



Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

29983

DATE: October 22, 2012

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin M. McGuire, Commissioner
Department of Social Services

RE: Authority to amend a Memorandum of Understanding (the "MOU") with the New York State Office of Children & Family Services, pursuant to which the County received a grant to fund the County's participation in the statewide Disproportionate Minority Representation Project, in order to extend the expiration date of the MOU from August 15, 2012 to March 31, 2013

On or about October 13, 2011, the County of Westchester (the "County") entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (the "MOU") with the New York State Office of Children & Family Services ("OCFS"), pursuant to which the County would accept funds from OCFS in an amount not-to-exceed \$20,000 for the period October 1, 2011 through August 15, 2012 in order to fund the County's participation in the statewide Disproportionate Minority Representation Project (the "Agreement"). The Agreement was in the form of a Short form Contract (DSS747-11) and this was fully executed.

OCFS recently informed the County that it is extending the expiration date of the MOU from August 15, 2012 to March 31, 2013. Accordingly, authority is hereby requested from your Honorable Board for the County to amend the Memorandum of Understanding in order to extend the term thereof from October 1, 2011 through August 15, 2012 to October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2013. The additional time provided through this proposed extension will allow the County to further transition the project into mainstream planning and strategies.

I certify that my department, a) has copies of, or access to, all applicable laws, rules, regulations, grant applications, and grant agreements (including any master grant agreement), as well as any guidance or instructions received from the agency making the grant (the "Grant

Terms”), b) has reviewed the Grant Terms, c) is aware of and understands all of the Grant Terms, and d) can and will comply with all of the Grant Terms.

All other terms and conditions of the Agreement/MOU shall remain in full force and effect and unchanged.

This proposed agreement will serve a public purpose by funding the County’s participation in the statewide Disproportionate Minority Representation Project, which seeks to address the disproportionately high rates of placement of children of color in foster care and/or other out of home placements.

The goals and objectives of this proposed agreement are:

- Providing service strategies, approaches, and linguistic capacities which promote the delivery of services that are culturally competent and reflective of the population and community to be served;
- Collecting and analyzing data relevant to disproportionality and service provision;
- Strategically locating services within communities, to promote better access to service delivery in high need areas; and
- Promoting cross-agency dialogue and partnership regarding service planning to address disproportionality (including but not limited to: social services, mental health, health, education, housing, substance abuse, probation agencies, and community based providers).

The goals and objectives of this proposed agreement are in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility, as a reduction in the aforementioned disproportionality through this program could lead to a reduction in the need for certain government-provided social services, thereby allowing the County to reduce those services and either save money or reallocate those funds to other critical areas.

The goals and objectives of this proposed agreement will be tracked and monitored by way of quarterly program reports that are submitted to OCFS.

Accordingly, I most respectfully recommend approval of the attached resolution.

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Social Services, be it hereby:

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the "County") is hereby authorized to amend a Memorandum of Understanding (DSS747-11) with the New York State Office of Children & Family Services ("OCFS"), pursuant to which the County would accept funds from OCFS in an amount not-to-exceed \$20,000 for the period October 1, 2011 through August 15, 2012 in order to fund the County's participation in the statewide Disproportionate Minority Representation Project (the "Agreement") in order to extend the term of the MOU from October 1, 2011 through August 15, 2012 to October 1, 2011 through March 31,2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, that except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain the same; and be it further

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

Account to be
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Budget Funding Year(s):N/A Start Date: N/A End Date: 03/31/2013
(must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars: N/A
State Aid: N/A
Federal Aid: N/A
\$N/A Other: N/A
(must match resolution)