

George Latimer
County Executive

November 18, 2022

Westchester County Board of Legislators
800 Michaelian Office Building, Room 800
White Plains, NY 10601

Dear Honorable Members of the Board of Legislators:

Transmitted herewith for your review and approval is an Act which, if adopted by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County of Westchester ("County"), acting by and through its Youth Bureau ("Youth Bureau"), to enter into an inter-municipal agreement ("IMA") with the City of Peekskill ("Municipality"), acting by and through its Youth Bureau, pursuant to which the Municipality will provide its Anti-Gun Violence Credible Messenger Initiative ("Program") including, but not limited to, hiring speakers and providing training on credible messaging, mental health awareness to local youth and community members for a term commencing retroactively on October 1, 2022 and expiring on December 31, 2022, for a total amount not to exceed Twenty Thousand (\$20,000.00) Dollars, payable by the County pursuant to an approved budget.

The Youth Bureau has advised that the Program uses an evidence-based methodology of restorative justice, rather than punitive. Credible messengers are individuals who are able to connect and motivate youth, especially those that are at risk. The Municipality, through its Youth Bureau, will offer training to community members to be credible messengers to provide positive and credible voices to help stop violence in the community.

The procurement of Program is exempt from the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures pursuant to Section 3(a) xviii of said Policy.

The Planning Department has advised that the proposed IMA does not meet the definition of an action under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations, 6 NYCRR Part 617. Please refer to the memorandum from the Department of Planning dated January 14, 2022, which is on file with the Clerk of your Honorable Board.

The strategies of the initiative incorporate communication, understanding, behavior modification, healing, and love. The Youth Bureau would contract with an agency like the Credible Messenger Justice Center to bring this program to Peekskill. They will partner with Westchester Jewish Community Services to provide additional mental health services to youth.

Based on the importance of this initiative, your favorable action on the proposed Act is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George Latimer".

George Latimer
County Executive

**HONORABLE BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER**

Your Committee is in receipt of a communication from the County Executive recommending the adoption of an Act which, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County of Westchester ("County"), acting by and through its Youth Bureau ("Youth Bureau"), to enter into an inter-municipal agreement ("IMA") with the City of Peekskill ("Municipality"), acting by and through its Youth Bureau, pursuant to which the Municipality will provide its Anti-Gun Violence Credible Messenger Initiative ("Program") including, but not limited to, hiring speakers and providing training on credible messaging, mental health awareness to local youth and community members for a term commencing retroactively on October 1, 2022 and expiring on December 31, 2022, for a total amount not to exceed Twenty Thousand (\$20,000.00) Dollars, payable by the County pursuant to an approved budget.

Your Committee is advised that the proposed IMA will benefit the Municipality and its Youth Bureau, by offering training to community members to be credible messengers to provide positive and credible voices to help stop violence in the community.

The procurement of Program is exempt from the requirements of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures pursuant to Section 3(a) xviii of said Policy.

Your Committee has been advised that the proposed IMA does not meet the definition of an action under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations, 6 NYCRR Part 617. Please refer to the memorandum from the Department of Planning dated January 14, 2022, which is on file with the Clerk of your Honorable Board. Your Committee has reviewed this analysis and concurs with this conclusion.

Your Committee has carefully considered this matter and recommends approval of the Act, noting that it requires not more than an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of your Honorable Board. Accordingly, after due consideration, your Committee recommends adoption of the annexed legislation.

Dated: _____, 20____
White Plains, New York

COMMITTEE ON

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

SUBJECT: Peekskill - Violence Credible Messenger Initiative

NO FISCAL IMPACT PROJECTED

OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT

(To be completed by operating department and reviewed by Budget Department)

A) GENERAL FUND AIRPORT SPECIAL REVENUE FUND (Districts)

B) EXPENSES AND REVENUES

Total Current Year Cost \$ 20000

Total Current Year Revenue \$ 0

Source of Funds (check one): Current Appropriations

Transfer of Existing Appropriations

Additional Appropriations

Other (explain)

Identify Accounts: 101-11-0400-4380

Potential Related Operating Budget Expenses: Annual Amount \$ 20,000

Describe: The Youth Bureau will provide its Anti-Gun Violence Credible Messenger Initiative including, but not limited to, hiring speakers and providing training on credible messaging, mental health awareness to local youth and community members for term commencing retroactively on October 1, 2022 and expiring on December 31, 2022.

Potential Related Revenues: Annual Amount \$ 0

Describe: _____

Anticipated Savings to County and/or Impact on Department Operations:

Current Year: \$0

Next Four years: n/a

Prepared by: Bernie Dean



Title: Financial Administrator

Department: CEO/Youth Bureau



Reviewed By:



Budget Director

11/15/22

If you need more space, please attach additional sheets.

ACT NO. ____-2022

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an inter-municipal agreement with the City of Peekskill, for the purpose of Anti-Gun Violence Credible Messenger Initiative for the period commencing retroactively on October 1, 2022 and expiring on December 31, 2022, for a total amount not to exceed twenty thousand dollars.

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Legislators of the County of Westchester as follows:

SECTION 1. The County of Westchester (“County”), acting by and through its Youth Bureau, is hereby authorized to enter into an inter-municipal agreement (“IMA”) with the City of Peekskill (the “Municipality”), acting by and through their Youth Bureau, pursuant to which the County will provide funds to the Municipality for the purpose of Anti-Gun Violence Credible Messenger Initiative (“Program”) including, but not limited to, hiring speakers and providing training on credible messaging, mental health awareness to local youth and community members for a term commencing retroactively on October 1, 2022 and expiring on December 31, 2022, for a total amount not to exceed Twenty Thousand (\$20,000.00) Dollars payable pursuant to an approved budget.

§ 2. The County Executive or his duly authorized designee is hereby authorized and empowered to execute any and all documents appropriate and necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

§ 3. This Act shall take effect immediately.