



George Latimer
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Leonard G. Townes
Commissioner

86558

Date: July 26, 2021

To: The Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Leonard G. Townes
Commissioner of Department of Social Services

RE: Request for authority for the County of Westchester (“County”) to enter into an agreement with the Young Women’s Christian Association of White Plains and Central Westchester (“YWCA”) pursuant to which YWCA will to operate its Awakenings Program for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, for a total amount not to exceed \$198,484.

Authority is hereby requested for the County, acting by and through its Department of Social Services (“Department”), to enter into an agreement (“Agreement”) with the YWCA pursuant to which the YWCA will provide its Awakenings Transitional Housing Program (“Program”) for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, for a total amount not to exceed \$198,484.

This program will provide justice involved women, ex-offenders, and/or survivors of crime with a history of homelessness and/ or substance abuse (“Clients”), a safe and structured supportive housing setting to help these clients re-integrate back into the community. This Program will serve up to 15 Clients. In addition, the YWCA will provide 3 rooms for permanent housing to Clients referred by the Department.

This Program will serve a **public purpose** by assisting the County with immediate emergency services as well as providing placements for Clients. These emergency services will improve Clients’ quality of life and assist them with reentry into the community.

The goals and objectives of the Program are to provide supervision, meals, shelter and counseling to Clients and provide them with the supportive services, including, but not limited to substance abuse and mental health counseling, finding permanent housing and employment resources to support their transitions to economic independence.

The goals and objective of the Agreement are in **the best interest of the County in terms of public safety, public health and environment** because the Awakenings Program is aimed at enhancing and ensuring the health and safety of the targeted population by providing emergency housing and support services for vulnerable Clients. Housing Clients will reduce their risk of becoming victims of crime and developing general health related issues that result from inappropriate shelter. The Awakenings Program also provides links to other programs which will address the medical and mental health needs of the Clients until permanent housing is secured.

The goals and objectives are in **the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** as they help Clients transition from public assistance to employment, permanent housing and economic dependence, thereby reducing recidivism and the associated cost of their dependency on public assistance.

The goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored through performance measurement indicators developed by the Department. The tracking and monitoring include submission of monthly statistics and quarterly reports as well as direct contact in order to swiftly address any impediments to the program's success.

The Department is able to report that during the 2020 contract term, the YWCA Awakenings Program achieved the following outcomes:

- Average length of stay for all Clients: 365 days
- Total Clients served: 26
- Of the 26 Clients, 6 secured permanent housing and 8 secured employment

This Agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to section 3(a) xiv thereof.

An appropriate Resolution is herewith attached for your Honorable Board's consideration.

Attachment

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT 08/19/2021 - RAYMOND SCUKA SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the Young Women’s Christian Association of White Plains & Central Westchester (“YWCA”) pursuant to which YWCA will to operate its Awakenings Program for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, for a total amount not to exceed \$198,484, to be paid pursuant to an approved budget; 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 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 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 that Contractor shall have the right to terminate their 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 to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Charged/Credited

	Fund	Dept.	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
2021	101	22	8900	5860		\$99,242
2022	101	22	8900	5860		\$99,242

Budget Funding Year (s): 2021-2022 Start Date: 7/1/21 End Date: 6/30/22

Funding Source:

Tax Dollars: 71%

State Aid: 29%

Federal Aid:

Other:

\$ 198,484
(must match resolution)