

87761

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Robin Schlaff
Director, Office for Women

DATE: September 24, 2021

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into an agreement with Children's Health and Research Foundation, Inc. to provide doulas to assist Medicaid-eligible pregnant women in Westchester for an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00 for the period October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2023.

The attached Resolution, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Office for Women, (the "County") to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with Children's Health and Research Foundation, Inc., pursuant to which it will provide, through its Lower Hudson Valley Perinatal Network ("LHVPN"), doulas to assist Medicaid-eligible pregnant women in Westchester County, for a term commencing October 1, 2021 and continuing through September 30, 2023, for an amount not to exceed Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) to be paid quarterly pursuant to an approved budget.

Doulas are trained professionals to provide continuous physical, emotional and informational support to mothers before, during and shortly after childbirth to help them achieve the healthiest experiences and outcomes while addressing the social determinants of health.

The proposed Agreement will serve a public purpose by utilizing doulas to provide various support services to Medicaid-eligible pregnant women which may, in turn, reduce cesarean section rates, postpartum depression, maternal mortality and morbidity, shorten labor, reduce the use of pregnancy related medications and increase breastfeeding.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are for doulas to provide continuous physical, emotional and informational support to women before, during and shortly after childbirth while providing environments of respect and active listening.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement will be tracked and monitored by the Office for Women.

The procurement of the proposed Agreement is exempt from the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a)(viii), which exempts contracts with “agencies engaging healthcare workers.”

Attached for your consideration is a proposed Resolution.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 09/30/2021 - RAYMOND SCULKY, 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 an agreement (the "Agreement") with Children's Health and Research Foundation, Inc., pursuant to which it will provide through its Lower Hudson Valley Perinatal Network ("LHVPN"), doulas to assist Medicaid-eligible pregnant women in Westchester County, for a term commencing October 1, 2021 and continuing through September 30, 2023, for an amount not to exceed Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) to be paid quarterly 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 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 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 the Contractor shall have the right to terminate this 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 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)
101	11	0900	4380	N/A	\$75,000	2021-2023

Budget Funding Year(s) 2021-2023 **Start Date:** 10/1/2021 **End Date:** 9/30/2023

(must match resolution)

\$75,000

(must match resolution)

Funding Source:

Tax Dollars \$75,000

State Aid _____

Federal Aid _____

Other _____