

36801

DATE: November 4, 2013

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Robin Schlaff
Director, Office for Women

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into a grant agreement with the United States Department of Justice, acting by and through its Office on Violence Against Women, pursuant to which the County will accept a continuation grant awarded to it under the Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program, in the amount of \$900,000, for the period December 1, 2013 through November 30, 2016, in order to operate, expand, and strengthen the County's Family Justice Center, as well as expand training to law enforcement, probation personnel, judges, and prosecutors

Since 2009, the County of Westchester (the "County") has entered into agreements with the United States Department of Justice, acting by and through its Office on Violence Against Women, ("OVW"), pursuant to which the County accepted grants under OVW's Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program ("GTEAP"), in a total amount of \$2,000,000, covering the period October 1, 2009 through November 30, 2013, in order to establish, implement, and sustain the County's Family Justice Center ("FJC"), install an automated victim notification of protective orders ("VNPO") system, and train police, prosecutors, the judiciary, advocates and service providers (the "Previous Grant Agreements"). Your Honorable Board approved resolutions concerning the Previous Grant Agreements on December 7, 2009, March 15, 2012, and June 28, 2012.

The County was recently notified that it has been awarded another continuation grant under OVW's GTEAP, in an amount of \$900,000, for the period December 1, 2013 through November 30, 2016, in order to operate, expand, and strengthen the FJC, as well as expand training to law enforcement, probation personnel, judges, and prosecutors. Accordingly, authority from your Honorable Board is requested for the County to enter into a grant agreement with OVW to accept a continuation grant awarded to it by OVW under OVW's GTEAP, in the amount of \$900,000, for the period of December 1, 2013 through November 30, 2016, in order to operate, expand, and strengthen the FJC, as well as expand training to law enforcement, probation personnel, judges, and prosecutors (the "Agreement").

Please note that OVW also recently informed the County that the Agreement must be executed by Sunday, November 10, 2013, or else the County could forfeit the above-described continuation grant, which could put the FJC in jeopardy.

The proposed Agreement will serve a public purpose by making available to the County certain Federal funds that the County can and will use to operate, expand, and strengthen the FJC, as well as expand training to law enforcement, probation personnel, judges, and prosecutors.

The goal and objective of the proposed Agreement is to make available to the County certain Federal funds that the County can and will use to operate, expand, and strengthen the FJC, as well as expand training to law enforcement, probation personnel, judges, and prosecutors.

The goal and objective of the proposed Agreement is in the best interests of the County in terms of the public health, safety and general welfare, as operating, expanding, and strengthening the FJC, as well as expanding training to law enforcement, probation personnel, judges, and prosecutors, will ultimately enhance the safety and independence of victims of abuse because victims who are empowered to learn how to develop and maintain their own safety are not as likely to return to dependence on their abusers.

The goal and objective of the proposed Agreement is also in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility, as it will make available to the County certain Federal funds for the aforementioned work.

The goal and objective of the proposed Agreement will be tracked and monitored by the Office for Women.

I certify that my department, a) has copies of, or access to, all applicable laws, rules, regulations, grant applications and grant agreements (including any master grant agreement), as well as any guidance or instructions received from the agency making the grant (the "Grant Terms"), b) has reviewed the Grant Terms, c) is aware of and understands all of the Grant Terms, and d) can and will comply with all of the Grant Terms.

Accordingly, I recommend adoption of the proposed resolution.

RS/SED/bdm/nn

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Director of the Office for Women, 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 a grant agreement with the United States Department of Justice, acting by and through its Office on Violence Against Women, ("OVW") pursuant to which the County will accept a continuation grant awarded to it by OVW under OVW's Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program, in the amount of \$900,000, for the period December 1, 2013 through November 30, 2016, in order to operate, expand, and strengthen the FJC, as well as expand training to law enforcement, probation personnel, judges, and prosecutors; 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.

Account to be
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept.	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Revenue Source	Trust Account	Dollars
263	11	988N	9852	T988	\$900,000

Budget Funding Years: 2013-2016 Start Date: 12/01/2013 End Date: 11/30/2016
(must match resolution)

Funding Source	Tax Dollars	_____
<u>\$900,000</u>	State Aid	_____
(must match resolution)	Federal Aid	<u>\$900,000</u>
	Other	_____