

George Latimer
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

ONBASE # 72873

DATE: November 22, 2019

TO: Honorable Members of the 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 North American Family Institute Connecticut, Inc. (“NAFI CT”) pursuant to which NAFI CT will provide the Parenting with Love and Limits Program (“PLL”) Front End Prevention to include group therapy, family therapy and case management services for youth who are at risk of foster care placement for the period from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 for an amount not to exceed \$407,419

Authorization is requested for the County of Westchester (“County”) acting by and through its Department of Social Services (“the Department”) to enter into an agreement with North American Family Institute Connecticut, Inc. (“NAFI CT”) pursuant to which NAFI CT will provide the Parenting with Love and Limits Program (“PLL”) Front End Prevention to include group therapy, family therapy and case management services for children between the ages of 10 and 17 who are at risk of foster care placement due to their behavior and the risk of a Person in Need of Supervision (“PINS”) petition for the period from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 for an amount not to exceed \$407,419 to be paid on a monthly basis pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation.

The services to be provided pursuant to this agreement will serve a **public purpose** by improving family functioning, making the family less dependent on public social service programs and will therefore prevent the need for foster care placement.

The **goals and objectives of this agreement** are to identify youth who are “at risk” of entering the Family Court or child welfare systems and thereby divert them from foster care. The PLL Front End Prevention program will serve 48 families and will prevent placement in foster care for at risk children. The PLL Front End Prevention program will help parents and children learn new skills to ensure that these “at risk” children continue to live at home. The program will utilize specialized strategies that address the cultural needs of these families and children. The Department will refer children to the PLL Front End Prevention program.

The **goals and objectives of this Agreement are in the best interest of the County in terms of public health and safety** in that the services will keep children safe and at home. Children who remain at home have better outcomes than those who enter foster care. Further, the children served through this program who are successfully diverted from foster care are less likely to enter the Family Court or child welfare systems and more likely to lead productive lives.

The **goals and objectives of this agreement 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 will result in substantial savings for the County and taxpayers.

The **goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored using performance measurement indicators developed by the Department.** NAFI CT will submit monthly statistics and quarterly performance reports in the format approved by the Department. The Department will be responsible for setting the milestones and tracking the achievements by reviewing the performance reports submitted by NAFI CT. During the contract period, the Department will maintain ongoing phone and in-person contact with NAFI CT.

Based on the Performance Measurement Indicators, the Department is able to report that from January 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019, the NAFI CT PLL Front End Prevention program has provided services to 23 families and 24 children. 100% of the families were actively engaged within 48-72 hours of referral and 100% of the children are actively participating in the program.

The procurement of this agreement is exempt from the application of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures pursuant to Sections 3(a) xiv and 3(a) xviii.

It should be noted that this agreement is not subject to the competitive procurement requirements of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (formerly, the Grants Management Common Rule) as the federal funding for this program falls under Social Services Block Grant.

Accordingly, the County is hereby requesting authority to enter into an agreement with North American Family Institute, Inc. for the aforesaid purpose.

An appropriate resolution requesting your Honorable Board's approval is attached herewith.

