

45954

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Honorable Robert P. Astorino
Westchester County Executive

Honorable Michael B. Kaplowitz, Chairman
Westchester County Board of Legislators

Robin Schlaff
Director, Office for Women

DATE: April 7, 2015

SUBJECT: Authority to exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy an agreement with Hispanic Resource Center of Larchmont/Mamaroneck, Inc. to assist immigrants in need of civil legal representation, for a term commencing January 1, 2015 and continuing through December 31, 2015, for an amount not-to-exceed \$7,500

The attached Resolution, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Office for Women, (the "County") to exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy an agreement (the "Agreement") Hispanic Resource Center of Larchmont/Mamaroneck, Inc. ("HRC") pursuant to which HRC will assist immigrants in need of civil legal representation, for a term commencing January 1, 2015 and continuing through December 31, 2015, for an amount not-to-exceed \$7,500, payable quarterly pursuant to an approved budget.

Since its establishment in 1998, HRC has become one of the lead community-based organizations in Westchester targeting new immigrant families. It is currently the only agency of its kind in the Mamaroneck area to promote the cultural, economic, educational and professional integration of immigrants to the already established larger community and advocate for those in need.

Serving approximately 4,000 families per year with basic human services, HRC has become one of the lead agencies in Westchester's social services and workforce development areas for new

immigrant families, and one which other agencies county-wide look to for support, guidance and partnership. HRC works closely with local service providers to complement its services and provide comprehensive human services.

The proposed Agreement will serve a public purpose by connecting immigrants to legal services that they need and might otherwise be unable to obtain. Furthermore, immigrants have language and cultural barriers when using legal system and may be fearful of immigration issues.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are for HRC to provide immigrants with services including, but not limited to: screening; intake; gathering documents; translation; and additional support, as needed.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement will be tracked and monitored by the Office for Women.

Under the Westchester County Procurement Policy Section 3(a)(xxi), your Honorable Board may determine "by resolution passed prior to commencing procurement that compliance with the Procurement Policy would not be in the best interests of the County." Due to the fact that HRC has the necessary experience and expertise to provide these services to immigrants in Westchester, and for the reasons set forth above, it is requested that your Honorable Board make the determination that it is in the best interests of the County to exempt from the application of the procedural requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy the proposed Agreement with HRC.

Attached for your consideration is a proposed Resolution.

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the County Executive, the Chairman of the Westchester County Board of Legislators and the Director of the Office for Women be it hereby

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) of the Westchester County Procurement Policy, it is hereby determined that application of the procedural requirements contained therein, including the necessity of soliciting written price quotations, is neither cost effective nor expedient, and accordingly, not in the best interests of the County in connection with the procurement of an agreement with Hispanic Resource Center of Larchmont/Mamaroneck, Inc. pursuant to which Hispanic Resource Center of Larchmont/Mamaroneck, Inc. will assist immigrants in need of civil legal representation.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 05/07/2019 - JOMARY WEIRA, SECRETARY