

84100

DATE: April 7, 2021

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Sherlita Amler, MD
Commissioner of Health

RE: Authorization to Amend a Short Form Agreement with Empress Ambulance Service, LLC to provide qualified and trained EMTs, Paramedics, Community Paramedics and other qualified health care professionals to administer COVID vaccinations at various POD/Clinic sites in the County, (“Work” or “Services”), for the Period from February 19, 2021 through February 18, 2022, in order to increase the Amount Not-to-Exceed by **\$965,000** for a total revised Amount Not-To-Exceed \$1,000,000 for additional services to be paid at the reimbursement rates as specified in Schedule “A”

On February 25, 2021, the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Health (“WCDH”), entered into a “short form” agreement with Empress Ambulance Service, LLC (“Contractor”) to provide qualified and trained EMTs, Paramedics, Community Paramedics and other qualified healthcare professionals to administer COVID vaccinations at various POD/Clinic sites in the County and/or to administer the vaccines at partner agencies or locations including mobile vaccine services (“Work” or “Services”, for the period from February 19, 2021 through February 18, 2022, in the amount not-to-exceed \$35,000 payable at the reimbursement rates as specified in Schedule “A” (the “Agreement”). This agreement has been executed.

The County has been operating a COVID vaccination site at the SUNY Westchester Community College (“WCC”) several days per week at various hours, in addition to providing vaccination support to community partner agencies. Under the terms of the agreement, the Contractor has been providing the Services for several weeks now, and since the WCC COVID Clinic and other sites will continue to operate and dispense COVID vaccinations to the public for the foreseeable future, the WCDH requires the Contractor to continue to provide these Services.

Therefore, the WCDH is requesting authorization to amend the existing “short form” agreement in order to increase the amount not-to-exceed by \$965,000 for a total revised amount not-to-exceed \$1,000,000 for the provision of additional Services, to be paid at the reimbursement rates as specified in Schedule “A”.

This contract amendment will promote the public health, safety and general welfare of County residents by providing qualified and trained EMTs, Paramedics, Community Paramedics and other qualified healthcare professionals to administer COVID vaccinations at various POD/Clinic sites in the County and/or to administer the vaccines at partner agencies or locations including mobile vaccine services.

The goal and objective is to promote the public health, safety and general of persons being vaccinated by having a sufficient number of trained and qualified health care professionals to administer COVID vaccines to supplement the WCDH vaccinator staff, which is not enough. This will ensure that all eligible persons receive the vaccine timely.

This program will be tracked and monitored by WCDH staff on-site at the WCC COVID Clinics and other sites by ensuring that the Contractor's health care professional vaccinators are deployed and managed in a prudent and time effective manner.

It is projected that during the month of April, the WCDH team will be expected to administer 3500 doses of COVID vaccine each week through clinics operated 6 -7 days / week.

It should be noted that the proposed Agreement is being partially funded with funds provided to the County under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Sec. 603. Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (the "Fund"). It is believed that, similar to the handling of the Coronavirus Relief Fund, monies provided under the Fund are not subject to the Federal procurement rules in 2 CFR Part 200.317 through Part 200.326. Therefore, pursuant to Section 13(d) of the Westchester County Procurement Policy, the ordinary County procurement rules apply to this procurement. Accordingly, the procurement of the proposed Agreement is exempt from the ordinary County procurement rules pursuant to Section 3(a)(viii) of the Westchester County Procurement Policy.

All other terms and conditions of the original contract will remain unchanged.

Approval of the attached resolution is respectfully requested.

Attachment(s)

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACTS 04/08/2021 TAJ MURRAY, SECRETARY

Schedule "A"

Contract Reimbursement Rates

Vaccine trained EMT: \$55.00 per hour

Vaccine Trained Paramedic (or Community Paramedic): \$75.00 per hour

Supervising Paramedic: \$95.00 per hour

Vaccine Trained LPN: \$55.00 per hour

Vaccine Trained RN: \$ 95.00 per hour

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