

65151

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Robin Schlaff
Director, Office for Women

DATE: September 13, 2018

SUBJECT: Request for authority for the County of Westchester (the "County") to enter into five (5) separate agreements, for services for the Westchester County Family Justice Center each of for a term from October 1, 2018 and through September 30, 2019, which will be partially funded by a portion of a grant, as follows:

- 1.) Hope's Door, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$72,556.15;
- 2.) My Sisters' Place, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$210,000.00;
- 3.) Pace University, for an amount not to exceed \$132,758.46;
- 4.) Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, for an amount not to exceed \$225,989.96; and
- 5.) Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc., for an amount not-to-exceed \$81,397.48.

By a resolution approved on September 13, 2018, your Honorable Board authorized the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Office for Women, (the "County") to enter into a grant agreement with the New York State Office of Victim Services ("OVS") pursuant to which the County will accept a grant awarded to it by OVS under OVS' Victim and Witness Assistance Grant Program (the "Grant"), in an amount of \$821,157.00. Pursuant to the terms of the Grant, the County is required to contribute 25% in matching funds, in order to operate the Westchester County Family Justice Center ("FJC"), for the period from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019 (the "Grant Agreement").

In order to provide the necessary services included in the grant application, the County identified "partners" with whom the County will work in its performance of the Grant-funded work. Those parties include Hope's Door, Inc.; My Sisters' Place, Inc.; Pace University; Legal Services of the Hudson Valley; and Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc.

Accordingly, the County respectfully requests authority from your Honorable Board to enter into five (5) separate agreements, each of which will use a portion of the funds from the Grant; will be for a term commencing on October 1, 2018 and continuing through September 30, 2019; and pursuant to which each party will provide services for the FJC, as follows:

- 1.) An agreement with Hope's Door, Inc. ("HD"), pursuant to which it will provide victims entering the FJC with crisis intervention, counseling, safety planning, advocacy, emergency shelter placement and referrals, for an amount not to exceed \$72,556.15, pursuant to an approved budget;
- 2.) An agreement with My Sisters' Place, Inc., ("MSP") pursuant to which it will provide victims entering the FJC with immediate crisis intervention, safety planning, supportive counseling and advocacy and assess the need for, and make referrals to, shelter, legal services, ongoing counseling, self-sufficiency support services, and other non-residential services, for an amount not to exceed \$210,000.00, pursuant to an approved budget;
- 3.) An agreement with Pace University, acting by and through its Women's Justice Center, ("PWJC") pursuant to which it will provide civil legal services for victims entering the FJC as well as conduct trainings for police, prosecutors, the judiciary, advocates and service providers, for an amount not to exceed \$132,758.46, pursuant to an approved budget;
- 4.) An agreement with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley ("LSHV"), pursuant to which it will provide in-depth screening to determine civil legal needs of victims and their children entering the FJC, follow-up investigations, and advise victims of legal options for domestic violence related issues, as well as provide additional civil legal services for clients in the northern part of the county, for an amount not to exceed \$225,989.96, pursuant to an approved budget; and
- 5.) An agreement with Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc. ("WestCOP"), pursuant to which it will provide intake, crisis intervention, safety planning, emergency shelter placement, advocacy, and case management for victims entering the FJC, for an amount not to exceed \$81,397.48, pursuant to an approved budget.

Each of the five (5) parties listed above will contribute a portion of the required 25% match.

The proposed agreements will serve a public purpose by enhancing the safety and independence of victims of abuse. If victims are empowered to learn how to develop and maintain their own safety, they are not as likely to return to dependence on their abusers, thereby reducing public safety costs and medical costs. If they are helped to empower themselves to be independent and self-sufficient, they are not as likely to be dependent on public assistance.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreements are for the FJC Partners to provide services for the FJC, which provides victims of abuse with centralized support services and legal services, eliminating the need for victims to go various locations for services for themselves and their children.

The goals and objectives of the proposed agreements are in the best interests of the County in terms of the public health, safety and general welfare, as it will help enhance the safety of victims of abuse. Victims are safer getting help in one secure location at the FJC, and they benefit from the expertise of a multi-disciplined team, a uniform professional approach and shared policy of confidentiality and information sharing. Through the FJC, victims are able to concurrently meet their civil and criminal needs in one center, which maintains a firewall to ensure confidentiality of information, which ultimately helps guarantee their safety.

The goal and objective of the proposed agreements will be tracked and monitored by the Office for Women.

Authority to exempt these agreements from the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) thereof has been granted by your Board in accordance with a separate resolution of same date hereof.

I certify that my department, a) has copies of, or access to all applicable laws, rules, regulations, grant applications, and grant agreements (including any master agreement), as well as any guidance or instructions received from the agency making the grant (the "Grant Terms"), b), has reviewed the Grant Terms, c) is aware of and understands all of the Grant Terms and d) can and will comply with all of the Grant Terms.

Attached for your consideration is a proposed Resolution.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT 10/11/2018 ALISA MARIJAJ, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from 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 five (5) separate agreements, each of which will be for a term commencing on October 1, 2018 and continuing through September 30, 2019, and pursuant to which each party will provide services for the Westchester County Family Justice Center ("FJC"), as follows:

- 1.) An agreement with Hope's Door, Inc. ("HD"), pursuant to which it will provide victims entering the FJC with crisis intervention, counseling, safety planning, advocacy, emergency shelter placement and referrals, for an amount not to exceed \$72,556.15, pursuant to an approved budget;
- 2.) An agreement with My Sisters' Place, Inc., ("MSP") pursuant to which it will provide victims entering the FJC with immediate crisis intervention, safety planning, supportive counseling and advocacy and assess the need for, and make referrals to, shelter, legal services, ongoing counseling, self-sufficiency support services, and other non-residential services, for an amount not to exceed \$210,000.00, pursuant to an approved budget;
- 3.) An agreement with Pace University, acting by and through its Women's Justice Center, ("PWJC") pursuant to which it will provide civil legal services for victims entering the FJC as well as conduct trainings for police, prosecutors, the judiciary, advocates and service providers, for an amount not to exceed \$132,758.46, pursuant to an approved budget;
- 4.) An agreement with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley ("LSHV"), pursuant to which it will provide in-depth screening to determine civil legal needs of victims and their children entering the FJC, follow-up investigations, and advise victims of legal options for domestic violence related issues, as well as provide additional civil legal services for clients in the northern part of the county, for an amount not to exceed \$225,989.96, pursuant to an approved budget; and
An agreement with Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc. ("WestCOP"), pursuant to which it will provide intake, crisis intervention, safety planning, emergency shelter placement, advocacy, and case management for victims entering the FJC, for an amount not to exceed \$81,397.48, pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Agreements are also subject to County Appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Agreements are 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 these Agreements. 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 these Agreements or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a

reduced amount to the Contractors, then the Contractors shall have the right to terminate the Agreements upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is hereby 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)
263	11	940T	4380	T940	\$722,702.05	2018-2019

Budget Funding Year(s) 2018-2019 Start Date: 10/1/2018 End Date: 9/30/2019
 (must match resolution)

\$722,702.05
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source: Tax Dollars _____
 State Aid \$722,702.05
 Federal Aid _____
 Other _____