

51729

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: April 8, 2016

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into an agreement with My Sisters' Place, Inc. to provide case management services and on-site temporary child care through its Tot Drop Program, for an amount not-to-exceed \$77,250, for a term commencing January 1, 2016 and continuing through December 31, 2016

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 enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with My Sisters' Place, Inc. ("My Sisters' Place"), for an amount not-to-exceed \$77,250, to be paid quarterly pursuant to an approved budget, for a term commencing on January 1, 2016 and continuing through December 31, 2016, to provide:

- case management services for counseling programs serving victims of domestic violence, community training for service providers and healthcare workers, and outreach programs; and
- on-site temporary child care through its Tot Drop Program for children whose mothers/ caretakers are accessing non-residential domestic violence services (such as counseling, advocacy, legal services, and group support) in its White Plains and Yonkers offices.

The proposed Agreement will serve a public purpose by supporting state-mandated non-residential domestic violence services for victims of abuse. 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. In addition, those abused by a partner often spend their time having to watch and/or care for their children while obtaining these services. Children not having to be in their mothers' counseling sessions and thereby reliving trauma and being privy to information they should not need to be exposed to positively impacts the children's mental health.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are for My Sisters' Place to provide case management services for residential and 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, and child care services to approximately 35 children per month through its Tot Drop Program. During the previous contract term, the Program averaged 39 children per month.

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

The procurement for case management services is exempt from the requirements the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a)(viii) thereof, which exempts contracts with agencies engaging healthcare workers.

The procurement for child care services is exempt from the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a)(xviii) thereof, which exempts contracts for the advancement of the moral, physical, mental and social well-being of the youth of Westchester County.

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.

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 the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Office for Women, (the "County") is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with My Sisters' Place, Inc. ("My Sisters' Place"), for a term commencing on January 1, 2016 and continuing through December 31, 2016, for an amount not to exceed \$77,250, to be paid quarterly pursuant to an approved budget, for provision of the following services:

- case management services for counseling programs serving victims of domestic violence, community training for service providers and healthcare workers, and outreach programs, and
- on-site temporary child care through its Tot Drop Program for children whose mothers/ caretakers are accessing non-residential domestic violence services in its White Plains and Yonkers offices; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Agreement is subject to County appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Agreement is 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 Agreement. 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 this Agreement or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to the Contractor, then the Contractor shall have the right to terminate this Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; 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(s)
101	52	2508	5100	N/A	\$77,250	2016

Budget Funding Year(s) 2016 **Start Date:** 1/1/2016 **End Date:** 12/31/2016
 (must match resolution)

\$77,250
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source: Tax Dollars \$77,250
 State Aid _____
 Federal Aid _____
 Other _____