

Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

Philippe Gille
First Deputy Commissioner

39259

DATE: March 25, 2014

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the Young Women's Christian Association of White Plains and Central Westchester, Inc., to operate a shelter with a monthly capacity of up to twelve (12) homeless single women just released from prison in a program known as Awakenings located at 69 North Broadway, White Plains, New York 10605 for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 for an amount not to exceed \$122,475 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation

The County of Westchester requests authorization to enter into an agreement with the Young Women's Christian Association of White Plains and Central Westchester, Inc. to operate a shelter with a monthly capacity for up to twelve (12) homeless single women recently released from prison in a program known as Awakenings located at 69 North Broadway, White Plains, New York for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 for an amount not to exceed \$122,475 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation. There has been no change in the amount requested from that of last year.

The services to be provided pursuant to this agreement serve a **public purpose** by assisting the County to provide immediate emergency services for eligible homeless women recently released from prison to improve their quality of life and assist them with reentry into the community.

The **goals and objectives** of the proposed agreement are to provide supervision, meals and shelter to homeless single women recently released from prison and to provide them with counseling and supportive services including, but not limited to, finding permanent housing and employment to support their transitions from welfare to economic independence.

The goals and objectives of this program are in **the best interest of the County in terms of public health and public safety** as they are aimed at enhancing and ensuring the health and safety

of the targeted population by providing emergency housing and supportive services for vulnerable single women recently released from prison. Housing these single women will reduce their risk of becoming victims of crime and developing general health related issues that result from inappropriate shelter. The Awakenings Program also provides linkages to other programs that will address the medical and mental health needs of these women until permanent housing is secured.

The goals and objectives are in the **best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** as they help single homeless women in the transition from public assistance to employment, permanent housing and economic independence, thereby reducing recidivism and the associated cost of their dependency on public assistance.

The goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored through performance measurement indicators developed by the Department and approved by the County Budget Office. The tracking and monitoring include the submission of monthly statistics and quarterly reports as well as direct contact in order to swiftly address any impediments to the program's success.

The **Department is able to report** that during the 2013-2014 contract term, the Young Women's Christian Association of White Plains and Central Westchester, Inc., Awakenings Program achieved the following outcomes through January 2014:

- Average Length of Stay for all customers: 137 days
- Average monthly occupancy rate: 87%
- 3 program participants secured permanent housing during the contract year
- Shelter and supportive services were provided to 39 homeless single women recently released from jail.

This contract is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy under Section 3(a) (xiv) which exempts contracts with not-for-profit organizations for the purposes of providing aid, care and support to persons in need of public assistance.

Accordingly, the County of Westchester is hereby requesting permission to enter into an agreement with the Young Women's Christian Association of White Plains and Central Westchester, Inc., for the aforesaid purpose.

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

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the Young Women’s Christian Association of White Plains and Central Westchester, Inc., to operate a shelter with a monthly capacity of up to twelve (12) homeless single women recently released from prison through a program known as Awakenings located at 69 North Broadway, White Plains, New York for the period from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 for an amount not to exceed \$122,475 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 (the “State Budget”) proposed and adopted during the term of this 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 State Budget 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 this Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is empowered to execute any document necessary 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	-----	\$61,238
2015	101	22	8900	5860	-----	\$61,237

Budget Funding Year(s): 2014-2015 Start Date: 7/1/14 End Date: 6/30/15
(must match resolution)

Funding Source

Tax Dollars: 71%
State Aid 29%
Federal Aid:
Other:

\$122,475
(must match resolution)