

83798

DATE: March 26, 2021

TO: Board of Acquisition & Contract

FROM: Mae Carpenter, Commissioner
Department of Senior Programs and Services

RE: Request authority for the County of Westchester to enter into a grant agreement with the New York State Office for the Aging in an amount not to exceed \$653,982 to provide information services to individuals of all ages with long term care needs under the NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement Program, for the program period April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022.

The County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Senior Programs and Services (the "Department"), seeks authority from your Honorable Board to enter into a grant agreement with the New York State Office for the Aging ("NYSOFA") in an amount not to exceed \$653,982 to provide information services to individuals of all ages with long term care needs under the NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement Program ("NY Connects Program"). The agreement shall commence on April 1, 2021 and continue through March 31, 2022 (the "NYSOFA Agreement").

Of the \$653,982 in funding, \$24,324 will be allocated for Westchester County Department of Social Services ("DSS") and Westchester County Office for the Disabled ("Disabled") payable after DSS and Disabled vouchers the Department and as such do not require the approval of your Honorable Board. The remaining \$629,658 will be used by the Department to provide information contacts.

NY Connects Program is a State program that aims to improve access to Long-Term Services and Supports ("LTSS"). It connects older adults and individuals of any age with disabilities, as well as their caregivers, in need of LTSS with the necessary services and supports regardless of available payment source, be it private pay, public or a combination of both. It minimizes confusion, supports informed decision-making and enhances consumer choice.

The proposed NYSOFA Agreement will serve a public purpose because it provides funding which allows for a no wrong door for providing consistent coordinated and objective information and assistance on long term care services and supports through the NY Connects Program.

The goals and objectives of the NY Connects Program are to build on the current efforts to rebalance the delivery of long term services and supports to seniors and to improve access to non-institutional long term services and supports.

The goals and objectives of the NY Connects Program are fiscally in the best interests of the County because they serve to delay or divert seniors from institutionalization, thereby reducing Medicaid costs to the County.

The goals and objectives of the NY Connects Program will be tracked, monitored and evaluated by the Department, to ensure compliance with Federal, State and County regulations.

The NYOSFA Agreement does not constitute procurement and as such is not subject to the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy.

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 grant 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.

Accordingly, I most respectfully recommend adoption of the attached proposed resolution.

MC/SJ

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 04/08/2021
USAMIJAJ, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon communication from the Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services be it hereby:

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the "County") acting by and through its Department of Senior Programs and Services (the "Department") is hereby authorized to enter into a grant agreement with the New York State Office for the Aging ("NYSOFA") in an amount not to exceed \$653,982 to provide information services to individuals of all ages with long term care needs under the NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement Program ("NY Connects"). The agreement shall commence on April 1, 2021 and continue through March 31, 2022 (the "NYSOFA Agreement"); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee be, and hereby is, authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be Charged/Credited	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
Credited	263	85	079W	9854	T079	\$653,982

Budget Funding Year(s) Unit T-079 2021 - 2022 Start Date 4/1/2021 End Date 3/31/2022
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars: \$0
 State Aid: \$653,982
\$653,982 Federal Aid: \$0
 (must match resolution)