



Catherine Borgia
Chairwoman,
Westchester County
Board of Legislators

OnBase ID #92819

DATE: April 21, 2022

TO: The Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Honorable Catherine Borgia
Chairwoman, Westchester County Board of Legislators

SUBJECT: Authority to exempt the procurement of an agreement with Youth Service Opportunities Project, Inc. to provide an intergenerational program that creates meaningful, group conversations between young people and seniors living in their homes and residents of senior living communities for the term January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures.

Authority is respectfully requested from your Honorable Board to exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures (the "Policy"), pursuant to Sec. 3(a)(xxi) thereof, the procurement of an agreement with Youth Service Opportunities Project, Inc. ("YSOP") to provide the Connex Program, an intergenerational program that creates meaningful, group conversations between young people and seniors living in their homes and residents of senior living communities for the term January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 in the amount not to exceed \$59,679.00 (the "Agreement").

The proposed Agreement would provide senior citizens the opportunity to give perspective, insight, a sense of comfort and calm to youth participants and will provide a landscape for youth volunteer engagement. The Connex program provides necessary services to Westchester County residents and will benefit the whole community.

Ordinarily, pursuant Section 6 of the Policy, the County is required to "solicit proposals through the issuance of a request for proposals." However, because the unique qualifications of YSOP to provide these services due to the organization being a

nationally recognized leader in providing high-quality volunteer service-learning experiences. YSOP has been a pioneer in the field of service, leading thousands of youth and adults in service programs to encourage community participation and engaged citizenship through direct and indirect service to our society's most vulnerable populations.

YSOP Connex provides service opportunities for both youth and senior citizens. Through virtual and in person conversations their programs will give senior citizens opportunities to provide much needed perspective, insight, sense of comfort and calm to youth participants trying to navigate so many new and unknown situations. YSOP believes this type of human connection is the new landscape for youth volunteer engagement for the foreseeable future.

It would be in the best interests of the County for YSOP to provide these services.

Therefore, pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) of the Policy, it is recommended that your Honorable Board determine, by resolution passed prior to commencing the procurement of YSOP's services that compliance with procedural requirements of the Policy would not be in the best interest of the County.

Accordingly, a resolution to exempt the procurement of this agreement is hereby submitted for your Honorable Board's consideration. A separate resolution has been submitted requesting authority to enter into the Agreement.

BG/di

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 3(a)(xxi) of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures, it is hereby determined that application of the procedural requirements contained therein, including the necessity of soliciting proposals, is neither cost effective nor expedient, and accordingly, not in the best interest of the County of Westchester in connection with the procurement of an agreement between the County of Westchester and Youth Service Opportunities Project, Inc. to provide an intergenerational program that creates meaningful, group conversations between young people and seniors living in their homes and residents of senior living communities.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 05/19/2022 - RAYMOND J. COLLYER, CLERK