

Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

44424

Date: January 23, 2015

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 April's Child, Inc. (previously known as Exchange Club Child Abuse Prevention Center of New York, Inc.) pursuant to which April's Child, Inc. will provide Intensive Parent Aide Services 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 \$204,340.

Authority is requested for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services (The "Department"), to enter into an agreement with April's Child, Inc. ("April's Child") pursuant to which April's Child will provide Intensive Parent Aide Services 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 \$204,340 to be paid on a monthly basis pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation. The Department has been notified of the name change and provided with supporting documents.

The services to be provided pursuant to this agreement will serve a **public purpose** by preserving the family, reducing the risk of abuse, neglect and/or need for foster care placement, as families will be better equipped to understand and handle child behaviors.

The **goals and objectives** of this agreement are to provide preventive services to families at risk of foster care placement. In the short-term, in-home services are provided by a trained parent aide to develop a family specific service plan directly related to the parent's ability to manage their household and parent their children. April's Child, Inc. previously known as Exchange Club Child Abuse Prevention Center of New York, Inc., has provided these services for the past several years.

April's Child will provide a comprehensive array of in-home services by trained parent aides. Services provided to children and parents under this contract will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Parenting skills education
- Teaching alternate methods of non-violent discipline
- Role-modeling appropriate communication
- Supporting educational success
- Addressing educational neglect
- Stress and anger management education

The **goals and objectives are in the best interest of the County in terms of public health and 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 are in the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** in that 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 can result in substantial savings for the County and the taxpayers.

The **goals and objectives as stated in the resolution will be tracked and monitored** by the Department to evaluate success using the Performance Measurement Indicators developed by the Department. They include, but are not limited to, reviewing of periodic reports submitted by the vendor and making onsite visits.

Based on the **Performance Measurement Indicators** as of September 30, 2014, the Department is able to report that April's Child had a foster care diversion rate of 100%. In addition, 100% of the children served did not become the subject of an indicated CPS report while receiving services.

This agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy under Section 3(a) xvii. It should be noted that this agreement is exempt from the requirements of the Federal Common Grant Rules as the federal funding component is being provided under the Social Services Block Grant.

An appropriate resolution is herewith 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, acting by and through its Department of Social Services (The Department), is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with April's Child, Inc. ("April's Child"), previously known as Exchange Club Child Abuse Prevention Center of New York, Inc., pursuant to which April's Child will provide intensive parent aide services 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 \$204,340 to be paid on a monthly basis pursuant to an approved budget; 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	-----	\$204,340

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

Start Date: 01/01/2015

End Date: 12/31/2015

Funding Source

\$204,340

(must match resolution)

Tax Dollars: 32%

State Aid: 47%

Federal Aid: 21%

Other: