

Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

25725

Date: March 19, 2012

To: Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner
Department of Social Services

Subject: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to amend a Resolution which authorized the County to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Institute for Human Development (“WIHD”) for the provision of medical services to both foster children and children post-discharge from Westchester County foster parents for the period April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012, in order to authorize five additional one-year renewals at the option of the County and authorizing the first renewal agreement with WIHD in the amount of \$274,391 for the term April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013

Authority is hereby requested for the County of Westchester (the “County”), acting by and through the Department of Social Services (the “Department”), to amend a Resolution adopted by your Honorable Board on February 17, 2011 which authorized the County to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Institute for Human Development (“WIHD”), for the provision of medical services to both foster children and children post-discharge from Westchester County foster parents for the term April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012 in an amount not to exceed \$197,011 (the “Resolution”), in order to authorize the County, at its sole option, to extend the agreement for five additional one-year terms at a price to be negotiated, as was provided in the Request for Proposals for Pediatric Medical Services posted on or about November 11, 2010 and which was inadvertently omitted from the Resolution due to an administrative oversight. In addition, authority is being requested to authorize the County to exercise its first one-year option to renew with WIHD for the term April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013 at a cost not to exceed \$274,391 payable monthly pursuant to an approved budget. The amount being requested is higher than the previous year due to the addition of the Administrative Coordinator staff line. Due to the specific nature of this position, the Pediatric Office would be best served to have direct management of this person by the Doctor. The necessary job specifications needed for the position are not met through existing County Job title(s).

It is also of note that a second resolution adopted by your Honorable Board on August 11, 2011 authorized the County to amend the Agreement with WIHD to authorize a subcontract with Night Nurse, LLC for the provision of nurse triage during the night shift, at no additional cost to the County. Both the original Agreement and the First Amendment were subsequently executed.

Pursuant to the terms of the proposed First Renewal Agreement, WIHD will provide one full-time equivalent of a pediatrician to work in the Department's pediatric office, including on-call services 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The pediatric office will be opened 5 days per week, with scheduled half-day clinic sessions for intake and discharge assessments, sick-child visits as well as planned well-child care. WIHD will provide sick-child visits at a minimum when half-day clinic sessions are not taking place during weekdays and also on Saturdays. WIHD will also provide evening pediatric office hours for children placed in foster care in Westchester County DSS foster homes and children post-discharge WCDSS foster homes. The term of the proposed First Renewal Agreement with WIHD will be from April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013 at a cost not to exceed \$274,391, payable monthly pursuant to an approved budget. Authority is also requested to authorize the following subcontractor:

Night Nurse, LLC (nurse triage services during night shift).

This contract will serve a **public purpose** by promoting the safety of children by meeting the medical service needs of children in foster care in the County of Westchester. Furthermore, foster parents have access to a clinic that is specialized and sensitive to the needs of the children in foster care. By having 24 hours / 7 days a week access to the medical providers' care for the children in foster care, the Department will be able to maintain a comprehensive health history for the children as they enter care, while they are in care, as well as, at the point of discharge. The availability of same day medical services reduces the trauma to children entering foster care and while in foster care. In the absence of this service, many of the children would be required to go to an emergency room.

The **goals and objectives** of this contract are to provide children currently in foster care with accessible medical services. The Vendor will provide on-call services 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The vendor will also provide evening pediatric office hours to children in foster care and children post-discharge from foster care who are attending school.

Services provided to foster care children include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Routine physical exams and immunizations
- Lab testing
- Nutritional assessments and counseling
- Developmental screenings
- Assessments for signs of abuse
- Referral to other physicians as necessary
- Ongoing care for sick children
- Testing at birth as state mandated
- Routine immunizations as required by NY State Law
- Coordination of specialty care appointments needed by children in family foster care
- Preparation of detailed, comprehensive health histories and health care plans for children in family foster care

- Basic assessment of dental care needs and referral to a dental clinic unless the child already has a community dentist
- Pre-screening for hearing problems at placement
- Education, support and guidance for foster parents concerning health or behavioral issues of children in their care
- Data collection and entry into the NYS CONNECTIONS system in compliance with NYS regulations

The **goals and objectives are in the best interest of the County in terms of public health** because services provided by this contract will help to ensure that each child coming into foster care will have their needs and conditions evaluated and properly treated, if needed. Initial assessment for children coming into foster care is critical in order to quickly identify complicated, serious physical health, mental health, or developmental problems. Furthermore, prevention strategies recommended and implemented by the Pediatrician may help to lessen the ill effects of neglect and abuse.

The **goals and objectives are in the best interest of the County in terms of public safety** because comprehensive assessments performed by the pediatrician allow for more detailed knowledge of the child's physical and mental health, thereby, giving the Department the best recommendations of placements for each child, as well as, recommendations for the best treatment plan for each child, if required.

The **goals and objectives are in the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** because the Department is able to place children at the appropriate level of care as recommended by the pediatrician, as well as, to assist in the development of permanency planning for each child in foster care.

The **goals and objectives as stated in the resolution will be tracked and monitored** through the application of performance measures as stipulated in the contract developed by the Department and approved by the County Budget Office. The Department will also review periodic reports submitted by the Vendor and make onsite visits. The program office will be responsible for establishing milestones and tracking the Vendor's achievements.

The Department is able to report the following outcomes from April 2011 to the end of February 2012: WIHD served 691 children pursuant to this program, which included 86 intake visits, 38 discharge physicals, 304 well child visits and 291 sick visits.

Accordingly, authority is requested for the County of Westchester to enter into an Agreement with Westchester Institute for Human Development ("WIHD") for the above said purpose.

An appropriate resolution is attached for your Honorable Board's approval.

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Social Services, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to amend a Resolution adopted by your Honorable Board on February 17, 2011 which authorized the County to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Institute for Human Development (“WIHD”) for the provision of medical services to both foster children and children post-discharge from Westchester County foster parents for a term April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012 in an amount not to exceed \$197,011 (the “Resolution”) in order to authorize the County at its sole option extend the agreement for five additional one-year terms at a price to be negotiated; and be it further

RESOLVED, that all other terms and conditions of the Resolution shall remain in full force and effect; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County is further authorized to enter into an agreement with WIHD to provide medical services for both foster children and children post-discharge from foster care for the period April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$274,391 (the “Agreement”), to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the Agreement, the County hereby approves the following subcontractor:

Night Nurse, LLC (nurse triage services during night shift); and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Agreement is subject to County Appropriation; and be it further

RESOLVED that this Agreement is also subject to further financial analysis of the impact of any New York State Budget (the “State Budget”) proposed and adopted during the term of this Agreement. The County shall retain the right, upon the occurrence of any release by the Governor of a proposed State Budget and/or the adoption of a State Budget or any amendments thereto, and for a reasonable period of time after such release(s) or adoption(s), to conduct an analysis of the impacts of any such State Budget on County finances. After such analysis, the County shall retain the right to either terminate this Agreement or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to the Contractor, then the Contractor shall have the right to terminate this Agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute all instruments and take all actions necessary to implement this Resolution.

	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
2012	101	22	8900	5880	-----	\$205,793
2013	101	22	8900	5880	-----	\$ 68,598

Budget Funding Year(s) 2012-2013
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 04/01/12

End Date: 03/31/13

Funding Source

Tax Dollars: 25%
State Aid: 47%
Federal Aid: 28%
Other:

\$274,391
(must match resolution)

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 04/26/2012 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY