

109845

DATE: October 10, 2024

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Mr. Ernest McFadden, Executive Director
Westchester County Youth Bureau

SUBJECT: Request authority to:

1) enter into an agreement with the New York State Office of Children & Family Services (OCFS) to accept funds in the total aggregate amount of \$1,725,564, for the County to provide a variety of youth services programs in Westchester County, under the following state programs: (i) Youth Development Programming, (ii) Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, (iii) Youth Sports and Education Opportunity Funding, and (iv) Youth Team Sports program, for a term commencing on October 1, 2024 and continuing through September 30, 2025;

2) enter into an agreement with The Children's Village, Inc., for the purpose of operating its "Sanctuary Program," under the OCFS' Runaway and Homeless Youth Act program, to provide crisis shelter services to runaway and homeless youth through the operation of a 14 bed 24 x 7 shelter, for a total amount not to exceed \$192,562, comprised of \$140,899 in OCFS funds and \$51,663 in County matching funds, pursuant to an approved budget, for a term commencing on October 1, 2024 and continuing through September 30, 2025.

Authority is respectfully requested from your Honorable Board for the County of Westchester ("County"), acting by and through the Westchester County Youth Bureau ("WCYB"), to enter into an agreement with the New York State Office of Children & Family Services ("OCFS"), for a period commencing on October 1, 2024 and continuing through September 30, 2025, to accept funds in the total aggregate amount of \$1,725,564 ("OCFS Funds") and in the individual program amounts set forth below, for the County to provide a variety of youth services programs under the following OCFS's programs (collectively, the "OCFS Programs"):

- (i) Youth Development Program (“YDP”) funding in the amount of \$821,656 for the program and administration of the youth development programs;
- (ii) Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (“RHYA”) funding in the amount of \$140,899 for the program and administration of a runaway and homeless housing program;
- (iii) Youth Sports and Education Opportunity (“YSEF”) funding in the amount of \$245,113 for the program and administration of sports/physical fitness opportunity programs; and
- (iv) Youth Team Sports (“YTS”) funding in the amount of \$517,896 for the program and administration of local team sports programs.

Authority is also respectfully requested from your Honorable Board for the County to enter into an agreement (“CV Agreement”) with The Children’s Village, Inc., for the purpose of operating its “Sanctuary Program,” under the RHYA’s program, to provide crisis shelter services to runaway and homeless youth through the operation of a 14 bed 24 x 7 shelter, for the period from October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025. The purpose of the “Sanctuary Program” is to meet the immediate needs of runaway and homeless youth needing immediate crisis shelter services. Pursuant to the proposed CV Agreement, the total amount to be paid under the Agreement will not to exceed \$192,562, comprised of \$140,899 in OCFS funds and \$51,663 in County matching funds.

It should be noted that, in addition to the CV Agreement, the County will enter into numerous agreements with various not-for-profit corporations, municipalities and community-based organizations under the YDP, the YSEF and the YTS programs, for the provision of various other youth programs designed to provide opportunities for youth to actively acquire the skills and abilities needed to grow up to be competent, caring and healthy adults and programs intended to support local team sports programs across New York State. Each agreement is subject to all necessary legal approvals but shall not exceed \$50,000 per program (organizations that serve multiple areas through different programs may be funded above \$50,000).

It should also be noted that, pursuant to OCFS recommendation, the County will advertise the availability of funding through the YTS and YSEF streams in order to give eligible entities opportunity to submit proposals and apply for funding at the local level. The County will procure services from interested not-for-profits and community-based organizations for the implementation of the “YTS” program. The County will procure services from interested not-for-profit organizations, municipalities and/or local youth bureaus for the implementation of “Youth Sports and Education” program. A maximum of 15% of the total allocation may be used to cover the County’s department administrative costs in connection with the administration of the various programs.

As a way of background, the County anticipates spending a total amount not to exceed \$1,777,227 in connection with the provision of the various youth programs. As such, the New York State, through OCFS – Division of Youth Development and Partnership for Success, already advised the County of the availability of the OCFS Funds in the amount of \$1,725,564, and the County is planning to contribute a total of \$51,663 in County matching funds for the operation of the

“Sanctuary Program’ under the CV Agreement. The OCFS Funds and the County matching funds will be distributed as more particularly depicted below:

Programs	OCFS Funds Program Credit	OCFS Funds WCYB Admin Costs Credit	OCFS Funds WCPRC Costs Credit	Total OCFS Funds Credit	County Matching	Total Program Cost
YDP	\$671,656.00	\$100,000.00		\$771,656.00		\$771,656.00
RHYA	\$126,810.00	\$14,089.00		\$140,899.00	\$51,663.00	\$192,562.00
NYS Youth Sports	\$245,113.00			\$245,113.00		\$245,113.00
WCPRF			\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00		\$50,000.00
NYS Youth Team Sports	\$517,896.00			\$517,896.00		\$517,896.00
Total	\$1,561,475.00	\$114,089.00	\$50,000.00	\$1,725,564.00	\$51,663.00	\$1,777,227.00

As indicated above, the County shall retain a total of \$114,089 of the OCFS Funds to cover the County’s department administrative costs in connection with the administration of the YDP and RHYA programs, as depicted above.

It should also be noted that a Resource Allocation Plan (“RAP”), will be submitted to the County’s Board of Legislators for review and consideration shortly prior to the submission of same to OCFS in order for the County to claim reimbursement of the OCFS Funds.

