

George Latimer
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Leonard G. Townes
Commissioner

83086

DATE: March 3, 2021

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Leonard G. Townes, Commissioner
Department of Social Services

SUBJECT: Resolution requesting authority for the County of Westchester to amend Resolution No. 82026 approved by your Honorable Board on February 11, 2021 which authorized the County to enter into agreements with eight (8) licensed consultants listed in the resolution for the performance of certain psychological and testing evaluation services for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$350,000, in order to 1) change the name of one licensed consultant, and 2) adjust the Fee Schedule for services provided by the licensed consultants

By resolution approved on February 11, 2021 (the "February 11th Resolution"), your Honorable Board authorized the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Social Services (the "Department"), to enter into agreements with eight (8) licensed consultants listed in the February 11th Resolution as Schedule "A" (the "Agreements") for the purpose of providing certain psychological and testing evaluation services for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 at the rates set forth in the Fee Schedule attached to the February 11th Resolution as Schedule "B", for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$350,000, pursuant to an approved budget. The Agreements have not yet been executed.

The Department now seeks authority of your Honorable Board to amend the February 11th Resolution in order to: 1) change the name of one of the licensed consultants listed in Schedule "A" attached to the February 11th Resolution as Carol Chu, Ph. D., to Carol Chu-Peralta, Ph. D.; and 2) adjust the Fee Schedule for services provided by the licensed consultants as set forth in Schedule "B" of the February 11th Resolution and replace it with the new list of rates attached hereto as Schedule "B-1".

Except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions set forth in the February 11th Resolution shall remain the same.

The proposed Amendment will serve a **public purpose** by testing and evaluating children and adults who are the subject of abuse and neglect in order to assist the Department and the Family Court decide what is in the best interest of these vulnerable children and adults.

The **goals and objectives of the proposed Amendment shall be to** provide testing and evaluations to parents and child(ren) who have been subjects of Child Protective Service reports, and families in which at least one child is at risk of foster care placement or, in which at least one child has been placed in foster care. The services provided by the consultants allow for interventions that promote the psychological and physical well-being of the child(ren) and/or parent(s) in order for families to safely maintain their children at home. Evaluation services provided to individuals served under the Protective Services for Adults Program focus on assessing competency in activities necessary to daily living in order to help identify the level of care needed by an individual.

The **goals and objectives of the proposed Amendment are in the best interest of the County in terms of public health and public safety** because they are aimed at providing clinical evaluations of the children and parents referred to the consultants. These evaluations help the Department to identify the mental health and/or developmental problems of the children and parents and make appropriate referrals which in turn help to reduce the risk of abuse, neglect or maltreatment and focus on the ability of the parent(s) or guardian(s) to provide a safe and nurturing home environment. These evaluations will also promote the safety of individuals served under the Protective Services for Adults Program as well.

The **goals and objectives of the proposed Amendment are in the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** in that the services provided by the consultant assist the Department in determining the appropriate level of services needed by the children and families, thereby helping to avert costly out of home placements. Further, since the services will be provided at an hourly rate, payments will be made for the actual time the consultants spend on each case which in turn would result in more accountability on the part of the Department and the consultants.

The **goals and objectives of the proposed Amendment will be tracked and monitored using performance measurement indicators developed by the Department.** They include feedback from District Office staff as well as the review of monthly performance reports submitted by the consultants. The Department is able to report that the consultants have met the established milestones set forth in the Scope of Work and the Program staff is satisfied with the outcomes.

Accordingly, approval of the attached resolution is most respectfully requested.

SCHEDULE "B-1" (AMENDMENT)

**CHILD WELFARE CONSULTANT SERVICE
FEE SCHEDULE**

(Aggregate Not-To-Exceed for all Consultant Contracts (NTE) \$350,000)

01/01/2021 - 12/31/2021

| | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I. | Psychiatric Evaluation | | \$200.00 per hour |
| II. | Psychological Testing and Evaluation | | \$175.00 per hour (not to exceed \$1,400 for standard battery of tests and \$2,100 for extended battery of tests) |
| III. | Fire-setting Evaluation | | \$495.00 per evaluation |
| IV. | Forensic Mental Health Assessment | | \$94.50 per hour (not to exceed \$945.00 for a battery of tests) |
| V. | Psychotherapeutic Treatment | by Psychiatrist | \$157.50 per hour |
| | | by other | \$78.75 per hour |
| | | by Trauma Specialist | \$45.00 per hour |
| VI. | Consultation (Sibling Placement) | | \$78.75 per hour |
| VII. | Chemical Dependency Evaluation and/or Treatment | | Rate established by Medicaid |
| VIII. | Psychosexual Risk Assessment | | \$1,500.00 per evaluation |
| IX. | Sex Abuse Validations | | \$200.00 per hour |
| X. | Sex Offender Assessment | | \$3,000.00 per assessment |
| XI. | Sexually Exploited Minor Evaluations | | |
| | • Full Assessment (IQ to be provided through IEP) | | \$1,850.00 per assessment |
| | • Full with IQ | | \$2,300.00 |
| | • Full with Personality Testing (IQ provided through IEP) | | \$2,300.00 per assessment |
| | • Full with IQ and Personality Testing | | \$2,500.00 per assessment |
| XII. | Child Evaluations | | |
| | • Diagnostic | | \$1,850.00 per assessment |

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| • Diagnostic with IQ | \$2,300.00 per assessment |
| XIII. Parent/Child Comprehensive Assessment | \$1,875.00 per assessment |
| XIV. Contreras Translation & Interpretation Services Inc. | See Schedule "B1" |
| XV. No Show Rate for Psychiatric Evaluation | \$200.00 for the first hour only |
| XVI. No Show Rate for Psychological Testing and Evaluation | \$175.00 for the first hour only |
| XVII. Court Appearance | |
| Psychologist | \$612.50 half day* |
| Psychologist | \$1,225.00 full day** |
| Psychologist Record Review/Prep Time | \$175.00 per hour |
| Psychologist Telephone Conference | \$175.00 per hour |
| Psychiatrist | \$700.00 half day* |
| Psychiatrist | \$1,400.00 full day** |
| Psychiatrist Record Review/Prep Time | \$200.00 per hour |
| Psychiatrist Telephone Conference | \$200.00 per hour |
| Tolls | Receipted amount |
| Mileage (IRS Rate) | 56 cents per mile |
| Forensic Mental Health Assessment | \$472.50 half day* |
| Forensic Mental Health Assessment | \$945.00 full day** |
| Forensic Mental Health Assessment | |
| Record Review/Prep Time | \$94.50 per hour |
| Forensic Mental Health Assessment | |
| Telephone Conference | \$94.50 per hour |

Reimbursement for travel expenses will be calculated on a per mile basis at the standard IRS rate. Mileage will be reimbursed for travel to and from the Consultant's office to designated location (i.e. Court).

*Half day is equivalent to 3.5 hours.

**Full day is equivalent to 7 hours.