



Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin P. Mahon
Commissioner

DATE: March 8, 2010

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin P. Mahon
Commissioner

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless, Inc. ("Coalition") in order to assist non-profit food distribution centers for the period from April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011 in an amount not to exceed \$107,500 to be paid in accordance with the approved program budget and subject to appropriations.

Transmitted herewith is a resolution requesting authority for the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless, Inc. ("Coalition") in order to assist non-profit food distribution centers for the period from April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011 in an amount not to exceed \$107,500 to be paid in accordance with the approved program budget and subject to appropriations. There has been no increase in the budget for this program under the proposed agreement.

The services to be provided pursuant to this agreement serve **a public purpose** as the program funded through this agreement will provide services to the hungry and homeless population in the County.

The goals and objectives of this program are to aid the non profit-food distribution centers in distributing food supplies to needy persons in Westchester County and also to partially fund a position to assist emergency food providers in securing additional outside funding.

The goals and objectives are in the best interests of the County in terms of public health because this program serves as an intermediary to assist non-profit soup kitchens, food

pantries and shelters with both food and non-food expenses. The program assists in ensuring the well being of the hungry and homeless population of Westchester County. By utilizing this contract, money goes to various neighborhoods, thus preventing families and individuals from going to bed hungry and assisting homeless families to supplement their food supply.

The goals and objectives are in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility because for the last 18 months, the need for food has increased dramatically due to the economic turn down. People who are receiving assistance, including food stamps, may not have sufficient food by month's end. Some people who have become poor due to the recent economic condition may not even qualify for any assistance, or may require supplemental food even with the provision of food stamps. The service that the Coalition provides is aligned with the goals of the Department, which is to assist families and individuals with their basic needs until they can become self sufficient. Fiscally, this contract will assist non-profit soup kitchens, food pantries and shelters with both food and non-food expenses. In addition, the funds from this contract will be used to partially fund a position to assist emergency food providers in completing grant applications and securing other outside funding. This program will satisfy the needs of individuals who are hungry and homeless, and who do not want to make an application for Public Assistance or Food Stamp benefits, thereby easing the financial burden on tax payers.

The negative consequences of not approving this resolution are that there would be a reduction of access to meals and groceries for the targeted population, thereby creating an increase of applications for Public Assistance and Food Stamp benefits. This contract is aimed at assisting with the distribution of good nutritional food to the hungry and homeless population, which will ensure their health and well being.

The goals and objectives of this contract will be tracked and monitored through performance measurement indicators developed by the Department and approved by the County Budget Office. They include, but are not limited to, submission of quarterly reports, direct contact with the Department's Housing Program Office and on-site visits.

Based on the performance measurement indicators under the previous contract, the Coalition was able to distribute non-perishable foods, and some perishable foods to 36 different food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters in 24 towns and villages throughout Westchester County. Some agencies chose to purchase food from their own suppliers while others used the Food Bank of Westchester. The funds were also utilized for expenses to keep the program running effectively and efficiently, thereby benefiting the targeted population. The populations served are the working poor, families below poverty level and the newly unemployed. These categories consist of men, women and children. The number of customers served has increased at all soup kitchens and food pantries, some as much as 50% in areas such as Yonkers, Mount Vernon and Peekskill. The Coalition was also able to serve approximately 40,000 meals at an average cost of \$2.00 per meal. The Coalition also dispensed bags of groceries which consisted of enough food to serve three meals.

The agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a) (xiv).

Accordingly, authority is requested for the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless, Inc. ("Coalition") to operate the above said program.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 3-25-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Social Services, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Coalition for the Hungry and Homeless, Inc. ("Coalition") to partially fund a position to assist emergency food providers in securing additional outside funding and to assist non-profit soup kitchens, food pantries and shelters with expenses in their efforts to provide surplus food items to needy persons in Westchester County, for the period from April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011, for an amount not to exceed \$107,500 to be paid in accordance with approved program budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the agreement is subject to County Appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the agreement is also subject to further financial analysis of impact of the 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 adoptions(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 the agreement or to renegotiate the amount and rate approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to the Contractor, then the Contractor shall have the right to terminate the agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents and to take such other actions necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACTS - 2-27-2011 - ONLY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

Account to be
Charged/Credited

	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
2010	101	22	8900	5960	-----	\$80,625
2011	101	22	8900	5960	-----	\$26,875

Budget Funding Year(s): 2010-2011 Start Date: 4/1/10
(must match resolution)

End Date: 3/31/11

Funding Source

\$107,500.00
(must match resolution)

Tax Dollars: 100%

State Aid:

Federal Aid:

Other _____

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 3-25-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY