



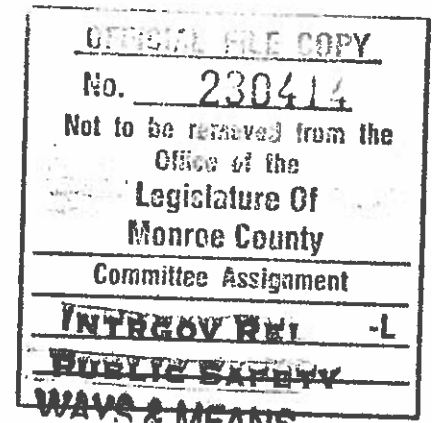
Office of the County Executive

Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello
County Executive

November 27, 2023

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 \$800,000 for the Improving Criminal Justice Responses Grant Program; authorize an intermunicipal agreement with the City of Rochester in an amount not to exceed \$82,208 for a part-time Domestic Violence Specialist, part-time Social Worker, and a Domestic Abuse Response Team; a contract with the Legal Aid Society of Rochester, New York in an amount not to exceed \$240,000 for legal representation of domestic violence victims; a contract with Planned Parenthood of Central and Western New York, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$88,080 for a domestic violence advocate; and a contract with Willow Domestic Violence Center of Greater Rochester, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$131,386 for enhanced victim services, all for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026.

This program is a collaborative of partnerships among 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:

- Rochester Police Department ("RPD") Crisis Intervention Services Unit/PIC Team ("PIC Team"): RPD will provide services through the Domestic Abuse Response Team. This team is comprised of officers who will respond to residences with domestic violence warrants and conduct house checks on residences for violations of orders of protection. PIC will respond to domestic violence and sexual assault occurrences and provide immediate crisis intervention services on the scene. This will include counseling, relocation services, transportation, and resources on a case-by-case basis.
- 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 Legal Aid Society will employ a part-time Domestic Violence Consortium ("DVC") Assistant to provide continued administrative support to the DVC and its Executive Committee, and assist in the implementation of the Lethality Assessment Protocol, and continue to employ .25 ("FTE") civil attorneys to provide legal services to victims of Intimate Partner Violence, particularly representation for victims seeking orders of protection and immigration matters in Family Court and the Integrated Domestic Violence Court.

- The contract with Planned Parenthood will fund a Court 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.
- Willow Domestic Violence Center will employ one full-time and one part-time Domestic Violence Court Advocate to provide counseling, case management, safety planning, and on-going support services.

This will be the twenty-fifth year that the County has received this grant. This year's funding represents a decrease of \$200,000 from the previous 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 an \$800,000 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, 2023 through September 30, 2026.
2. Amend the 2023 operating grant budget of the Department of Public Safety, Office of Probation and Community Corrections, by appropriating the sum of \$800,000 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 services through the Domestic Abuse Response Team and the Crisis Intervention Services Unit/PIC Team for the Improving Criminal Justice Responses Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$82,208 for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026.
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 \$240,000 for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026.
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 \$88,080 for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026.
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., 693 East Avenue, Rochester, New York 14607, for collaborative-enhanced victim services for the Improving Criminal Justice Responses Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$131,386 for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026.

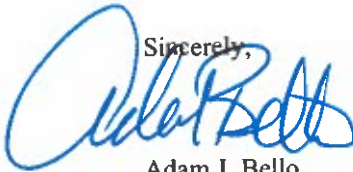
7. Authorize the County Executive to appropriate any subsequent years of the grant award in accordance with the grant terms, to reappropriate any unencumbered balances during the grant period according to the grantor requirements, to make any necessary funding modifications within the grant guidelines to meet contractual commitments, and to enter into any amendments to extend the time period of the grant.
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,


Adam J. Bello
Monroe County Executive

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