101	22	8900	5860	-----	\$61,891

Budget Funding Year(s): 2011-2012 Start Date: 7/1/11 End Date: 6/30/12  
(must match resolution)

Funding Source

**\$123,782**  
(must match resolution)

Tax Dollars: 71 %  
State Aid: 29 %  
Federal Aid: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_