



Kenneth W. Jenkins  
County Executive

September 4, 2025

Westchester County Board of Legislators  
800 Michaelian Office Building  
148 Martine Avenue  
White Plains, New York 10601

Honorable Members of the Board of Legislators:

Transmitted herewith for your consideration and approval is an Act which, if adopted, would authorize the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Office for Women (the "County"), to enter into an agreement with the Westchester County Health Care Corporation ("WCHCC") pursuant to which WCHCC would provide free culturally-competent bilingual services for victims of sexual assault residing in Westchester County through its Sexual Assault, Abuse and Victim's Empowerment ("SAAVE") Program for the term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2025 and continuing through December 31, 2027 for a total amount not-to-exceed Six Hundred Thousand (\$600,000.00) Dollars, payable in accordance with an approved budget (the "Agreement"). The funding amount per year will not exceed Two Hundred Thousand (\$200,000) Dollars.

According to the 2010 census, the foreign born population of Westchester County accounts for almost 24% of the population, evenly split between naturalized US citizens and non-citizens with Hispanics accounting for more than 20%. It is generally accepted that the number of Spanish-speaking mono and bi-lingual residents has been growing and is actually much greater than the numbers stated. The needs of this community for services for victims of sexual assault have increased commensurate with the increase in population. It is estimated that only 16% of sex crimes are actually reported statewide, making it difficult to accurately estimate the number in Westchester County. The trauma associated with sexual violence creates a significant health burden for survivors of sexual assault. These health problems can lead to hospitalization, interruptions in ability to work, disability and death.

The services to be provided by the WCHCC through its SAAVE Program pursuant to the proposed Agreement will include access to a bilingual 24/7 hotline; crisis counseling and advocacy; accompaniment to appropriate resources including sexual assault exams, police, hospitals and other providers; comprehensive outreach; education; follow-up; and other related culturally-competent services.

As you know, Section 3307(4) of the New York Public Authorities Law requires the approval of your Honorable Board and the Board of Acquisition and Contract for this Agreement.

Office of the County Executive

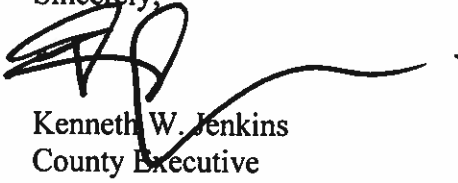
Michaelian Office Building  
148 Martine Avenue  
White Plains, New York 10601

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Email: [ceo@westchestercountyny.gov](mailto:ceo@westchestercountyny.gov)

I believe that entering into the agreement with WCHCC, on the terms set forth above, is in the best interests of the County. Therefore, I recommend your favorable action on the annexed proposed Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KWJ', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Kenneth W. Jenkins  
County Executive

KWJ/SB/mcz  
Attachment

**HONORABLE BOARD OF LEGISLATORS  
THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER, NEW YORK**

Your Committee is in receipt of a communication from the County Executive requesting that this Honorable Board authorize the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Office for Women (the “County”), to enter into an agreement with the Westchester County Health Care Corporation (“WCHCC”) pursuant to which WCHCC would provide free culturally-competent bilingual services for victims of sexual assault residing in Westchester County through its Sexual Assault, Abuse and Victim’s Empowerment (“SAAVE”) Program for the term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2025 and continuing through December 31, 2027 for a total amount not-to-exceed Six Hundred Thousand (\$600,000.00) Dollars, payable in accordance with an approved budget (the “Agreement”). The funding amount per year will not exceed Two Hundred Thousand (\$200,000.00) Dollars.

Your Committee is advised that according to the 2010 census, the foreign born population of Westchester County accounts for almost 24% of the population, evenly split between naturalized US citizens and non-citizens with Hispanics accounting for more than 20%. It is generally accepted that the number of Spanish-speaking mono and bi-lingual residents has been growing and is actually much greater than the numbers stated. The needs of this community for services for victims of sexual assault have increased with the increase in population. It is estimated that only 16% of sex crimes are actually reported statewide, making it difficult to accurately estimate the number in Westchester County. The trauma associated with sexual violence creates a significant health burden for survivors of sexual assault. These health problems can lead to hospitalization, interruptions in ability to work, disability and death.

Your Committee is advised that the services to be provided by the WCHCC through its SAAVE Program pursuant to the proposed Agreement will include access to a bilingual 24/7 hotline; crisis counseling and advocacy; accompaniment to appropriate resources including sexual assault exams, police, hospitals and other providers; comprehensive outreach; education; follow-up; and other related culturally-competent services.

The Planning Department has advised that based on its review, the proposed agreement described above does not meet the definition of an “action” under the State Environmental Quality Review Act, 6 NYCRR part 617. As such, no environmental review is required. Please refer to the memorandum from the Department of Planning dated January 14, 2025, which is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Legislators.

Your Committee has been advised that Section 3307(4) of the New York Public Authorities Law requires the approval of your Honorable Board and the Board of Acquisition and Contract for this Agreement. Pursuant to that section, said approval of the Board of Legislators must be by an affirmative vote of not less than a majority of the voting strength of the Board.

Your Committee has carefully considered and recommends approval of the proposed Act.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2025

White Plains, New York

**COMMITTEE ON**

C: mecz 08.21.25

# FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

SUBJECT: WCHCC's SAAVE Program

☒ NO FISCAL IMPACT PROJECTED

## OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT

To Be Completed by Submitting Department and Reviewed by Budget

### SECTION A - FUND

☒ GENERAL FUND

☐ AIRPORT FUND

☐ SPECIAL DISTRICTS FUND

### SECTION B - EXPENSES AND REVENUES

Total Current Year Expense \$ 200,000

Total Current Year Revenue \$ -

Source of Funds (check one): ☒ Current Appropriations ☐ Transfer of Existing Appropriations

☐ Additional Appropriations ☐ Other (explain)

Identify Accounts: 263 11 A111 4380 (trust funded through an IDA with DSS)

Potential Related Operating Budget Expenses: Annual Amount \$0.00

Describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Potential Related Operating Budget Revenues: Annual Amount \$0.00

Describe: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Current Year: \$0.00

Next Four Years: \$0.00

Prepared by: Stephanie Basilan

Title: Program Admin, CT Mangement

Department: Office for Women

Date: August 4, 2025

*CD 8/14/25*

Reviewed By: \_\_\_\_\_

Budget Director

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

8/21/25

**ACT NO. 2025 - \_\_\_\_\_**

An Act authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the Westchester County Health Care Corporation for the term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027 pursuant to which the WCHCC shall provide free culturally-competent bilingual services for victims of sexual assault residing in Westchester County.

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

**Section 1.** The County of Westchester (the “County”) is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the Westchester County Health Care Corporation (“WCHCC”) to provide free culturally-competent bilingual services for victims of sexual assault residing in Westchester County through its Sexual Assault, Abuse and Victim’s Empowerment (“SAAVE”) Program, including but not limited to: access to a bilingual 24/7 hotline; crisis counseling and advocacy; accompaniment to appropriate resources including sexual assault exams, police, hospitals and other providers; comprehensive outreach; education; follow-up; and other related services for the term commencing retroactively on January 1, 2025 and terminating on December 31, 2027 for a total amount not to exceed Six Hundred Thousand (\$600,000.00) Dollars, payable to WCHCC pursuant to an approved budget. The funding amount per year will not exceed Two Hundred Thousand (\$200,000.00) Dollars.

**§2.** The County Executive or his authorized designee is hereby authorized and empowered to execute all instruments and to take all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

**§3.** This Act shall take effect immediately.