



George Latimer  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Leonard G. Townes  
Commissioner

89035

Date: November 19, 2021

To: The Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

RE: Authority to enter into an agreement with the Young Women's Christian Association of Yonkers to operate its P.E.A.R.L. (Prevention, Empowerment, Academics, Recreation and Leadership) Program in order to provide a structured program for economically disadvantaged female youth who are at risk of foster care and preventive services, for the program period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, for a total amount not to exceed \$46,000.

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Authority is hereby requested for the County of Westchester ("County"), acting by and through its Department of Social Services ("Department"), to enter into an agreement ("Agreement") with the Young Women's Christian Association of Yonkers to operate its P.E.A.R.L. (Prevention, Empowerment, Academics, Recreation and Leadership) Program, for the program period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, in a total amount not to exceed \$46,000, payable pursuant to an approved budget.

This program will serve thirty (30) young girls, ages 10 years to 18 years of age who reside in the City of Yonkers. The program is designed to empower young girls through a variety of programs and activities that provides a structure, supportive environment that prevents youth participants from involvement in child welfare and criminal justice program. Youth participants are provided with opportunities to complete High School, engage in employment, enter higher education and ultimately contribute as a responsible citizen in the community.

The goal of the P.E.A.R.L Program is to prepare young girls to succeed in a society that has grown more complex, challenging, competitive and disconnected. Our activities and interactions are designed to strengthen participants' self-esteem, decision making, communication skills, academic outcomes, independence and confidence. Through the provision of the appropriate combination of support, education, preventive activities and

exposure to the arts and higher education; the P.E.A.R.L. Program will aid youth participants in navigating life's challenges as they transition into adulthood.

The P.E.A.R.L. Program performance indicators are as follows:

- 1) Annual unduplicated capacity of 30 youth
- 2) Monthly capacity of 15 youth
- 3) 100% of youth participants will be diverted from Foster Care placement
- 4) 90% of youth participants will remain in school
- 5) 85% of youth will be diverted from justice involvement
- 3) 80% of youth participants will attend all sessions of the program
- 4) 80% of youth participants will demonstrate increase in life skills

The performance indicators as stated above will be tracked and monitored through monthly, quarterly and annual reports, Report Cards and by bi-yearly site visits from Department staff.

Based on Performance Measurement Indicators, the Department is able to report that to date, the Young Women's Christian Association of Yonkers for the period of January 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, has satisfactorily met targets and outcomes as outline in the current agreement. Their referrals have been somewhat affected by the COVID pandemic as some families are still not comfortable with allowing their children to receive in person services. PEARL has a capacity to service 30 Youth annually. PEARL has provided services to 13 Families and 16 children, year-to-date. During this time, 90% of the children served, demonstrated improvements in their grades.

The goal and objective of the Agreement are to prevent foster care placement, reduce risk of criminal justice involvement and increase youth's chances of graduating from High School.

The goals and objective of the Agreement are fiscally responsible and are in the best interest of public safety, public health and environment because the program provides a structure, supportive environment that prevents youth participants from involvement in child welfare and criminal justice program.

The Agreement will serve a public purpose as it will prevent youth participants from involvement in child welfare and criminal justice program.

This Agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to section 3(a) xviii thereof, which addresses youth service projects and other appropriate programs and services for the prevention of delinquency and youth crime and the advanced of the moral, physical, mental and social well-being of the youth of Westchester County. It should be noted that this agreement is not subject to the competitive procurement requirements of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (formerly, the Grants Management Common Rule) as the federal funding for this program falls under Social Services Block Grant.

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

## RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Young Women's Christian Association of Yonkers to operate its P.E.A.R.L. (Prevention, Empowerment, Academics, Recreation and Leadership) Program in order to provide a structured program for economically disadvantaged female youth who are at risk of foster care and preventive services, for the program period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, in a total amount not to exceed \$46,000, 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
101	22	8900	5960	---	\$46,000

Budget Funding Year (s): 2022      Start Date: 1/1/2022      End Date: 12/31/2022  
 Funding Source:

\$46,000  
 (must match resolution)

Tax Dollars: 30%  
 State Aid: 41%  
 Federal Aid: 29%

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 12/16/2021 - RAYMOND SULKY, SECRETARY