



Vedat Gashi
Chairman,
Westchester County
Board of Legislators

OnBase ID #111040

DATE: April 24, 2025

TO: The Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Honorable Vedat Gashi
Chairman, Westchester County Board of Legislators

SUBJECT: Requesting authority for the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with Yonkers Hispanic Cultural Foundation, Inc., pursuant to which Yonkers Hispanic Cultural Foundation, Inc. will provide various programs, including its "World Start Program", a community food distribution program, educational workshops for children, and a cultural festival, for a term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2025 and continuing through December 31, 2025, for an amount not-to-exceed \$40,000.00, payable in two equal installments, pursuant to an approved budget.

Attached for your consideration is a Resolution, which, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County of Westchester (the "County") to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with Yonkers Hispanic Cultural Foundation, Inc. (the "Contractor") pursuant to which the Contractor will provide various programs, including its "World Start Program", a community food distribution program, educational workshops for children, and a cultural festival, for a term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2025 and continuing through December 31, 2025, for an amount not-to-exceed \$40,000.00, payable in two equal installments, pursuant to an approved budget.

Specifically, with respect to the "World Start Program", the Contractor will provide an educational program that uses the methodology of music to teach the English alphabet to participants. The goal of the World Start Program is to facilitate the learning of pronunciation and word recognition while simultaneously assisting participants assimilate with American culture. In addition to the "World Start Program", the Contractor will also provide a 13 week learning program, whereby high school seniors will teach English to members of the Spanish speaking community.

With respect to the community food distribution program, the Contractor will distribute food to community members who are facing food insecurity, including senior residents who are unable to leave their home. Additionally, while distributing food, the Contractor will educate senior residents on safety precautions for when people come to their door.

With respect to the educational workshops for children, the Contractor will partner with the City of Yonkers Police Department to provide workshops covering a number of important topics, including 'Community Bicycle Safety', 'Halloween Safety Practices' and 'Know Your Rights Police Interactions'.

Lastly, with respect to the cultural festival, the Contractor will oversee coordinate and provide financial management for the annual Puerto Rican / Hispanic Day Parade and Festival in the City of Yonkers. The parade and festival are currently scheduled to take place on Sunday, June 1, 2025.

The Agreement will serve a public purpose by providing Hispanic residents with programming that will help them assimilate to the community and become more self-sufficient, while simultaneously providing them with an opportunity to celebrate their Hispanic heritage.

The Agreement is exempt from the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures (the "Policy") pursuant to Section 3(a)(xiii) thereof, which exempts "any procurement for the purpose of entering into a contract or contracts with not for profit organizations for the support, enhancement, or preservation of cultural resources and the arts".

It is respectfully requested and recommended that your Honorable Board approve the annexed Resolution.

VG/AR/sjc
Attachment

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Chairman of the Westchester County Board of Legislators, it is hereby:

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the "County") is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement") with Yonkers Hispanic Cultural Foundation, Inc. (the "Contractor") pursuant to which the Contractor shall provide various programs, including its "World Start Program, a community food distribution program, educational workshops for children, and a cultural festival, for a term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2025 and continuing through December 31, 2025, for an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00, payable in two equal installments, pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

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

RESOLVED, that the 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 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 adoptions(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 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 the Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Westchester County Board of Legislators, or his duly authorized designee, is hereby authorized to execute any documents and take such 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	Sub-unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Dollars
101	52	2508	0010	5100	\$40,000.00

Budget Funding Year(s) Start Date 1/1/25 End Date 12/31/25
(must match resolution)

Funding Source	Tax Dollars <u>\$40,000.00</u>
	State Aid <u></u>
<u>\$40,000.00</u>	Federal Aid <u></u>
(must match resolution)	Other <u></u>