



Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

22505

DATE: November 21, 2011

TO: The Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner of Social Services

Diane Balistreri
Coordinator, Office for Women

RE: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with **Brooke Walsh** in an amount not to exceed \$55,000 for consulting services at a rate of \$35/hour to assist in education, coordination and other services to victims of domestic violence and their household members for the period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation

Authority is requested to enter into an agreement with Brooke Walsh in an amount not to exceed \$55,000 for consulting services at a rate of \$35/hour to assist in education, coordination and other services to victims of domestic violence and their household members for the period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation. There has been no increase in the amount requested for 2012.

While numerous support and service programs are available in Westchester, this initiative will concentrate efforts on improving service delivery through education and training, linkage and coordination of services between service providers and victims of domestic violence and their household members.

The **public purpose** of the services to be provided pursuant to the proposed agreement is to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the victims of domestic violence in the County of Westchester by providing them safe temporary shelter and linkage to supportive services.

The **goals and objectives** of this program are to assist victims of domestic violence and their household members with domestic violence related issues, provide linkages to supportive services to include but limited to mental health services, advocacy for benefits, follow-up and support services, and relocation assistance when necessary. The program will assist victims of domestic violence to improve their self-sufficiency by providing a continuum of care as well as reconnecting, acquainting and informing the household of the resources that will enable them to live independently, away from the batterer.

The goals and objectives are in the **best interest of the County in terms of public health and public safety** as they are aimed at ensuring and enhancing the health and safety of the targeted population. This program provides linkages to necessary mental health providers and other healthcare providers which are vital to the safety and survival of victims of domestic violence.

The goals and objectives are in the County's **best interests in terms of fiscal responsibility** as the supportive services provided by this program assist victims with finding safe living options away from their abusers which may lead to a reduction in the cost associated with homelessness, lower the costs associated with responding to emergency calls for help and protection as well as a reduction in the cost associated with providing direct medical care as a result of domestic violence.

The **goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored** using performance measurement indicators developed by the Department and approved by the County Budget Office. The consultant is required to submit to the Department quarterly statistical reports on all activities related to the program.

The **Department is able to report that the vendor's Performance Measurement Indicators** reflect that the program met its goal. The consultant assisted 100% of appropriate referrals during the 2011 contract period. This service effectively provides information and referrals to victims of domestic violence and household members. As of 9/30/11, the following outcomes were achieved by this vendor:

- 162 customers received a service from the vendor
- 151 customers were provided with information and referrals
- 41 customers received assistance with placement moves

This contract is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy under Section 3(a) (viii).

An appropriate resolution requesting your Honorable Board's approval to enter into the above stated agreement is attached herewith.

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services and the Coordinator of the Office for Women, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Brooke Walsh in an amount not to exceed \$55,000 for consulting services at a rate of \$35/hour to assist in education, coordination and other services to victims of domestic violence and their household members for the period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Agreement 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	-----	\$55,000

Budget Funding Year(s): 2012 Start Date: 01/01/12 End Date: 12/31/12
(must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars: 71%
 State Aid: 29%

\$55,000 Federal Aid:
(must match resolution)
 Other: