

Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

27376

Date: May 4, 2012

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 Hope's Door, Inc. to operate a special needs shelter for adult women and their minor children residing in the County of Westchester who are victims of domestic violence for the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 for an amount not to exceed \$564,175 to be paid monthly at an approximated per diem of \$104.87 pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation.**

The County of Westchester is requesting authorization to enter into an agreement with Hope's Door, Inc. to operate a special needs shelter known as Hope's Door Shelter for adult women and their minor children residing in the County of Westchester who are victims of domestic violence for the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 for an amount not to exceed \$564,175 to be paid monthly at an approximated per diem of \$104.87 pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation.

The County proposes to enter into this agreement to provide emergency shelter placements for victims of domestic violence. The Domestic Violence State Aid Rate (DVSAR) that has been approved by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) for the period January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 is currently \$104.87 per person per day based upon the shelter's capacity of 16 residents. This rate is subject to modification by the State prior to June 30, 2013. The County is therefore requesting authorization to adjust the current per-diem rate to conform to the revised DVSAR when it is issued by the State.

The services to be provided pursuant to the proposed agreement serve a **public purpose** by assisting the County in providing immediate emergency shelter to eligible victims of domestic violence and their minor children and in reducing the number of cases involving family violence in Westchester County through intervention and proactive prevention.

The **goals and objectives** of the proposed agreement are as follows:

- 1) to provide a safe environment to women and their minor children experiencing domestic violence

- 2) to provide on-site counseling services and support groups
- 3) to increase responsiveness of the criminal justice system to the needs of battered women and their minor children by offering legal services, advocacy and accompaniment services for Court hearings and visits to the District Attorney's Office.

The proposed agreement will also provide domestic violence services for undocumented aliens who are victims of domestic violence and are residing in the County of Westchester.

The goals and objectives of this program are in **the best interests 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. The County enhances public safety by providing a safe haven in the form of emergency housing to victims of domestic violence and their minor children.

The goals and objectives are in the County's **best interests in terms of fiscal responsibility** as they help to reduce costs associated with responding to emergency calls for help and protection of these victims. The services provided through this agreement further reduce the financial burden to taxpayers in other areas directly or indirectly related to the consequences of domestic violence, such as expenses incurred by the Department of Corrections, Medicaid, Children's Protective Services, the legal profession and the court system.

The **goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored** using the performance measurement indicators developed by the Department and approved by the County Budget Office. The contractor is required to submit to the Department monthly and quarterly statistical reports on all activities related to the program. Additionally, the operations of the Domestic Violence Shelter are monitored by New York State.

The **Department is able to report that the vendor's Performance Measurement Indicators** reflect that the aforesaid program has met its goal of housing eligible customers referred by the Department. As of 4/01/12, this program effectively provided shelter and supportive services for 30 women and 40 minor children from the County of Westchester. The average length of stay for Westchester County residents was 82 days. One hundred percent (100%) of residents in this program had safety plans developed within 3 days.

This contract is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy under Section 3 (a) xiv as this contract is with a not-for-profit organization for the purpose of providing aid, care and support services to those who are in need of public assistance.

Accordingly, the County of Westchester is requesting authority to enter into an agreement with Hope's Door, Inc. for the above said 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 Hope's Door, Inc. to operate a special needs shelter known as Hope's Door Shelter for adult women and their minor children residing in the County of Westchester who are victims of domestic violence for the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013 for an amount not to exceed \$564,175 to be paid monthly at an approximated per diem of \$104.87 pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the contract per diem rate of \$104.87 is subject to change as may be prescribed by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is hereby authorized to amend the aforementioned agreement subsequent to execution of the same in order to adjust the per diem rate to conform to the anticipated future modification of the said rate by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services at such time as the County is notified by the State of such modification of the rate provided that such rate does not exceed the amount authorized herein; 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
2012	101	22	8900	5850	-----	\$282,088
2013	101	22	8900	5850	-----	\$282,087

Budget Funding Year(s): 2012-2013
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 7/01/12

End Date: 6/30/13

Funding Source

Tax Dollars: 1%

State Aid: 0%

\$564,175

Federal Aid: 99%

(must match resolution)

Other:

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 06/28/2012 - JOMAR WEIRA, SECRETARY