

38986

**Date:** March 11, 2013

**To:** Board of Acquisition and Contract

**From:** Sherlita Amler, M.D.  
Commissioner, Department of Health

**Re:** Authorization to enter into Contract with Columbia University to accept funding for the Evaluation of Public Health Systems Response to Hurricane Sandy in the NYC Area Program Grant, pursuant to an approved budget, as follows:

Contract Period:	2/20/14 – 9/29/15
Contract Amount:	Not-To-Exceed \$17,500

The Westchester County Department of Health (the "WCDH") seeks authorization to enter into contract with Columbia University to accept funding for the Evaluation of Public Health Systems Response to Hurricane Sandy in the NYC Area Program Grant, for the contract period 2/20/14 through 9/29/15, pursuant to an approved budget, in the amount not-to-exceed \$17,500.

This Program will promote the public health, safety and general welfare of County residents by improving the response protocol to a large scale disaster event through identification of critical processes, policies, and procedural strategies that will enable the County to respond more efficiently and effectively to such public health emergencies.

The goal is to examine how the response and recovery to the Hurricane Sandy devastation could be enhanced through science and research in order to aid in the long-term recovery from natural disasters. This research program will provide scientific evidence-based applications to public health preparedness, response, and recovery practice.

Program objectives include the evaluation of the processes, policies, procedures and decision making activities prior, during and following Hurricane Sandy over a two year period. This will be accomplished in two steps; there will be scheduled interviews with WCDH senior staff as well as focus groups of line staff, and the majority of the interviews will take place during the first year of the study as well as data analysis at the National Center for Disaster Preparedness at Columbia University. There will be a series of trainings at the WCDH during the second year of this grant.

Program outcomes and findings will be presented at the Public Health Summit to share and address lessons learned and best practices regarding the administrative issues affecting public health response to disasters.

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.

I recommend approval of the attached proposed resolution.

## RESOLUTION

UPON A COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH, be it hereby

**RESOLVED,** that the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Health (“WCDH”), is authorized to enter into contract with Columbia University to accept funding for the Evaluation of Public Health Systems Response to Hurricane Sandy in the NYC Area Program Grant, pursuant to an approved budget, as follows:

Contract Period:	2/20/14 – 9/29/15
Contract Amount:	Not-To-Exceed \$17,500

**RESOLVED,** that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee be and hereby is authorized and empowered to execute all appropriate contracts or documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution in the manner prescribed by law.

Department of Health  
 County of Westchester  
 10 County Center Road – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
 White Plains, New York 10607  
 March 11, 2014

Original Agreement	\$	
First Amendment	\$	
This Amendment	\$	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	

Agreement #

Account to be Charged/Credited	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
	263	27	531P	9853	T531	\$17,500

Budget Funding Year(s) (must match resolution) 2014 -2015 Start Date 2/20/14 End Date 9/29/15

Funding Source	Tax Dollars	
	State Aid	
<b>\$17,500</b>	Federal Aid	100 % Federal pass thru funds
(must match resolution)	Other	

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 04/17/2014 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY