

**41907**

**TO:** Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

**FROM:** Robin Schlaff  
Director, Office for Women

**DATE:** August 21, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Authority to amend an agreement with My Sisters' Place, Inc. to provide domestic violence education and training services in order to revise the agreement's approved budget to reallocate funds within the 2014 budget

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On March 15, 2012, your Honorable Board approved a resolution authorizing the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Office for Women, (the "County") to enter into an agreement with My Sisters' Place, Inc. ("MSP") pursuant to which MSP will provide domestic violence education and training services, including:

- school-based education through its Domestic Violence Education and Prevention ("DVEP") program;
- education, training and domestic violence expert assistance to hospitals, healthcare providers and facilities in the County through its Operation Safety program; and
- a coordinator of training

for a term commencing January 1, 2012 and continuing through December 31, 2014, for an amount not-to-exceed \$960,035 (the "Agreement"). The Agreement was subsequently executed.

As the current approved budget was created by MSP in response to the County's Request for Proposals ("RFP") in 2011, both MSP and the County agree that it is necessary to revise the Agreement's approved budget to reallocate funds within the 2014 budget in order to more accurately reflect changes in costs due to staff turnover and other staffing changes, supervisory staff time dedicated to the education and training programs, and changes in related operating expenses.

Accordingly, authority is now respectfully requested from your Honorable Board for the County to amend the Agreement in order to revise the Agreement's approved budget to reallocate funds within the 2014 budget.

Except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain the same.

The proposed amendment will serve a public purpose by reallocating funds to more effectively provide education to middle and high school students in an effort to end teen dating violence. By educating teens, they are given the tools to recognize the signs of abuse and break the cycle of violence, possibly preventing their involvement in an abusive relationship. The ultimate goal is to break the cycle of violence and prevent their involvement in an abusive relationship now or in their future, thereby reducing pain and suffering, public safety costs and medical costs. Reallocating funds to more effectively provide training services will enhance the quality of services provided and responses to victims of domestic violence. As a result, domestic violence service providers and healthcare providers will be better equipped to assist victims, increasing victim safety and reducing duplication of services within the domestic violence community by educating service providers on the specific needs of victims, preventing them from having to go to numerous agencies for assistance. This ultimately saves time and taxpayer dollars.

The goal and objective of the proposed amendment is to reallocate funds within the 2014 budget to more effectively provide domestic violence education and training services.

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

Attached for your consideration is a proposed resolution.

# 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 amend an agreement with My Sisters' Place, Inc. ("MSP"), pursuant to which MSP will provide domestic violence education and training services, including:

- school-based education through its Domestic Violence Education and Prevention ("DVEP") program;
- education, training and domestic violence expert assistance to hospitals, healthcare providers and facilities in the County through its Operation Safety program; and
- a coordinator of training

for a term commencing January 1, 2012 and continuing through December 31, 2014, for an amount not-to-exceed \$960,035 (the "Agreement"), in order to revise the Agreement's approved budget to reallocate funds within the 2014 budget; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain the same; 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	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars	Funding Year
					\$0	

**Budget Funding Year(s)** 2014  
(must match resolution)

**Start Date:** 1/1/2014

**End Date:** 12/31/2014

\$0  
(must match resolution)

**Funding Source:**

Tax Dollars \_\_\_\_\_  
 State Aid \_\_\_\_\_  
 Federal Aid \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_