

Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

**30608**

DATE: November 19, 2012

TO: Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner  
Department of Social Services

RE: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester (“County”) to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Institute for Human Development (“WIHD”) for a term commencing January 1, 2013 and terminating December 31, 2013 whereby the Westchester Institute for Human Development will administer the “Project IMPACT” program and provide intensive in-home parent training services to parents with cognitive or learning disabilities in an amount not to exceed \$295,293 to be paid pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation

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Authority is requested for the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Institute for Human Development (“WIHD”) whereby the Westchester Institute for Human Development will administer the “Project IMPACT” program and provide intensive in-home parent training services to parents with cognitive or learning disabilities who have been identified by the Department of Social Services as being at risk of having one or more children removed from their care. The agreement shall commence January 1, 2013 and expire December 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$295,293 to be paid pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation.

The contract serves a **public purpose** as the program under this contract is designed to preserve the family, reduce the risk of child abuse or neglect and/or need for foster care placement and train the participants to become better parents in handling child behaviors.

**The goals and objectives of this program are to:**

- To provide permanency, safety, and well-being for children with parents with cognitive and/or learning disabilities and who are at risk of foster care placement.

- To identify service needs for the child and family following intensive in-home services and to link families with appropriate services in order to reduce family disruption for these families.
- To provide intensive, in-home parent training services to families at risk for foster care placement of their children.
- To provide parenting services consistent with the parenting curriculum that meet the learning needs of parents with cognitive disabilities.
- To verify that children in those families receive all appropriate health, mental health, and developmental services.
- To assist caseworkers in becoming more knowledgeable about the needs of these parents so they can be empowered to support permanency for children in those families.

**The goals and objectives are in the best interests of the County in terms of public health and safety** as the services reduce the risk of abuse, neglect and maltreatment of the children of Westchester County. Services also enhance parental child-rearing abilities by empowering parents, strengthening families and increasing the stability of families, thereby reducing the risk of abuse, neglect and/or need for foster care placements.

**Furthermore, in terms of fiscal responsibility**, the services provided by the program help to avert the need for foster care placements and the costs associated with such placements. Preventing children from entering the foster care system can result in substantial savings for the County and the taxpayers.

**The goals and objectives will be monitored** using the performance measurement indicators developed by the Department and approved by the County Budget Office. The Program Office will be responsible for setting the milestones and tracking their achievements by reviewing the performance reports submitted by the vendor and making site visits.

Based on the **Performance Measurement Indicators** reported as of September 30, 2012, the Department is able to report that the vendor is meeting targets and outcomes as stipulated by the contract and is on track towards serving 89% contract capacity. In addition, as of September, 2012, WIHD has averted 100% foster care placements and helped keep families intact.

This Agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant of Section 3 (a) xviii of said policy.

A resolution for your Honorable Board's approval is annexed herewith.

**RESOLUTION**

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

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester (“County”) is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Institute for Human Development (“WIHD”) whereby the Westchester Institute for Human Development will administer the “Project IMPACT” program and provide intensive in-home parent training services to parents with cognitive or learning disabilities who have been identified by the Department of Social Services as being at risk of having one or more children removed from their care for the period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$295,293 to be paid pursuant to an approved budget; 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 the 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 empowered to execute 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   |
|------|------|------|--|--------------------|---------------|-----------|
| 2013 | 101  | 22   | 8900                                   | 5960               | ----          | \$295,293 |
|      |      |      |  |                    |               |           |

Budget Funding Year(s): 2013      Start Date: 01/01/13      End Date: 12/31/13  
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source                      Tax Dollars: 41%  
    State Aid: 30%  
\$295,293                                Federal Aid: 29%  
 (must match resolution)            Other:        \_\_\_\_\_