

35181

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin Plunkett
Deputy County Executive

DATE: July 24, 2013

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into three (3) separate agreements, each of which shall be for a term commencing April 1, 2013 and continuing through March 31, 2014, as follows:

- 1) An agreement with My Sisters' Place, Inc., pursuant to which it will assist in conducting a community needs assessment, including 'system mapping' for Westchester, and provide ongoing coordination, for an amount not-to-exceed \$20,997.00, pursuant to an approved budget;
- 2) An agreement with The Research Foundation For The State University of New York, on behalf of the Center for Human Services Research, University at Albany, pursuant to which it will collect data, conduct interviews, co-facilitate focus groups, develop data-sharing agreements, analyze data, and present findings as part of the community needs assessment, for an amount not-to-exceed \$94,075.00, pursuant to an approved budget; and
- 3) An agreement with Amy Barasch, pursuant to which she will serve as project coordinator and organize and monitor the work of other partners, as well as produce a work plan based on the findings of the community needs assessment, for an amount not-to-exceed \$52,686.00, pursuant to an approved budget.

On June 6, 2013, your Honorable Board authorized the County of Westchester (the "County") to enter into a grant agreement with the United States Department of Justice, acting by and through its Office on Violence Against Women, (the "DOJ") pursuant to which the County would accept a grant awarded to it by the DOJ under the DOJ's Domestic Violence Homicide Reduction

Demonstration Initiative (the "Grant"), in the amount of One Hundred Ninety-One Thousand One Hundred Eighty-Eight Dollars (\$191,188.00), in order to conduct a comprehensive community assessment of local services with the overall goal of improving identification of, and services for, high-risk victims of domestic violence, for a term commencing April 1, 2013 and continuing through March 31, 2014.

Authority is now respectfully requested from your Honorable Board for the County, acting by and through its Office for Women, (the "County") to enter into three (3) separate agreements that will use a portion of the funds from the Grant. Each of the three (3) agreements shall be for a term commencing April 1, 2013 and continuing through March 31, 2014, and the agreements shall be with the following: 1) My Sisters' Place, Inc. ("MSP"), 2) The Research Foundation For The State University of New York, on behalf of the Center for Human Services Research, University at Albany ("CHSR"), and 3) Amy Barasch.

Please be advised that the County was instructed by the Center for Human Services Research, University at Albany, ("UAlbany") that while UAlbany will be providing the services under the above-mentioned agreement, the contract is required to be executed on UAlbany's behalf by its agent for such contracts, The Research Foundation For The State University of New York.

Under the proposed agreement with MSP, MSP will collaborate with CHSR and Ms. Barasch to assist in conducting a community needs assessment, including conducting 'system mapping' for Westchester, and provide ongoing coordination. For these services, MSP will be paid an amount not-to-exceed Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-Seven Dollars (\$20,997), pursuant to an approved budget.

Under the proposed agreement with CHSR, CHSR will collect data, conduct interviews, co-facilitate focus groups, develop data-sharing agreements, analyze data, and present findings as part of the community needs assessment. For these services, CHSR will be paid an amount not-to-exceed Ninety-Four Thousand Seventy-Five Dollars (\$94,075), pursuant to an approved budget.

Under the proposed agreement with Ms. Barasch, she will serve as project coordinator and organize and monitor the Grant-funded work of MSP and CHSR, as well as produce a work plan, based on the findings of the community needs assessment, to address the identified barriers to, and gaps in, services that are faced by domestic violence victims and their children. For these services, Ms. Barasch will be paid an amount not-to-exceed Fifty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Six Dollars (\$52,686), pursuant to an approved budget.

The proposed agreements will serve a public purpose by facilitating a comprehensive community needs assessment of local services, the overall goal of which is to improve identification of, and services for, high-risk victims of domestic violence. This will allow identification of key barriers and gaps faced by domestic violence victims and their children, and the development of a work plan to address the identified barriers and gaps.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreements are to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of local services, including assessing the processes, systems and partnerships of

local agencies that address domestic violence, and thereby identify key barriers and gaps faced by domestic violence victims and their children and develop a work plan to address the identified barriers and gaps.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreements are in the best interests of the County in terms of the public health, safety and general welfare, as they will help enhance the safety of victims of abuse. Improving identification of, and services for, high-risk victims of domestic violence, will ultimately reduce the number of domestic-violence-related homicides in Westchester County.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreements will be tracked and monitored by the Office for Women by means of quarterly reports and ongoing communication with MSP, CHSR and Ms. Barasch.

The procurement of the proposed agreements is exempt from the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a)(xi) thereof, which exempts “any procurement made pursuant to procurement procedures provided for under any other federal or state law applicable to such procurement,” as the County complied with the procedures specified by DOJ for the Grant.

Attached for your consideration is a proposed resolution.

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Deputy County Executive be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Office for Women, (the "County") is hereby authorized to enter into three (3) separate agreements, each of which shall be for a term commencing April 1, 2013 and continuing through March 31, 2014, as follows:

- 1.) An agreement with My Sisters' Place, Inc. ("MSP"), pursuant to which MSP will collaborate with CHSR and Ms. Barasch to assist in conducting a community needs assessment, including 'system mapping' for Westchester, and provide ongoing coordination, for an amount not-to-exceed Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-Seven Dollars (\$20,997), pursuant to an approved budget;
- 2.) An agreement with The Research Foundation For The State University of New York, on behalf of the Center for Human Services Research, University at Albany ("CHSR"), pursuant to which CHSR will collect data, conduct interviews, co-facilitate focus groups, develop data-sharing agreements, analyze data, and present findings as part of the community needs assessment, for an amount not-to-exceed Ninety-Four Thousand Seventy-Five Dollars (\$94,075), pursuant to an approved budget;
- 3.) An agreement with Amy Barasch, pursuant to which she will serve as project coordinator and organize and monitor the work of MSP and CHSR under the above-listed agreements, as well as produce a work plan based on the findings of the community needs assessment, for an amount not-to-exceed Fifty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Six Dollars (\$52,686), pursuant to an approved budget

; and be it further

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

\$20,997 MSP
 \$94,075 CHSR
\$52,686 Amy Barasch
\$167,758 Total

Account to be charged/credited:

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase, Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Dollars	Funding Year(s)
263	11	494N	4380	\$167,758	2013-2014

Budget Funding Year(s) 2013-2014
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 4/1/2013

End Date: 3/31/2014

\$167,758
(must match resolution)

Funding Source:

Tax Dollars _____
 State Aid _____
 Federal Aid \$167,758
 Other _____