



Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

Philippe Gille  
First Deputy Commissioner

**38914**

March 6, 2014

**DATE:**

**TO:** Board of Acquisition and Contract

**FROM:** Kevin M. McGuire, Commissioner  
Department of Social Services

**RE:** Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with Pathways to Housing NY, Inc. to operate up to sixty-five (65) units of scattered site housing of which fifty-one (51) units are designated for permanent housing and fourteen (14 ) units are designated for transitional housing for individuals previously placed in the Westchester County Shelter System for the period February 1, 2014 through January 31, 2015 for a total amount not to exceed \$1,454,998 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to annual appropriations

The County of Westchester requests authorization to enter into an agreement with Pathways to Housing NY, Inc. to operate up to sixty-five (65) units of scattered site housing of which fifty-one (51) units are designated for permanent housing and fourteen (14 ) units are designated for transitional housing, for individuals previously placed in the Westchester County Shelter System for the period from February 1, 2014 through January 31, 2015 for a total amount not to exceed \$1,454,998 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to annual appropriations.

The services to be provided pursuant to this agreement serve a **public purpose** by providing permanent housing and transitional housing as well as supportive services to homeless individuals in Westchester County who have a psychiatric disability and/or co-occurring substance use disorders. The mission of Pathways to Housing is to end homelessness for people who suffer from psychiatric disabilities by providing housing

first and giving support and treatment for their recovery and integration into the community.

The **goals and objectives** of this contract are designed to address the root cause of the individual's inability to become stable in a suitable housing environment and pursue self-sufficiency and independence. Program participants are provided with supportive services including casework services, crisis management, counseling, life skills and budget management training as well as support and monitoring to connect with community based programs that would provide prescribed treatment services. This program also provides case management services for an additional twenty-six (26) individuals whose housing costs are being paid for through the Department of Mental Health Shelter Plus Care funds. Further, last year the program model was modified in order to provide fourteen (14) transitional beds. This program modification allowed the vendor to better assist eligible participants to move into HUD sponsored Shelter Plus Care beds thus moving the cost of permanent housing from DSS to HUD, thereby making more funds available through DSS for case management to secure and maintain permanent housing for others in the shelter system.

The goals and objectives of this program are in the **best interest of the County in terms of public health and public safety**. The population served routinely suffers from various chronic impediments such as mental illness, substance and/or alcohol abuse and many are burdened with multiple barriers to permanent housing which have resulted in their current homeless status. Housing the targeted population will reduce their risk of becoming victims of crime and general health-related issues that result from not having appropriate shelter.

This contract is in the **best interest** of the County in terms of **fiscal responsibility** in that providing people experiencing chronic homelessness with permanent supportive housing saves taxpayers' money. Additionally, by providing transitional beds, the vendor is able to transfer eligible program participants to HUD funded Shelter Plus Care beds, thereby reducing the Department's cost of providing permanent housing.

The **goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored** by the program office 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 quarterly statistical reports on all activities related to the program.

The Department is able to report, based on **performance measurement indicators**, that the program has been successful in meeting its goals and objectives. The vendor was also able to report the following:

- 95% of program participants remained in permanent housing
- 100% of the project consumers are currently either managing their own money or engaged in money management

- Approximately 50% of program participants are acting as their own representative payee
- 18 program participants were employed during the program year.

This contract is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a) (xiv).

Accordingly, the County of Westchester is hereby requesting permission to enter into an agreement with Pathways to Housing NY, Inc. for the above stated purpose.

A resolution requesting the same is attached for your Honorable Board's approval.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 04/10/2014 JIMMAY VEIRA, SECRETARY

## 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 Pathways to Housing NY, Inc. to operate up to sixty-five (65) units of scattered site housing of which fifty-one (51) units are designated for permanent housing and fourteen (14) units are designated for transitional housing for individuals previously placed in the Westchester County Shelter System for the period February 1, 2014 through January 31, 2015 for a total amount not to exceed \$1,454,998 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget; 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 ("State Budget") proposed and adopted during the term of his 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 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 Contractor, then the Contractor 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 all documents, necessary and appropriate, to implement this Resolution.

Account to be  
Charged/Credited

	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
2014	101	22	8900	5860	-----	\$1,333,748
2015	101	22	8900	5860	-----	\$ 121,250

Budget Funding Year(s): 2014-15  
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 2/1/2014

End Date: 1/31/2015

Funding Source:

**\$1,454,998**

(must match resolution)

Tax Dollars: 71%

State Aid: 29%

Federal Aid:

Other:

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 04/10/2014 - JOMARY VEIRA, SECRETARY