



Office of the County Executive
Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello
County Executive

August 6, 2021

OFFICIAL FILE COPY	
No.	<u>210312</u>
Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature Of Monroe County	
Committee Assignment	
PUBLIC SAFETY	-L
WAYS & MEANS	

To The Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 County Office Building
Rochester, New York 14614

Subject: Acceptance of a Grant from the United States Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, for the Improving Criminal Justice Responses Grant Program, also known as the Arrest Program, and Authorize an Intermunicipal Agreement with the City of Rochester and Contracts with the Legal Aid Society of Rochester, New York, Planned Parenthood of Central and Western New York, Inc., and Willow Domestic Violence Center of Greater Rochester, Inc.

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body accept a grant from the United States Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the Improving Criminal Justice Responses Grant Program, also known as the Arrest Program, authorize an intermunicipal agreement with the City of Rochester in an amount not to exceed \$111,890 for a Victim Assistance Counselor and a Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART), and authorize contracts with the Legal Aid Society of Rochester, New York in an amount not to exceed \$295,147 for legal representation of domestic violence victims; Planned Parenthood of Central and Western New York, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$113,424 for a domestic violence advocate; and Willow Domestic Violence Center of Greater Rochester, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$168,074 for enhanced victim services, all for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2023.

This program is a collaborative of partnerships between criminal justice agencies, victim service providers, and community organizations which respond to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking in Monroe County. This grant will fund the following:

- The City of Rochester Police Department will provide DART, a team dedicated to providing targeted police work for high-risk domestic violence cases, and a Victim Assistance Counselor, who provides counseling, safety planning, and accompanies victims to court.
- The Monroe County Office of Probation – Community Corrections will continue to employ an Intensive Supervision Probation Officer for the dedicated Domestic Violence Intensive Supervision Program.
- The contract with the Legal Aid Society will fund 1) a part-time Domestic Violence Consortium Assistant to provide administrative support; and 2) a civil attorney to provide legal representation to victims seeking orders of protection, and for immigrant and limited English proficient victims seeking services.

- The contract with Planned Parenthood will fund a victim advocate through "RESTORE" Sexual Assault Services, who will provide victims of sexual assault with crisis intervention and support through the medical examination/evidence kit collection process, treatment, advocacy, and support during interactions with law enforcement, court accompaniment and information and referrals for additional services as needed.
- The contract with the Willow Domestic Violence Center will fund a victim advocate to provide collaborative-enhanced victim services to individuals petitioning for Orders of Protection in the Domestic Violence Intervention Court division of Family Court.

This will be the twenty-second year that the County has received this grant. This year's funding represents an increase of \$250,000 from the previous grant award.

Requests for qualifications were issued with the Legal Aid Society of Rochester, New York, Planned Parenthood of Central and Western New York, Inc., and Willow Domestic Violence Center of Greater Rochester, Inc. rated the most qualified to provide these services.

The specific legislative actions required are:

1. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to accept a \$1,000,000 grant from, and to execute a contract and any amendments thereto with, the United States Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women for the Improving Criminal Justice Responses Grant Program for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2023.
2. Amend the 2021 operating budget of the Department of Public Safety, Office of Probation and Community Corrections, by appropriating the sum of \$1,000,000 into general fund 9300, funds center 2403040000, Supervision General.
3. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to execute an intermunicipal agreement, and any amendments thereto, with the City of Rochester for a Victim Assistance Counselor and a Domestic Abuse Response Team for the Improving Criminal Justice Responses Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$111,890 for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2023.
4. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to execute a contract, and any amendments thereto, with the Legal Aid Society of Rochester, New York, One West Main Street, Suite 800, Rochester, New York 14614, for legal representation of domestic violence victims for the Improving Criminal Justice Responses Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$295,147 for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2023.
5. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to execute a contract, and any amendments thereto, with Planned Parenthood of Central and Western New York, Inc., 114 University Avenue, Rochester, New York 14605, for crisis intervention and support services to victims for the Improving Criminal Justice Responses Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$113,424 for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2023.
6. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to execute a contract, and any amendments thereto, with Willow Domestic Violence Center of Greater Rochester, Inc., P.O. Box 39601, Rochester, New York 14604, for collaborative-enhanced victim services for the Improving Criminal Justice Responses Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$168,074 for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2023.
7. Authorize the County Executive to appropriate any subsequent years of the grant award in accordance with the grant terms, to reappropriate any unencumbered balances during the grant period according to the grantor requirements, and to make any necessary funding modifications within grant guidelines to meet contractual commitments.

8. Should funding of this program be modified or terminated for any reason, the County Executive is hereby authorized to terminate or modify the program and, where applicable, to terminate or abolish some or all positions funded under such program. Any termination or abolishment of positions shall be in accordance with New York State Civil Service Law and, when applicable, the terms of any labor agreement affecting such positions.

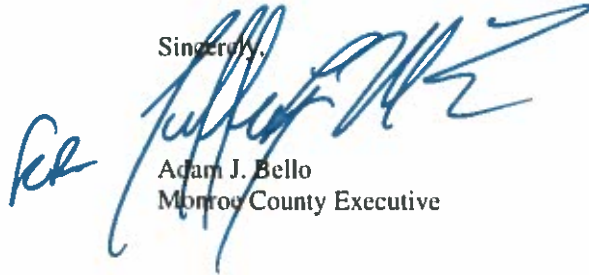
This action is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(26) ("routine or continuing agency administration and management, not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment") and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

This grant is 100% funded by the United States Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women. No net County support is required in the current Monroe County budget.

The Legal Aid Society of Rochester, New York, Planned Parenthood of Central and Western New York, Inc., and Willow Domestic Violence Center of Greater Rochester, Inc. are not-for-profit agencies, and the records in the Office of the Monroe County Treasury have indicated that they do not owe any delinquent Monroe County property taxes.

I recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'AJB', is written over a larger, more stylized signature in blue ink.

Adam J. Bello
Monroe County Executive

AJB:db