

90846

To: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Robin Schlaff
Director, Office for Women

Date: February 8, 2022

Subject: Authority to enter into an agreement with Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc., pursuant to which it will provide direct services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault as well as operate a 24-hour Rape Crisis Helpline, for a term from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, for an amount not to exceed \$122,620.00.

Authority is hereby requested from your Honorable Board for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Office for Women, (the "County") to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc. ("WestCOP"), pursuant to which WestCOP will provide, through its Victims Assistance Services Program ("VAS"), direct services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault ("DV/SA") as well as operate a 24-hour Rape Crisis Helpline that will assist victims, for a term commencing on January 1, 2022 and continuing through December 31, 2022, for an amount not to exceed \$122,620.00, payable quarterly pursuant to an approved budget.

Through VAS' Rape Crisis Program, WestCOP provides support services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Westchester County. In addition to providing counseling and assistance services who have been victims of rape and child victims who have witnessed violence, WestCOP provides clinical services to adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse, families of rape victims and special populations including adolescents.

On November 16, 2021, the County, acting by and through OFW, issued a request for proposals that solicited proposals from vendors to provide the Services (the "RFP"). The RFP was sent out to 227 organizations throughout New York State, and was, of course, made available on the County's website, where it could be accessed by additional entities, including minority- and women-owned businesses.

In response to the RFP, the County received three (3) proposals. The County evaluated the proposals based upon the evaluation criteria specified in the RFP and determined that WestCOP is the most qualified to provide the solicited services.

The proposed Agreement will serve a public purpose by providing immediate crisis intervention to victims of DV/SA.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are for WestCOP to provide, through VAS, immediate crisis intervention information and referral for victims of rape through its 24-hour Rape Crisis helpline; and provide DV/SA victims with direct services including, but not limited to, safety planning, advocacy, information and referral, and accompaniment to court, police departments, medical facilities, and other support services as needed.

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

I respectfully recommend the adoption of the attached resolution.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 02/24/2022 - RAYMOND SOULKY, 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 Westchester Community Opportunity Program, Inc. ("WestCOP"), pursuant to which WestCOP will provide, through its Victims Assistance Services Program ("VAS"), direct services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault as well as operate a 24-hour Rape Crisis Helpline that will assist victims, for a term commencing on January 1, 2022 and continuing through December 31, 2022, for an amount not to exceed \$122,620.00, payable 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 is hereby authorized to execute any documents and take any actions reasonably necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

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	\$122,620	2022

Budget Funding Year(s) 2022
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 1/1/2022 End Date: 12/31/2022

\$122,620
(must match resolution)

Funding Source: Tax Dollars \$122,620
State Aid _____
Federal Aid _____
Other _____