



Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

49247

**Date:** December 24, 2015

**To:** The Board of Acquisition and Contract

**From:** Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner of Department of Social Services

**Re:** Authority for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, to enter into an agreement with the Congregations Linked In Urban Strategy To Effect Renewal, Inc. (CLUSTER) pursuant to which CLUSTER will operate the Keeping Employment Yields Success (KEYS) To A Home Program for the period from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 for an amount not to exceed \$250,000 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation.

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Authority is hereby requested for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, to enter into an agreement with the Congregations Linked In Urban Strategy To Effect Renewal, Inc. (CLUSTER) pursuant to which CLUSTER will operate the Keeping Employment Yields Success (KEYS) To A Home Program for the period from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 (the "Agreement") for an amount not to exceed \$250,000 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation.

The Agreement serves a **public purpose** because the service provided is effective in the reduction of homelessness in the County of Westchester. The service also reduces the length of stay for homeless employed households and prevents re-entry into the shelter system.

The **goals and objectives** of the Agreement are to provide temporary housing subsidies for households with income. The program will assess families with earned income for time limited subsidies that will enable them to move out of the shelter system and into permanent housing.

The **goals and objectives** are in the **best interest of the County in terms of public health, public safety and fiscal responsibility** as the services provided assist the County with transitioning

families and singles out of the homeless shelter system and into permanent housing. The subsidy and supportive services for the participants increase the success of maintaining permanent housing and supports the transition from public assistance to self-sufficiency and economic independence.

The **goals and objectives** of the proposed Agreement **shall be tracked and monitored** through performance measurement indicators developed by the Department.

The Agreement with CLUSTER to operate the KEYS To A Home Program is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy under Section 3(a)(xiv) in that the provisions of services are for participants in need of public assistance and currently living in the shelter system.

This agreement is exempt from the application of Federal Common Grant Rule as there is no federal funding for this program.

Accordingly, a resolution requesting your Honorable Board's approval is annexed herewith.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 01/24/2019 - US/MR/AS/SECRETARY

