



Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

51882

To: Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner of Social Services

Date: April 25, 2016

Re: **Authority for the County to enter into an agreement with Abbott House to provide training and certification of foster and adoptive parents in an amount not to exceed \$226,000 and with United Way of Westchester and Putnam to provide marketing and recruitment of foster and adoptive parents for an amount not-to-exceed \$119,000 each for the period May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017 with the County having the sole option to extend the term of each agreement for up to four (4) one (1) year periods thereafter, on the same price, terms and conditions, to be paid pursuant to an approved budgets and subject to appropriations and subject to A&C approval**

On October 28, 2015, the Westchester County Department of Social Services (“Department”) issued a Request for Proposals for “Marketing and Training of Foster/Adoptive Parents” (the “RFP”). The Department received four proposals for Training and five proposals for the Marketing component, and after evaluation by a panel of five Child Welfare staff, the Department has determined that the proposal of Abbott House (“Abbott House”) for Training received the highest score based on the criteria contained in the RFP and United Way of Westchester and Putnam (“United Way”) for Marketing. The selection of these agencies was determined to be the most advantageous to the Department. It is therefore recommended that your Honorable Board authorize the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with Abbott House to provide training and certification of foster and adoptive parents in an amount not to exceed \$226,000, payable pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation for the term May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017 with the County having the sole option to extend the term of the agreement for up to four (4) one (1) year periods thereafter on the same price,

terms and conditions and subject to A&C approval.

It is further recommended that your Honorable Board authorize the County to enter into an agreement with United Way of Westchester and Putnam to provide marketing and recruitment of foster and adoptive parents in an amount not to exceed \$119,000 payable pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation for the term May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017 with the County having the sole option to extend the term of the agreement for up to four (4) one (1) year periods thereafter on the same price, terms conditions as shown below and subject to A&C approval:

<u>Not-To-Exceed Amount:</u>	Abbott House	United Way
Option Term #1 (5/1/17-4/30/18)	\$226,000	\$119,000
Option Term #2 (5/1/18-4/30/19)	\$226,000	\$119,000
Option Term #3 (5/1/19-4/30/20)	\$226,000	\$119,000
Option Term #4 (5/1/20-4/30/21)	\$226,000	\$119,000

As of September 2015, Westchester County had 575 children in foster care placement, of which 243 were in DSS community-based foster homes. When reunification with families is not possible for these children in foster care, either for safety or other reasons, the Department is charged with placing them in appropriate foster care or adoptive settings. The proposed marketing agreement has a goal of generating a sufficient number of potential foster and adoptive parents to achieve a timely and appropriate placement for all waiting children. The pool of parents must reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the children waiting for placements. The marketing agreement will use innovative marketing and recruitment strategies combined with traditional and targeted home-finding techniques to maximize a diversified pool of foster and adoptive homes in Westchester County and will be responsible for operating a Call Center, to initially pre-screen and respond to inquiries from prospective foster and adoptive parents. The Training agreement will provide 26 orientation sessions for prospective foster and adoptive parents annually, training of potential foster and adoptive parents and ultimately their certification as new foster and adoptive families.

Performance measures for each of the agreements will be monitored by the Department.

The proposed Agreements will serve the public purpose of providing appropriate foster and/or adoptive placements for children placed in the Care of the County by the Family Court. Recruiting and providing ethnically appropriate foster or adoptive parental placement has the goal of reduced recidivism.

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

KMM/DI
Attachment

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 Abbott House (“Abbott House”) to provide training and certification of foster and adoptive parents for an amount not to exceed \$226,000, payable pursuant to an approved budget for the term May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017 with the County having the sole option to extend the term of the agreement for up to four (4) one (1) year periods thereafter, on the same price, terms and conditions and subject to A&C approval; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby further authorized to enter into an agreement with the United Way of Westchester and Putnam (“United Way”) to provide marketing and recruitment of foster and adoptive parents for an amount not to exceed \$119,000, payable pursuant to an approved budget for the term May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017 with the County having the sole option to extend the term of the agreement for up to four (4) one (1) year periods thereafter, on the same price, terms and conditions as shown below and subject to A&C approval:

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Option Term #3 (5/1/19-4/30/20)	\$226,000	\$119,000
Option Term #4 (5/1/20-4/30/21)	\$226,000	\$119,000

; and be it further

RESOLVED, that these contracts are subject to County appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that these Agreements are also subject to further financial analysis of the impact of any New York State Budget (“State Budget”) proposed and adopted during the term of these Agreements. 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 these Agreements, or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount

to the Contractors then the Contractors 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
2016/Abbott House	101	22	8900	5880	-----	\$150,667
2017/Abbott House	101	22	8900	5880	-----	\$75,333
2016/United Way	101	22	8900	5880	-----	\$79,333
2017/United Way	101	22	8900	5880	-----	\$39,667
Budget Funding Year(s) (must match resolution)	2016 – 2017		Start Date	5/1/16	End Date	4/30/17

Funding Source

\$345,000

(must match resolution)

Tax Dollars: 29%

State Aid: 41%

Federal Aid: 30%

Other: