



Kenneth W. Jenkins
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Leonard G. Townes
Commissioner

113150

DATE: March 3, 2026

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to:

- 1) Enter into an agreement with North American Family Institute, Inc., pursuant to which North American Family Institute will, together with Neighbors Link Corp., jointly operate the Family and Police Training and Youth Police Initiative Programs, for the purpose of bolstering the relationship between immigrant families, various police departments, and DSS employees, for a term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, for an amount not to exceed \$37,500.00; and
- 2) Enter into an agreement with Neighbors Link Corp., pursuant to which Neighbors Link Corp. will, together with North American Family Institute, jointly operate the Family and Police Training and Youth Police Initiative programs, for a term commencing on January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, for an amount not to exceed \$37,500.00

Authority is hereby requested for the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Social Services (the "Department"), to enter into an agreement with North American Family Institute, Inc. ("NAFI"), pursuant to which NAFI will, together with Neighbors Link Corp., jointly operate the Family and Police Training and Youth Police Initiative Programs, for the purpose of bolstering the relationship between immigrant families, various police departments, and DSS employees (collectively, the "Programs"), for a term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, for an amount not to exceed \$37,500.00 (DSS6022-26; the "NAFI Agreement").

Authority is also requested for the County, acting by and through the Department, to enter into an agreement with Neighbors Link Corp. ("Neighbors Link"), pursuant to which Neighbors Link will, together with NAFI, jointly operate the Programs, for a term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, for an amount not to exceed \$37,500.00 (DSS6023-26; the "Neighbors Link Agreement" and together with the NAFI Agreement, collectively, the "Agreements").

Through NAFI and Neighbors Link's joint collaboration, the Programs will ameliorate the relationship between Westchester residents and their local police force(s), and equip both DSS employees and local police departments with the cultural awareness skills needed to best serve Westchester residents, by:

- Training immigrant families, especially youths, and various police departments on the most effective ways to communicate and interact with each other, ensuring their relationships remain positive
- Preventing these youths from entering into the Juvenile Justice or Raise the Age systems, as either Persons In Need of Supervision ("PINS") or Juvenile Delinquents ("JD")
- Equipping both DSS employees and local police departments with the cultural awareness skills needed to best serve Westchester residents, and prepare them for further trainings

The Family and Police Training would consist of a single training, with families in the community sharing their experiences and history with patrol officers, along with a number of exercises concerning teambuilding, problem solving, etc. The Youth Police Initiative would pair 24 DSS staff with 16 police officers over multiple multi-hour sessions, where commonalities between their work and a consensus on their mutual goals would be drawn.

Each of the proposed Agreements will serve a public purpose by increasing the awareness and knowledge of both standard police and DSS protocol, as well as various cultural norms of Westchester communities, which should diminish the likelihood of concerns or problems in their individual or joint functioning.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreements are in the best interest of the County in terms of public health and safety because the services provided will reduce the chances of animosity forming between immigrant families, local police departments, and DSS employees, thereby reducing the chances of harm to all. Through the expansion of knowledge and empathy, the training would help all groups come to a better understanding about the workings of the others; this degree of rapport has historically served to prevent problems in the functioning of all involved.

The goals and objectives of these Agreements are in the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility in that the Department is able to achieve cost savings when staff and local police forces are properly equipped with the wherewithal to navigate complex situations involving themselves and the families and residents of Westchester; cost savings will also be achieved as local police forces will not be put into a position which would require them to exert authority or use County resources in

resolving a conflict. This will result in substantial savings for the County and its taxpayers.

Both of the Agreements are exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures pursuant to Section 3(a) ix thereof, which exempts “contracts with teachers, lecturers and other education professionals or experts.”

Accordingly, the County of Westchester is hereby requesting authority to enter into Agreements with North American Family Institute, Inc. and Neighbors Link Corp. for the aforesaid purposes.

An appropriate resolution requesting your Honorable Board’s approval is attached herewith.

LGT/MD
Attachment

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 03/12/2026 - RAYMOND SCULKA SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Social Services (the "Department"), is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with North American Family Institute, Inc. ("NAFI"), pursuant to which NAFI shall, together with Neighbors Link Corp., jointly operate the Family and Police Training and Youth Police Initiative Programs, for the purpose of bolstering the relationship between immigrant families, various police departments, and DSS employees (collectively, the "Programs"), for a term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, for an amount not to exceed \$37,500.00 (DSS6022-26; the "NAFI Agreement"); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County, acting by and through the Department, is further authorized to enter into an agreement with Neighbors Link Corp. ("Neighbors Link"), pursuant to which Neighbors Link shall, together with NAFI, jointly operate the Programs, for a term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, for an amount not to exceed \$37,500.00 (DSS6023-26; the "Neighbors Link Agreement" and together with the NAFI Agreement, collectively, the "Agreements"); and be it further

RESOLVED, that each of the Agreements are subject to County appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Agreements are 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 these 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 these 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 their Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is hereby authorized to take such action and execute such documents as may be necessary and proper to effectuate the purposes hereof.

1. Account to be Charged/Credited:

Fund	Dept.	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
101	22	8900	5960		\$75,000

2. Budget Funding Year(s): 2026

Start Date: January, 1 2026
(must match resolution)

End Date: December 31, 2026

3. Funding Source:

Federal	0%	CFDA#(s)			
State	0%	State ID#(s)	N/A		
Operating/Tax Levy	100%				
Capital	0%				

4. Total NTE: \$75,000
(must match resolution)

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 03/12/2026 - RAYMOND SCULKY, SECRETARY