

Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

43837

Date: December 12, 2014

To: Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner  
Department of Social Services

Subject: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with Julia Dyckman Andrus Memorial, Inc. ("JDAM") pursuant to which JDAM will provide Therapeutic and Parent Aide Services (TAPAS) for families with children at risk of foster care placement for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 for an amount not to exceed \$196,550

Authority by your Honorable Board is respectfully requested for the County of Westchester acting by and through its Department of Social Services (the "Department"), to enter into an agreement with Julia Dyckman Andrus Memorial, Inc. ("JDAM") pursuant to which JDAM will provide Therapeutic and Parent Aide Services (TAPAS) for families with children at risk of foster care placement for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 for an amount not to exceed \$196,550 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation.

This agreement will serve a **public purpose** in that will preserve the family, reduce risk of abuse, neglect and/or need for foster care placement as families will be better equipped to understand and handle child behaviors.

**The goal and objective of this agreement** will be to provide preventative services to families with children at risk of foster care placement. Trained Parent Aides will provide in-home family support services designed to strengthen parenting skills which will alleviate and/or prevent stress-induced family situations that may result in incidents of child abuse and neglect, family violence, foster care placement, PINS (Person In Need of Supervision) petitions, and/or truancy. Services provided to children and parents under this agreement will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Parenting skills education
- Home and finance management
- Behavior management techniques

- Nutrition
- Conflict Resolution
- Teaching alternate methods of non-violent discipline
- Establishing routines
- Understanding child developmental stages
- Accessing well-child care, social services and community resources

The **goals and objectives of this agreement are in the best interest of the County in terms of public health and public safety** because the services provided through this agreement will 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.

The **goals and objectives of this agreement are in the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** as the Department will be able to avert the need for foster care placements and the costs associated with such placements. Preventing children from entering the foster care system will result in substantial savings for the County. This program will provide services to 66 families during the term of the agreement.

The **goals and objectives as stated in the agreement will be tracked and monitored** by the Department to evaluate success using the performance measurement indicators developed by the Department and approved by the County Budget Office. They include, but are not limited to, the review of periodic reports submitted by JDAM and onsite visits.

Based on the **Performance Measurement Indicators** available at the end of the third quarter, the Department is able to report that JDAM is meeting targets and outcomes as outlined in the current agreement. From January 1, 2014 through September 30, 2014, JDAM provided services to 51 families and 151 children. This program has a 100% foster care diversion rate. During the same period, over 90% of the parents showed improvement in parenting skills, household management and knowledge of resources.

This agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy under Section 3(a) xviii as the services to be provided therein are for the well-being of children and youth in the County of Westchester who are at risk of foster care placement.

It should be noted that this agreement is also exempt from the requirements of the Federal Common Grant Rule as funding for this program falls under the Social Services Block Grant.

Accordingly, the Department is hereby respectfully requesting authorization to enter into this agreement with Julia Dyckman Andrus Memorial, Inc. for the provision of the aforesaid services.

A resolution requesting the same is attached for your Honorable Board's approval.

RESOLUTION

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

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester (the “County”) is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Julia Dyckman Andrus Memorial, Inc. (“JDAM”) pursuant to which JDAM will provide Therapeutic and Parent Aide Services (TAPAS) for families with children at risk of foster care placement for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 for an amount not to exceed \$196,550 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation (the “Agreement”); and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this Agreement is subject to County appropriations; 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 duly authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents and to take all actions necessary and appropriate on behalf of the County of Westchester to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be Charged/Credited

	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
2015	101	22	8900	5960	-----	\$196,550

Budget Funding Year(s): 2015  
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 01/01/2015

End Date: 12/31/2015

Funding Source

Tax Dollars: 32%

State Aid: 47%

**\$196,550**

Federal Aid: 21%

(must match resolution)

Other: