

51639

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Honorable Robert P. Astorino
Westchester County Executive

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

Robin Schlaff
Director, Office for Women

DATE: March 31, 2016

SUBJECT: Authority to exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy an agreement with Hope's Door, Inc. to provide case management services for non-residential domestic violence programs, for a term commencing on January 1, 2016 and continuing through December 31, 2016, for an amount not-to-exceed \$25,750

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") with Hope's Door, Inc. ("Hope's Door"), pursuant to which Hope's Door will provide case management services for non-residential domestic violence programs, for a term commencing on January 1, 2016 and continuing through December 31, 2016, for an amount not-to-exceed \$25,750, payable quarterly, pursuant to an approved budget.

Hope's Door has successfully provided related non-residential domestic violence support services under contracts administered through the Office for Women since 1992. It is especially qualified to provide these services by reason of its expertise, leadership and longevity in the field, and because of its intimate connection with residential domestic violence services.

The proposed Agreement will serve a public purpose by supporting state-mandated non-residential domestic violence services for victims of domestic violence. Non-residential domestic violence services enable victims to become safe and independent and to avoid returning to their abusers or becoming dependent on public assistance.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are for Hope's Door to provide case management services for non-residential domestic violence programs and overall management of program statistics and evaluation, contract development and reporting, program development and ensuring compliance with performance measures. As a result of the services provided, it is anticipated that at least 90% of adult victims will respond positively to the following outcome questions:

- I am able to talk about the abuse I have endured with those I trust.
- I have learned more about my options.
- I know more ways to plan for my safety.
- I know more about community resources to help me.
- I know more about abuse and abusive behavior.
- I can better identify what I want in a relationship.
- I have learned ways to be good to myself.
- I understand the reasons why someone would stay in an abusive relationship.
- I understand the reasons why someone would leave an abusive relationship.
- I know more about my legal rights.

An average of 91% of adult victims responded positively to the outcome questions during the previous contract term.

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

Please be advised that Section 459-c of the New York Social Services Law directs social services districts, such as the County, to offer and provide non-residential services to victims of domestic violence, whether eligible or ineligible for public assistance. Non-residential services programs must have the ability to provide the following services:

- 1.) Information and Referral services;
- 2.) Advocacy;
- 3.) Counseling;
- 4.) Community education and outreach activities; and
- 5.) Hotline services.

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 Hope's Door has the necessary experience and expertise to provide these services, 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 Hope's Door.

Attached for your consideration is a proposed Resolution.

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Westchester 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 Hope's Door, Inc. pursuant to which Hope's Door, Inc. will provide case management services for non-residential domestic violence programs.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 04/28/2016
ESM/MSJ/SECRETARY