The goal of the grant agreement under the OCFS’ Youth Development Programming is to provide a variety of positive youth development programs that provide opportunities for youth to actively acquire the skills and abilities needed to grow up to be competent, caring and healthy adults. The programs will implement services, opportunities and support mechanisms that target specific areas of positive youth development. The programs are designed to administer internal controls to collect and analyze qualitative and quantitative outcomes to measure the efficacy of the program goals and their ability to increase positive youth development.

The goal of the grant agreement and the proposed CV Agreement under the OCFS’s Runaway and Homeless Youth Act program, is to meet the immediate needs of runaway and homeless youth and youth needing crisis shelter services, through the operation of a 14 bed shelter that is open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. The youth enrolled in the CV Agreement’s Sanctuary Program, which is expected to be approximately 150 youth, will be able to avail themselves of adequate temporary housing in a safe environment receiving services for themselves as well as their families. The Sanctuary Program will also provide information and immediate services through their hotline.

The goal of grant agreement under the OCFS’ Youth Sports and Education Opportunity Funding is to provide variety of sports/physical fitness opportunities for a broad range of youth ages 6-17, residing in under-resourced communities. The objective of the Agreements recognize that physical health lends to mental health and overall well-being, and integrate activities that promote social and emotional skills development. The implementation of the programs under the proposed Agreements will, among other things, improve outcomes related to youth mental health and social and emotional skills development and connectedness and break down barriers to reduce discrimination, crime, and violence in communities as well as help young leaders emerge.

The goal of grant agreement under the OCFS’ Youth Team Sports Funding is to provide support to local team sports programs serving youth under the age of 18 in communities where such programs may be scarce or under-resourced. Unlike Youth Sports and Education, Youth Team

Sports has a sole focus on team sports. A “team sport” is defined as an organized physical activity in which groups of two or more individuals are in competition with two or more opposing individuals. YTS may be used to fund programming that provides opportunities for youth in under-resourced communities to learn and participate in team sports activities. The implementation of the programs under the proposed Agreements will, among other things, improve physical and mental health and well-being, increase employment qualifications and improve community cohesion.

Program outcomes will be tracked and monitored by the County by evaluating the programs’ data; the monthly, quarterly, and annual reports submitted to the County Youth Bureau, and through site visits by the County Youth Bureau Program monitor. The programs anticipate outcomes of positive skills attainment, social competencies and an increased measure of positive youth development across all measurable areas. The implementation of the programs under the proposed agreements, including the CV Agreement, will, among other things, improve outcomes related to youth mental health and social and emotional skills development and connectedness and break down barriers to reduce discrimination, crime, and violence in communities as well as help young leaders emerge.

The goals and objectives of the grant agreements and the CV Agreement, will be tracked and monitored by the Youth Bureau through site visits and reports.

I certify that my department, a) has copies of, or access to, all applicable laws, rules, regulations, plan applications, and Plan Agreements (including any master plan agreement), as well as any guidance or instructions received from the agency making the allocation (the “Allocation Terms”), b) has reviewed the Allocation Terms, c) is aware of and understands all of the Allocation Terms, and d) can and will comply with all of the Allocation Terms.

The Grant Agreement does not constitute a procurement and as such is not subject to the County Procurement Policy. The proposed CV Agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a)xviii thereof, which exempts contracts for youth services projects.

I respectfully recommend the adoption of the attached resolution.

EM/jmq

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Executive Director of the Westchester County Youth Bureau, be it hereby:

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (“County”) is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the New York State Office of Children & Family Services (“OCFS”) to accept funds in the total aggregate amount of \$1,725,564, for the County to provide a variety of youth services programs in Westchester County under the following OCFS’s programs: (i) Youth Development Programming, (ii) Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (“RHYA”), (iii) Youth Sports and Education Opportunity Funding, and (iv) Youth Team Sports program, for a term commencing on October 1, 2024 and continuing through September 30, 2025; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with The Children’s Village, Inc. (“Children’s Village”) for the purpose of operating its “Sanctuary Program,” under the RHYA’s program, in order to provide crisis shelter services to runaway and homeless youth through the operation of a 14 bed 24 x 7 shelter, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$192,562, comprised of \$140,899 in OCFS funds and \$51,663 in County matching funds, for the period from October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the CV Agreement is subject to County appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the CV 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 the CV 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 the CV Agreement or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved therein. If the Children’s Village subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount under the CV Agreement, then the Children’s Village shall have the right to terminate the 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:	Fund	Dept.	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/Sub-Object	Dollars
Charged	101	11	0400	1010	\$119,393
Charged	165	42	4750	1010	\$50,000
Charged	101	11	0400	4436	\$42,270
Charged	263	11	A530	4380	\$1,434,665
Charged	263	11	A108	4380	\$126,810
Credited	263	11	A530	9584	\$1,434,665
Credited	263	11	A108	9584	\$126,810
Credited	101	11	0400	9734	\$114,089
Credited	165	42	4750	9734	\$50,000

Budget Funding Year(s): 2024-25 Start Date: October 1, 2024 End Date: September 30, 2025
(must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars: \$51,663
\$1,777,227 State Aid: \$1,725,564
(must match resolution) Federal Aid: _____
Other:

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 10/31/2024 - RAYMOND SCULKY, SECRETARY