

90402

To: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Honorable George Latimer
Westchester County Executive
Robin Schlaff
Director, Office for Women

Date: January 31, 2022

Subject: Authority to enter into an agreement with Hope's Door, Inc., pursuant to which it will provide domestic violence education services and case management services for non-residential domestic violence programs, for a term from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, for an amount not to exceed \$90,027.00.

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 Hope's Door, Inc. ("Hope's Door"), for an amount not to exceed \$90,027.00, payable quarterly, pursuant to an approved budget, for a term commencing on January 1, 2022 and continuing through December 31, 2022, and pursuant to which Hope's Door will provide the following services:

- work with schools and communities throughout Westchester to facilitate classroom workshops, community awareness events, an annual teen symposium, and "STAR," a peer leadership program that promotes healthy relationships based on equality, respect and trust (the "Domestic Violence Education Services"); and
- provide case management services for non-residential domestic violence programs (the "Case Management Services").

The proposed Agreement will serve a public purpose by educating middle and high school students in an effort to end teen dating violence, as well as by supporting state-mandated non-residential domestic violence services for victims of domestic violence.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are to provide educational presentations to schools and community organizations throughout Westchester regarding domestic violence, as well as case management services for non-residential domestic violence programs and overall management of program statistics and evaluation; contract development and reporting; program development; and ensuring compliance with performance measures.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are in the best interests of the County in terms of the public health, safety and general welfare, as educating teens may enable them to recognize the signs of abuse, and consequently break the cycle of violence and prevent their involvement in an abusive relationship now or in their future, thereby reducing pain and suffering, public safety costs and medical costs.

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

Please be advised that Section 459-c of the New York Social Services Law directs social services districts, such as the County, to offer and provide non-residential services to victims of domestic violence, whether eligible or ineligible for public assistance. Under the law, non-residential services programs must have the ability to provide the following services:

- 1) Information and referral services;
- 2) Advocacy;
- 3) Counseling;
- 4) Community education and outreach activities; and
- 5) Hotline services.

The procurement of the Domestic Violence Education Services is exempt from the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures pursuant to Section 3(a)(ix) thereof, which exempts contracts with teachers, lecturers, and other educational professionals or experts.

Authority to exempt the procurement of the Case Management Services from the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures, pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) thereof, has been submitted for your Board's consideration via separate resolution.

Attached for your consideration is a proposed Resolution.

Other _____

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 02/24/2022 - RAYMOND SCULKY, SECRETARY