



Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

32896

To: Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner of Social Services

Date: March 18, 2013

Re: **Authority for the County to enter into an agreement with The Lexington Center for Recovery, Inc. to provide Chemical Dependency Assessment Units to serve DSS child welfare customers for the term January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 in the amount not to exceed \$403,025 to be paid pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation**

Authority is requested for Westchester County, acting through the Department of Social Services ("DSS"), to enter into an Agreement with the Lexington Center for Recovery, Inc. for the provision of **Chemical Dependency Assessment Units (CDU) to serve DSS child welfare customers** for the period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$403,025 payable pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriations. The program provides a comprehensive substance abuse assessment to parents with children at risk of foster care placement. The Lexington Center Chemical Dependency Assessment Units work with families identified through Child Welfare involvement in the Yonkers and White Plains District Offices. The primary population served is parents/guardians listed as the subject on Child Protective Services (CPS) reports and referrals from active Preventive Service cases and Foster Care cases. CDU will motivate the clients to participate in the treatment program and will ensure that each chemically dependent customer will attend all scheduled evaluations at the designated treatment.

The services to be provided pursuant to this agreement will serve a **public purpose** as these services constitute substance abuse evaluation & referral for parents with children at risk of

foster care placement. These services increase safety and reduce risk of vulnerable children in Westchester County.

These CDU services have been provided by the Lexington Center for Recovery, Inc. to the County since 1999. This is however the first year that DSS will be contracting directly for the services with this vendor. In prior years, the contract with the Lexington Center for Recovery was entered into by the Department of Community Mental Health (DCMH) and funding for the program was provided through an Interdepartmental between DSS and DCMH. The Department felt that contracting directly with the vendor will allow DSS to directly monitor this program leading to better control and consistency in service delivery.

The **goals and objectives** of this contract are to provide substance abuse assessment, referral and linkage to treatment for parents/guardians of substance affected families. Lexington Center for Recovery, Inc. will be co-located at Yonkers and White Plains District Offices of the Department of Social Services.

The **goals and objectives are in the best interest of the County in terms of public health and safety** in that the services provided by Lexington Center for Recovery, Inc. are aimed at reducing abuse and neglect of children and reducing the need to place children in foster care. Because Lexington Center specialists are co-located, early and convenient access to substance abuse services are available and this in turn allows the Department to determine the appropriate safety interventions for vulnerable children.

The **goals and objectives are in the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** as the enhanced drug and alcohol services provided pursuant to the proposed Agreement would provide needed services to DSS customers whose children are at risk of foster care placement and would reduce the need for foster care placement and the cost associated with such placements, thereby saving taxpayer funds.

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 program office will be responsible for setting the milestones/targets and tracking the achievements by reviewing the performance reports submitted by the vendor. Under the terms of the Agreement, the program's success is measured through referral and linkage of chemically dependent individuals to appropriate treatment services.

The proposed Agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Sections 3(a)xiv and 3(a)xvii as this agreement is for the identification, referral and treatment of DSS customers suffering from the disease of alcoholism or substance abuse. This agreement is exempt from the Federal Common Grant Rule as this program falls under the Social Services Block Grant.

A resolution is annexed hereto, which I recommend for your favorable consideration.

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an Agreement with the Lexington Center for Recovery, Inc. for the provision of Chemical Dependency Assessment Units (CDU) to serve DSS child welfare customers for the term January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 (the "agreement") in the amount not to exceed \$403,025 to be paid pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this contract 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 ("State Budget") proposed and adopted during the term of these Agreements. The County shall retain the right, upon the occurrence of any release by the Governor of a proposed State budget and/or 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 impact of any such budget(s) 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 Contractors then the Contractors shall have the right to terminate the agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

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

Account to be
Charged/credited
2013

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub Object	Trust Account	Dollars
101	22	8900	5960	-----	\$403,025

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

Start Date: 1/1/13 End Date: 12/31/13

Funding Source

Tax Dollars: 35%

State Aid: 32%

\$403,025

Federal Aid: 33%

(must match resolution)

Other:

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACTS -- 04/25/2013 -- JOMAR VIEIRA, SECRETARY