

41781

DATE: August 8, 2014

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Mae Carpenter, Commissioner
Department of Senior Programs and Services

RE: Request for authorization to:

- a) Rescind resolution number 39200 approved on April 17, 2014 (the "April 17th Resolution") that authorized the County to exercise the first of five options to renew agreements with the nine agencies (the "Contractors") listed in Schedule "A" attached to the April 7th Resolution, pursuant to which the Contractors would provide homemaker and housekeeper services to frail, homebound seniors under the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (the "Program") for the period commencing April 1, 2014 and terminating March 31, 2015, for a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,287,988, comprised of \$1,715,991 in State funds and \$571,997 in Contractor matching funds.
- b) Enter into agreements with the seventeen (17) Contractors listed in the Schedule "A" attached hereto pursuant to which the Contractors shall provide the aforementioned Program services, for the period commencing April 1, 2014 and terminating March 31, 2015, for a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,137,988 comprised of \$1,603,491 in State funds, \$320,698 in County funds and \$213,799 in Contractor matching funds.

By the April 17th Resolution your Honorable Board authorized the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Senior Programs & Services (the "Department"), to exercise the first of its five options to renew agreements with the Contractors listed in Schedule A attached to the April 17th Resolution, pursuant to which the Contractors would provide the "Program" for the period commencing April 1, 2014 and terminating March 31, 2015 for a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,287,988, comprised of \$1,715,991 in State funds and \$571,997 in Contractor matching funds. None of the Agreements have been executed.

It should be noted that the Contractors listed in Schedule A attached to the April 17th Resolution complained of experiencing difficulties retaining staff or attracting potential staff to provide the Program services due to low reimbursement rates, which raises a potential issue of seniors not being adequately provided with vitally needed Program services. Therefore, the Department now seeks authority to rescind the April 7th Resolution to increase the reimbursement rates, and further seeks authority to enter into agreements with the seventeen (17) contractors listed in the Schedule "A" attached hereto in an effort to expand services to seniors, pursuant to which the Contractors will provide the aforementioned Program services, in a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,137,988 comprised of \$1,603,491 in State funds, \$320,698 in County funds and \$213,799 in

Contractor matching funds, payable at an hourly rate based on a percentage of the Medicaid rates approved by the State Department of Health.

The proposed agreements are exempt from application of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures pursuant to Section 3(a) (viii) and 3(a) (xix) thereof.

The EISEP program benefits caregivers and care receivers by easing the burden on caregivers through the provision of homemaker and housekeeper services. The proposed agreements will serve a public purpose by providing services that enable seniors to remain at home, as most seniors would prefer, thereby preventing premature institutionalization, which would come at greater expense and in a less desired environment.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreements are to help seniors remain in their homes and communities through the provision of quality home care services that will also serve to provide relief to their caregiver(s).

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreements are in the best interests of the County in terms of health because the services to be provided with the grant funds will offer improved health and quality of life for the frail elderly and their caregivers by easing their burden through the provision of homemaker and housekeeper services. The proposed agreements are also in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility because they effectively allow seniors to remain at home, thus preventing costly institutionalization.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreements will be tracked and monitored by case managers through bi-monthly calls to seniors and their caregivers as to the quality of the services they are receiving and their satisfaction with the services. In addition, the Department's staff monitors and reviews case managers' client case records and records of service at the agencies providing these services, using forms approved by the New York State Office for the Aging ("NYSOFA"). Review of the program is done annually by a County monitor, as well as a monitor from NYSOFA.

Accordingly, I recommend adoption of the proposed resolution.

MC/SJ/

RESOLUTION

UPON COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, be it:

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the "County") is hereby authorized to rescind resolution number 39200 approved April 17, 2014 (the "April 17th Resolution") that authorized the County to enter into Agreements with the nine agencies (the "Contractors") listed in Schedule "A" attached to the April 17th Resolution, pursuant to which the Contractors were to provide homemaker and housekeeper services to frail, homebound elderly who reside in Westchester County under the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (the "Program") for the period commencing April 1, 2014 and terminating March 31, 2015, for a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,287,988, comprised of \$1,715,991 in State funds and \$571,997 in Contractor matching funds; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County is also hereby authorized to enter into Agreements with the seventeen (17) Contractors set forth in Schedule "A" attached hereto, pursuant to which the Contractors shall provide the aforementioned Program services, for the period commencing April 1, 2014 and terminating March 31, 2015, in a total aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,137,988 comprised of \$1,603,491 in State funds, \$320,698 in County funds and \$213,799 in Contractor matching funds, to be paid hourly rates that are based on a percentage of the Medicaid rates approved by the State Department of Health; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Agreements are subject to County Appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Agreements are 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 Agreements. 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 one or more of the Agreements or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to one or more of the Contractors, then such Contractors shall have the right to terminate their respective Agreements upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee be, and hereby is, authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

This Agreement: \$2,137,988.00

Total: \$2,137,988.00

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
263	85	048P	4380	T048	\$1,603,491.00
101	24	N/A	4957	N/A	\$320,698.00
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$213,799.00

Budget Funding Year(s) 2014 - 2015 Start Date 4/1/14 End Date 3/31/15
(must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars \$320,698.00
State Aid \$1,603,491.00
\$2,137,988.00 Other \$213,799.00
(must match resolution)

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACTS - 09/02/2014 - JOMARY NEIRA, SECRETARY

SCHEDULE "A"

IN-HOME HOMEMAKER AND HOUSEKEEPER CONTRACTOR AGENCIES: 2014-2015
(To be reimbursed by the County at their respective approved Medicaid Rates up to an amount not to exceed \$1,603,491 in State funds, \$320,698 in County funds & \$213,799 in Contractor matching funds)

Richard L. Aronson, Inc. d/b/a A&A Staffing Health Care Services
Able Health Care Service, Inc.
Affiliated Home Care of Putnam, Inc
Any-Time Home Care, Inc.
Azor Home Health Care Inc, United Hebrew Geriatric Center
Barksdale Home Care Services Corp.
Family Service Society of Yonkers
Family Services of Westchester, Inc.
Grace Church Community Center, Inc. d/b/a Neighbors Program
Home Health Services of WJCS, Inc.
Mrs. G's Services, LLC
Personal Touch Home Care
Priority Home Care, Inc.
Westchester Care at Home, Inc.
Bethel Home Care Services, LLC
Interim Healthcare, Inc.
Visiting Nurse Service of New York