



Office of the County Executive

Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello
County Executive

October 5, 2023

OFFICIAL FILE COPY	
No.	230319
Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature Of Monroe County	
Committee Assignment	
HUMAN SERVICES	-L
WAYS & MEANS	

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

Subject: Amend Resolution 18 of 2023 to Extend the Time Period of the BIPOC Peer Advocate Training and Development Program Grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and Authorize a Contract with House of Mercy, Inc. for the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color Peer Training and Development Program

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body amend Resolution 18 of 2023 to extend the time period of the BIPOC Peer Advocate Training and Development Program grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration through September 29, 2024 and authorize a contract with House of Mercy, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$265,000 for the BIPOC Peer Advocate Training and Development Program for the period of September 30, 2022 through September 29, 2024.

The BIPOC Peer Advocate Training and Development Program consists of training, certifying, and employing BIPOC individuals in the community. BIPOC peers who are certified by NYS will receive support toward vocational job placement and retention support with the goal of the BIPOC individual obtaining and maintaining employment at a behavioral health New York State Office of Mental Health, New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports, and New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities licensed organization. The goal of job placement and corresponding support will be part of the subcontract to improve culturally responsive support to BIPOC in Monroe County with a Mental Health and/or Substance Use Disorder service delivery system.

A Request for Proposals was issued with House of Mercy, Inc. selected as the most qualified to provide these services.

Please refer to the attached Purchase of Services Information Form for disclosure of information required pursuant to Resolution 223 of 2007, as amended by Resolution 11 of 2008.

The specific legislative actions required are:

1. Amend Resolution 18 of 2023 to extend the time period of the BIPOC Peer Advocate Training and Development Program grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration through September 29, 2024.

2. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to execute a contract, and any amendments thereto, with House of Mercy, Inc. to operate a BIPOC Peer Advocate Training and Development Program in an amount not to exceed \$265,000 for the period September 30, 2022 through September 29, 2024.

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.

Funding for this contract is included in the 2023 operating budget of the Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health, general fund 9300, funds center 5702030000, Alcohol and Other Substance Abuse Services.

This grant is 100% funded by the Department of Health and Human Service’s Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. No net County support is required in the current Monroe County Budget.

House of Mercy Inc. is a not-for-profit agency and the records in the Office of the Monroe County Treasury have indicated that it does 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,

Adam J. Bello
Monroe County Executive

AJB:db

PURCHASE OF SERVICES INFORMATION FORM
Per Resolution 223 of 2007 as amended by Resolution 11 of 2008

Re: **Authorize a contract with House of Mercy, Inc. for the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Peer Advocate Training Program in 2023**

Total Served 2022 N/A
Proposed SAMSHA \$ Amt. 2023: \$265,000

PROGRAM: BIPOC PEER ADVOCATE TRAINING PROGRAM

CONTRACTOR: HOUSE OF MERCY, INC.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: The mission of HOUSE OF MERCY, INC. is to provide adults (18+) who meet the criteria requirements for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), Certified Recovery Peer Advocate Certificate (CRPA & CRPA-P), and completion of the NYS Peer Certification and/or the NY Certified Peer Specialist (NYCPS/NYCPS-P) CRPA, CRPA-P, or NYCPS/NYCPS-P Peer Certification.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVE(S) HOUSE OF MERCY, INC. will provide, at a minimum, the following services:

- BIPOC Peer Advocate Training and Development Program consists of training, certifying, and employing BIPOC individuals in the community.
- Services provided by experienced community partner(s) to provide targeted outreach and training specific to BIPOC community members with lived mental health experience to complete the appropriate training to complete the NYCPS/NYCPS-P, CRPA &/or CRPA-P examination and Peer membership.
- Training and certification process for either Peer trajectory is anticipated to include approximately 60 hours of classroom training over a condensed period.
- Course topics will address the effectiveness and practicality of the Peer profession, and supply the knowledge, tools, and skills that inform a well-rounded delivery of Peer services.
- Vocational and retention curriculums should be designed to develop key areas of workplace effectiveness, professional development, work readiness, and individual wellness.
- Participants will be provided with ongoing Peer employment support for a brief period.
- Participants will gain the skills necessary to become Peer certified and seek employment as a Peer Advocate in a short period of time while receiving ongoing support.
- After successfully completing classroom training and certification, the contracted partner(s) will assist Peers with obtaining and maintaining competitive employment, and ongoing support will aid the individual in transitioning to the role of professional Peer Advocate.
- Peers will provide ongoing volunteer opportunities in group facilitation, Peer coaching, navigating health/benefits systems, and advocacy to encourage longevity employment

**PRIMARY PERFORMANCE
MEASURE/INDICATOR**

	Previous Year Actual	Current Year Projection	Next Year Projection
Program Year	9/30/21-9/29/22	9/30/22-9/29/23	9/30/23-9/29/24
Total # of Participants	N/A	N/A	N/A

SOURCE MATERIAL: Application narrative