

**113192**

DATE: March 6, 2026

TO: The Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Sherlita Amler, M.D.  
Commissioner of Health

Re: Authority for the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with Birth from the Earth Inc., for the Maternal & Child Health Partnership Pilot Initiative Program to address and improve Black maternal and child health outcomes and reduce racial health inequities in the County, for the term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2026 and terminating on December 31, 2026 in the amount not-to-exceed \$140,000 payable pursuant to an approved budget on a quarterly basis

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Authority is respectfully requested from your Honorable Board for the County of Westchester (the “County”), acting by and through its Department of Health (the “Department”), to enter into an agreement with Birth from the Earth Inc. (“BFTE”), pursuant to which BFTE will provide the Maternal & Child Health Partnership Pilot Initiative Program (“Pilot Program”) to address and improve Black maternal and child health outcomes and reduce racial health inequities in the County, for the term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2026 and terminating on December 31, 2026. In consideration for services rendered, the County will pay BFTE an amount not-to-exceed \$140,000 payable pursuant to an approved budget on a quarterly basis.

Under the terms of the Agreement, BFTE will provide ACTT facilitator trainings to birth workers and/or ACTT Workshops to expectant individuals and their support people. ACTT is a healthcare/medical self-advocacy model that helps people assert their rights to get the information needed to make their own health decisions, among other things as described below.

The proposed Agreement will serve an important public purpose by improving Black maternal and child health outcomes and reducing racial health inequities in Westchester County by addressing these inequities and through capacity building of key community partners.

The goal of the Agreement is to create lasting solutions to racism, unequal access to healthcare and poor outcomes for Black birthing people and their children in Westchester County.

This Agreement will use the experiences and expertise of the BFTE President and Program & Services Coordinator to maintain BFTE’s capacity to activate and engage Black and Indigenous birthing individuals and their families through education, training, inclusion, and holistic, culturally competent. BFTE offers consultations to expectant mothers and either matches them with an in-house midwife for prenatal care and birth or refers them to outside care that meets their needs and wishes. Offerings also include free childbirth education classes and

workshops, group prenatal sessions, monthly lactation and postpartum support groups (Nurture and Nourish), prenatal yoga and African drum classes, and ongoing education and support for birth workers, including neonatal resuscitation courses for midwives. It will also fund *Kindred Healing*, a community program which aims to support the families of Black birthing people through thoughtful, holistic programming, education, and support/referral services in collaboration with several community partners.

The parties contemplate that BFTE will use the following subcontractor to perform a portion of the services under the Agreement:

The Black Coalition for Safe Motherhood  
101 West Newtown Place  
Newark, Delaware 19702

Services: Provide ACTT facilitator trainings to birth workers and/or ACTT Workshops to expectant individuals and their support people. ACTT is a healthcare medical self-advocacy model that helps people assert their rights to get the information needed to make their own health decisions.

The objectives are to:

- Provide consultation and referrals to at least 20 expectant individuals throughout the contract term
- Host at least 3 Nurture & Nourish sessions per quarter
- Host at least 1 Childbirth Education Class or Workshop per quarter
- Host at least 8 group prenatal sessions throughout the contract term
- Serve 3-5 families per month via Kindred Healing program
- Host at least 8 birth worker trainings over the course of the contract term

The goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored monthly by the Department in reviewing progress reports on the achievements of the above objectives and gathering qualitative data on the experiences of the entire families during the journey of supporting birthing mothers/people.

The Agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy (the "Policy") pursuant to Section 3(a) viii thereof, which exempts contracts for medical and health related services.

Accordingly, authority is respectfully requested from your Honorable Board for the County to enter into this Agreement.

SA/dc  
Attachment

## RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Health, it is hereby

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester (the "County") acting by and through its Department of Health (the "Department"), is authorized to enter into an agreement with Birth from the Earth, Inc. ("BFTE"), pursuant to which BFTE will provide the Maternal & Child Health Partnership Pilot Initiative Program ("Pilot Program") to address and improve Black maternal and child health outcomes and reduce racial health inequities in the County, for the term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2026 and terminating on December 31, 2026; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that in consideration for services rendered, the County shall pay BFTE an amount not-to-exceed \$140,000, payable pursuant to an approved budget, on a quarterly basis; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, to authorize BFTE to subcontract with the following agency to perform a portion of the services under the Agreement:

The Black Coalition for Safe Motherhood  
101 West Newtown Place  
Newark, Delaware 19702;

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 the State Budget or any amendments thereto, and for a reasonable period of time after such release(s) or Adoptions(s), to conduct an analysis 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 authorized and empowered to execute and deliver all instruments and take all actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Original Agreement     \$  
 First Amendment       \$  
 Second Amendment     \$  
 This Amendment        \$  
 TOTAL                    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Agreement #

<u>Account to be Charged/Credited</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Dept</u>	<u>Major Program, Program &amp; Phase or Unit</u>	<u>Object/ Sub-Object</u>	<u>Trust Account</u>	<u>Dollars</u>
		101	27	0010-4000	4380	

Budget Funding Year(s)  
 (must match resolution)     2026     Start Date   01/01/2026     End Date   12/31/2026

Funding Source                   Tax Dollars     \$140,000  
   State Aid        \_\_\_\_\_

**\$140,000**                           Federal Aid     \_\_\_\_\_

(must match resolution)   Other            \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 03/19/2026 - RAYMOND SCULKY, SECRETARY