

## Joint Declaration of Intended Programs between The Westchester County Executive, New York State and the President of the Province of Bari

in Puglia, (Italy)



Robert P. Astorino, Westchester County Executive

Province of Bari

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the Westchester County Executive and the President of the Province of Bari to promote the economic, social and cultural advancement of their respective county and province; and between the Westchester County Executive and the President of the Province of Bari, Puglia (Italy); and

WHEREAS the Westchester County Executive and the President of the Province of Bari wish to enter into this agreement in order to strengthen and consolidate the ties of friendship and cooperation which may arise between their respective communities and administrations; and

WHEREAS Westchester County Executive and the President of the Province of Bari are convinced that these goals can be achieved through the mutual exchange of information, knowledge and experience in the above mentioned areas; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Declaration of Intended Programs does not involve any economic support, either by the Westchester County Government, either by the Province of Bari:

NOW, therefore, be it known that the Westchester County Executive and the President of the Province of Bari, in consideration of mutual promises, do hereby agree to fully and faithfully seek to achieve the following goals:

## **Section I: Voluntary Cooperation**

The Westchester County Executive and the President of the Province of Bari agree they will work to develop common initiatives and projects aimed at promoting comparable interests in the fields of culture, art, tourism, ecology, youth, trade and commerce.

## **Section II: Terms**

In particular, the Westchester County Executive and the President of the Province of Bari will:

- a) Promote visits of institutional and technical representatives from the respective administrations, in order to improve the exchange of information, knowledge and experience in the above referenced fields; and
- b) Promote the involvement of the economic cultural and educational institutions within each of their governing jurisdictions, in pursuing the common goals established by this voluntary cooperation agreement; and
- c) Organize and facilitate meetings of experts, authorities and representatives of their respective administrations in order to identify the best way to implement the provisions of this voluntary cooperation agreement.

## **Section III: Miscellaneous Provisions**

Any financial support to the programs set forth by this voluntary cooperation agreement shall be freely decided by each party, and each party shall not be obliged to match the other party's financial commitment.

The Westchester County Executive and the President of the Province of Bari recognize that this voluntary cooperation agreement was suggested and supported by the organization Puglia Center of America, founded by Maestro Luciano Lamonarca and located in Westchester County, in the State of New York. It is also understood in this voluntary cooperation agreement that the Puglia Center of America will be the organization cooperating and collaborating as liaison between the parties.

This voluntary cooperation agreement shall be subject to the national and local laws and regulations of both parties and will be in effect until the end of the Presidents' mandates and the County Executive's term, unless terminated earlier by mutual consent.

This voluntary cooperation agreement shall take effect upon execution and approval by the hereinafter named officials;

AGREED AND ACKNOWLEDGED on the 7th of November, 2012, in English Version.

For: Administration Westchester County Hon. Robert P. Astorino, County Executive

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For: Province of Bari Hon. Francesco Schittulli, President

For: Puglia Center of America (liaison) Maestro Luciano Lamonarca, President

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