



Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin McGuire  
Commissioner

**30371**

To: Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner of Social Services

Date: November 13, 2012

Re: **Authority for the County to enter into an Agreement with Family Services of Westchester, Inc. for the operation of the After Care from Foster Care Tier I & Tier II program that provides after care case management, support and services to foster care families in a two “Tier” design for the term March 1, 2013 through May 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$204,866 payable pursuant to an approved budget**

---

Authority is requested for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, to enter into a three-month Agreement with Family Services of Westchester, Inc. for the operation of the After Care from Foster Care Tier I and Tier II Program that provides after care case management, support and services to foster care families in a two “Tier” design for the term March 1, 2013 through May 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$204,866 (the “Agreement”), payable pursuant to an approved budget. This Agreement is necessary to bring the termination date of this agreement in line with After Care from Foster Care agreements with other providers which terminate on May 31, 2013. Once all the After Care Agreements are on the same schedule, the County will issue a Request for Proposals for After Care From Foster Care Tier I & Tier II Program (“RFP”) for an agreement which will commence on June 1, 2013.

Pursuant to the proposed Agreement, Family Services of Westchester, Inc. (“FSW”) will provide a community based, culturally competent, family focused after care from Foster Care Tier I & Tier II Program providing after care case management, supports and services to foster care families in a two “Tier” design. Discharge planning through this program begins three months prior to discharge. Tier I is for up to one year post discharge and Tier II is beyond one year post discharge as assessed to prevent return to care. This program includes an additional component of “Enhanced Aftercare”, which entails providing the same type of services as

described above, starting earlier in the planning process and at a more intensive rate. The Enhanced component will begin six months before youths are discharged. Youths served under the Enhanced Aftercare program will be selected based on a comprehensive assessment of their ability and their family's ability to expedite reintegrating them into their communities and families. In addition, intensive services under the Enhanced Aftercare program will be provided for a period of eight to twelve weeks with the goal of further reducing the length of stay and stepping the youths down into lower levels of care and reintegrating them into the community at an earlier point.

The proposed Agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to section 3(a)(xiv) thereof.

The services to be provided through this Agreement serve the **public purpose** of preserving the family and reducing the risk of re-entry into foster care, thus averting the need for foster care placement. After care and enhanced after care services assist the families in addressing the special needs of their children, as well as navigating community based services to address such needs. The support services provided pursuant to this program assist children who return from foster care to reintegrate back into the community and the school system, thereby promoting the safety and welfare of the targeted population.

The **goals and objectives** of the Agreement are to provide after care support services to families of children who are returning from the Westchester County foster care system. Children transitioning out the foster care system are more likely to face an increased rate of poor educational achievement, unemployment, mental health issues, incarceration and homelessness. The aftercare and enhanced aftercare programs seek to ensure that children successfully transition to their local school system and maintain academic improvement and find employment. The program addresses the health and safety needs of this population, provides drug and alcohol treatment and promotes the self sufficiency of these families.

**The goals and objectives promote the public health and safety** because the Agreement services help maintain or restore family functioning and increase the stability of families, thereby reducing the risk of abuse, neglect and/or the need for re-placement in the foster care system. The program is designed to enhance the physical well-being and safety of the children discharged from foster care. Further, it promotes the safety of the County residents as the program would prevent these children from getting involved in anti-social activities.

**The goals and objectives promote fiscal responsibility** because the Department will be able to avoid the need to re-place children in foster care and avoid the costs associated with such re-placement. Preventing children from reentering the foster care system can result in substantial savings for the County and the taxpayers.

**The goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored** by the Department to evaluate services using the performance measurement indicators developed by the Department and approved by the County Budget Office. They include but are not limited to, reviewing periodic reports submitted by the vendor.

Based on the Performance Measurement Indicators reported from January 1, 2012 to September 30, 2012, the Department is able to report the Vendor has met the targets as provided in the contract. Over this period of the contract, FSW has served 92% of the annual contract capacity. Over this same period, FSW After Care Program has averted 96% foster care replacements and 98% of children did not become the subject of an indicated CPS case while receiving services.

A resolution is annexed hereto, which I recommend for your favorable consideration.

KMM/DI  
Attachment

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 01/10/2013 - PRIMARY SECRETARY

## RESOLUTION

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

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Family Services of Westchester, Inc. for the operation of the After Care from Foster Care Tier I and Tier II Program, that provides after care case management, support and services to foster care families in a two "Tier" design for the term March 1, 2013 through May 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$204,866 (the "Agreement"), payable pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this contract is subject to County appropriations; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this Agreements is also subject to further financial analysis of the impact of any New York State Budget ("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 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 impact of any such budget(s) 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 the agreement upon reasonable prior written notice; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is empowered to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be  
Charged/credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub Object	Trust Account	Dollars
101	22	8900	5880	-----	\$102,433
101	22	8900	5960	-----	\$102,433

Budget Funding Year(s): 2013  
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 03/01/13 End Date: 05/31/13

Funding Source	Tax Dollars:	<u>5880</u> 32%	<u>5960</u> 41%
	State Aid:	39%	30%
	Federal Aid:	29%	29%

\$204,866

(must match resolution)

Other:

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACTS 01/16/2013 - JOMAR VIEIRA, SECRETARY