

63233

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Robin Schlaff
Director, Office for Women

DATE: May 15, 2018

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into an agreement with the YWCA of White Plains and Central Westchester to provide supervised visitation services for a total amount not-to-exceed \$28,878 for a term commencing on January 1, 2018 and continuing through December 31, 2020

The attached Resolution, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County of Westchester (the "County") to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with the YWCA of White Plains and Central Westchester (the "YWCA") to provide supervised visitation services, including facilitating orientations for those children who verbalize reluctance to visit with their non-custodial parent, and direct supervised visitation for families.

The proposed Agreement will have a term of three years commencing on January 1, 2018 and continuing through December 31, 2020, for a total amount not-to-exceed \$28,878, to be paid quarterly pursuant to an approved budget.

The funding amount per year will not exceed \$9,626, of which the County's share is estimated to be \$2,984, which is the County's share of the Interdepartmental Cooperative Plan ("IDCP"); New York State's share is estimated to be \$2,888, which is the State share of the IDCP; and the Federal government's share is estimated to be \$3,754, which is the Federal share of the IDCP.

The proposed Agreement is the result of a request for quotes ("RFQ") which was sent out to 50 organizations throughout New York State and was made available on the County's Web site where it could be accessed by additional organizations including minority- and women-owned businesses.

In response to the RFQ, the YWCA was the only agency to submit a proposal. The County reviewed and evaluated the proposal based upon evaluation criteria specified in the RFQ. As a result, the County determined that the YWCA is an ideal agency to continue providing the solicited services.

Supervised visitation is often court ordered in cases where there are allegations of domestic violence, child abuse, child sexual abuse, mental illness and substance abuse. Often times, families can be presented with a variety of the above issues. The goal of supervised visitation is to maintain or establish relationships between non-custodial parents and their children in a manner that ensures their physical and emotional safety during and after the court process. In most cases, supervised visitation is ordered to be provided by a professional agency or individual. The YWCA provides supervised visitation and safe exchange in a safe, secure setting that is also a nurturing environment for children in Westchester.

Of the families served by the YWCA, the majority of children who verbalized reluctance to visit with their parent have exhibited a more relaxed demeanor while interacting with their parent by leaving for the visit more willingly and being more interactive and animated with their non-custodial parent. There has also been reduced occurrence of behavior and/or discussion that utilizes children in an appropriate manner.

Due to the need for the continuation of these services, as the YWCA has successfully provided these services under previous contracts with the County since 2011, and for the reasons set forth above, it is recommended that the proposed Agreement move forward instead of repeating the RFQ process.

The proposed Agreement promotes the public health, safety and general welfare of children by providing a safe and secure environment during visits with a non-custodial parent.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are for the YWCA to provide, on an annual basis, a minimum of 30 child orientations and 30 supervised visits.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are in the best interests of the County in terms of the public health, safety and general welfare, as children are at risk of emotional, psychological, and physical harm from non-custodial parents when professionals supervising visits do not know how to set limits on the behavior of the visiting parent.

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

I respectfully recommend the adoption of the attached Resolution.

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Director of the Office for Women, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with the YWCA of White Plains and Central Westchester (the "YWCA"), for a term commencing on January 1, 2018 and continuing through December 31, 2020, for provision of supervised visitation services, including facilitating orientations for those children who verbalize reluctance to visit with their non-custodial parent, and direct supervised visitation for families; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in consideration for services to be rendered, the YWCA shall be paid a total amount not-to-exceed \$28,878, to be paid quarterly pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the funding amount per year will not exceed \$9,626, of which the County's share is estimated to be \$2,984, which is the County's share of the Interdepartmental Cooperative Plan ("IDCP"); New York State's share is estimated to be \$2,888, which is the State share of the IDCP; and the Federal government's share is estimated to be \$3,754, which is the Federal share of the IDCP; 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
263	11	111T	4380	T111	\$9,626	2018
263	11	111U	4380	T111	\$9,626	2019
263	11	111V	4380	T111	\$9,626	2020

Budget Funding Year(s) 2018-2020 **Start Date:** 1/1/2018 **End Date:** 12/31/2020
 (must match resolution)

\$28,878
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source: Tax Dollars \$8,952
 State Aid \$8,664
 Federal Aid \$11,262
 Other _____

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 06/07/2018 - ISA MRIJAS SECRETARY