

Memorandum

**Department of Public Safety
Drug Prevention & STOP DWI**

December 2, 2011

TO: The Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

Vito J. Pinto
Director Office of Drug Prevention & 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, 2012 through December 31, 2012, at a cost not to exceed \$375,000.00

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 January 1, 2012 and continuing through December 31, 2012 for an amount not to exceed \$375,000.00 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.

This Agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a)xviii of that Policy.

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 2010-2011 ROADD Program are indicated below:

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 1,934 students in the 2010-2011 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, 19% were in 9th grade, 48% in 10th grade, 19% in 11th grade and 14% 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, 507 students met separately with their assigned ROADD staff. This represents 26% of the total number of students participating in the program. Of these students, ROADD staff 157 referred students for additional services. These are students currently abusing alcohol or other drugs, students affected by a family member's alcohol or drug use. ROADD staff referred a total of 31% of the students interviewed. This exceeds the target range of referrals, which is 15%.

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 2010-2011 school year, 1,730 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 knowledge, 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
- Students reported that they would be less likely to accept a ride from someone who had been smoking marijuana.

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.

During this reporting period, TDAC students helped plan and implement a high school youth leadership conference that was partially funded through the ROADD program. The Youth Leadership conference was attended by over 250 students representing over 35 diverse high schools throughout Westchester. The evaluations of the conference were overwhelmingly positive. TDAC students also appeared on two

radio talk shows discussing healthy decision-making and the goals of alcohol and drug free youth.

The ROADD Program also helped facilitate a county-wide Reality Wall campaign that involved 20 high schools around the County. High School students anonymously recorded consequences that they, or someone they know, had experienced as a result of alcohol and other drug abuse. Students then place those comments on paper “bricks” and constructed a “wall” in a prominent location in the school. The wall highlighted the reality of the toll that alcohol and other drugs have in our communities. This campaign reached over 15,000 students.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 12/29/2011 - JOMAR V. LIBERTY - SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication the Commissioner-Sheriff of Public Safety, 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, 2012 and continuing through December 31, 2012 for an amount not to exceed \$375,000.00 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	004M	4380	T004	\$375,000.00

Budget Funding Year(s) **2012** Start Date: **January 1, 2012** End Date: **December 31, 2012**
(must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars _____
State Aid _____
\$375,000.00 Federal Aid _____

(must match resolution) Other: Stop-DWI Fines and Funding iaw VTL s/s 1192-1194