

90766

To: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Robin Schlaff
Director, Office for Women

Date: February 7, 2022

Subject: Authority to enter into an agreement with Pace University, acting by and through its Elisabeth Haub School of Law's Pace Women's Justice Center, to provide legal consumer education via a telephone helpline, as well as education and training to private attorneys to assist women and senior citizens from low and moderate incomes, for the period January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022, for an amount not to exceed \$87,923.00.

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 Pace University, acting by and through its Elisabeth Haub School of Law's Pace Women's Justice Center, ("PWJC") to provide legal consumer education via telephone counseling in matrimonial, employment, health care, domestic violence and elder law, as well as education and training to private attorneys who will, in return for such training, provide low cost matrimonial and elder law representation to low and moderate income persons (the "Moderate Means Panel").

The proposed Agreement will have a term commencing January 1, 2022 and continuing through December 31, 2022, for an amount not to exceed \$87,923.00, to be paid quarterly pursuant to an approved budget.

PWJC has successfully provided these services under previous contracts with the County since 1998, and it currently serves as the only legal helpline in Westchester.

The proposed Agreement will serve a public purpose by providing legal services to low and moderate income women and senior citizens who, without this assistance, would be at high risk of becoming victims of abuse. These services will also assist women and senior citizens with low and moderate incomes in protecting their rights and, in so doing, may decrease their dependence on public assistance.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are for PWJC to respond to helpline callers and conduct Moderate Means Panel training programs.

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)(ix) thereof, which exempts contracts with teachers, lecturers, and other educational professionals or experts.

Attached for your consideration is a proposed Resolution.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 02/24/2022 - 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 Pace University, acting by and through its Elisabeth Haub School of Law's Pace Women's Justice Center, ("PWJC") to provide legal consumer education via telephone counseling in matrimonial, employment, health care, domestic violence and elder law, as well as education and training to private attorneys who will, in return for such training, provide low cost matrimonial and elder law representation to low and moderate income persons, for the period January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022, for an amount not to exceed \$87,923.00, 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	\$87,923	2022

Budget Funding Year(s) 2022 Start Date: 1/1/2022 End Date: 12/31/2022
 (must match resolution)

\$87,923
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source: Tax Dollars \$87,923
 State Aid _____
 Federal Aid _____
 Other _____