

Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin P. Mahon
Commissioner

DATE: April 23, 2010

TO: The Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin P. Mahon
Commissioner of Social Services

RE: Authority for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, to exercise the second option to extend an agreement with Westchester Institute for Human Development for the provision of an After Care from Foster Care Tier I & Tier II Program, providing after care case management, supports and services to foster care families in a two "Tier" design for the period June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$2,351,403 to be paid pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriations

Following the completion of an RFP process and pursuant to a resolution approved on July 27, 2006 and subsequently amended on September 14, 2006, the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, entered into an agreement (the "Agreement") with Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) for the provision of a community based, culturally competent, family focused After Care From Foster Care Tier I & Tier II Program providing after care case management, supports and services to foster care families in a two "Tier" design for the period June 1, 2006 through May 31, 2007 in an amount not to exceed \$593,600 with the County having the option to extend the agreement for two (2) subsequent three-year periods at amounts to be negotiated. Tier I is for up to one year post discharge and Tier II is beyond one year post discharge as assessed to prevent return to care. This Agreement was subsequently executed.

Through the resolution approved on August 30, 2007, your Honorable Board authorized the County of Westchester to exercise its first option to extend the Agreement ("First Extension Agreement") for an additional three-year period commencing on June 1, 2007 and ending on May 31, 2010 for an amount not to exceed \$2,651,550. This First Extension Agreement was subsequently executed.

Authority is now requested for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, to exercise its second and final three-year option to extend the Agreement ("Second Extension Agreement") for the period June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$2,351,403 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation. The amount requested reflects an overall decrease of \$300,147 over the three

year period. The total estimated cost over three years shall not exceed \$2,351,403 in the aggregate.

The services to be provided through this contract serve a **public purpose** in that it preserves the family and reduces the risk of re-entry into foster care, thus averting the need for foster care placement. After care services assist the families in addressing the special needs of their children, as well as navigating community based services to address such needs. The support services provided pursuant to this program assist children who return from foster care to reintegrate back into the community and the school system, thereby promoting the safety and welfare of the targeted population.

The **goals and objectives** of this contract are to ensure that children who return home from family foster care placements are safe and that their needs are met, which in turn would result in a reduction of the rate of re-entry into foster care for those children. The goal is to provide an in-home, strength based, community oriented range of services using a family engagement model to support these families and to ensure that they are integrated into their communities. By having a comprehensive after care program for families being reunited with their children, children will remain in foster care for a shorter length of time, thereby reducing foster care costs overall. In addition, children will remain stable and their needs will be monitored and met.

The Vendor shall be using the following services to accomplish the goals and objectives:

- Parent training/Clinical services
- Assessment of family functioning
- Care coordination
- Case Management
- Counseling
- Respite
- In-home support and training to families
- Services available at times convenient for families
- Routine follow up assessment of family functioning
- Wraparound supports to families in their communities
- Post discharge services

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 contract help to maintain or restore family functioning and increase the stability of families, thereby reducing the risk of abuse, neglect and/or need for replacement in the foster care system. The program is designed to enhance the physical well being and safety of the children discharged from foster care. Further, it promotes the safety of the County residents as the program would prevent these children from getting involved in anti-social activities.

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 replacements and the costs associated with such placements. Preventing children from re-entering the foster care system can result in substantial savings for the County and the taxpayers.

- **Family Foster care cost annualized per child** - The cost of foster care in a Family foster setting can range from \$17.10 to \$58.65 per day per child depending on the age and level of care provided. That translates into an annualized foster care cost from **\$6,241.50 to \$21,407.25 per child per year.**
- **Residential Foster care cost annualized per child** - The cost of Residential foster care costs can range from \$47.15 up to \$627.00 per day per child. That translates into an annualized cost for residential care from **\$17,209.75 to \$228,855 per child per year.**
- **Contract program cost per child** –The annual cost of the Aftercare program operated by WIHD is \$783,801. The Vendor is contracted to serve 120 children per year over the three year term. At this rate of service, this translates to a per child cost of **\$6,531.68 per year.**

The negative consequence for not approving this agreement will be that the Department will show an increase in children re-entering foster care. The recidivism rate was about 24% in the years prior to the inception of this specialized after care services program to children being discharged from the Westchester County Foster Care system. However, the Department has witnessed a dramatic reduction in the rate of recidivism, bringing it down to 4%, after the After Care From Foster Care Program was initiated. The reduction in the recidivism rate supports the effectiveness of the aforesaid program.

The **goals and objectives as stated in the resolution will be tracked and monitored** 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, reviewing of periodic reports submitted by the vendor and making onsite visits.

Based on the **Performance Measurement Indicators** reported from June 1, 2007 through March 31, 2010, the Department is able to report that the vendor has met its targets as stipulated by the contract and has served its contract capacity. Over the three year period of the contract, WIHD has provided services to 89 families and 130 children. Over the same period, the WIHD Aftercare Program has averted 91.54 % foster care replacements.

Except as specifically modified herein, all other terms and conditions of the original agreement as extended shall remain in full force and effect.

Accordingly, authority is now requested for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, to exercise its second and final option to extend the aforesaid agreement for the period from June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2013 for the above said purpose.

Approval of the attached resolution by your Honorable Board is respectfully requested.

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, is hereby authorized to exercise its second and final option to extend an agreement with Westchester Institute for Human Development whereby Westchester Institute for Human Development will operate a community based, culturally competent, family focused After Care From Foster Care Tier I & Tier II Program providing after care case management, supports and services to foster care families in a two "Tier" design for the period from June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$2,351,403 to be paid pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the 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 except as specifically modified herein, all other terms and conditions of the original agreement as extended shall remain in full force; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is authorized to execute all documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution.

Original Contract Amount:	\$593,600
First Extension:	\$2,651,550
This Extension:	\$2,351,403
Total	\$5,596,553

Account to be
Charged/Credited

	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
2010	101	22	8900	5960	-----	\$457,217
2011	101	22	8900	5960	-----	\$783,801
2012	101	22	8900	5960	-----	\$783,801
2013	101	22	8900	5960	-----	\$326,584

Budget Funding Year(s): 2010-13
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 06/01/10

End Date: 5/31/13

Funding Source

Tax Dollars: 41%

State Aid: 41%

Federal Aid: 18%

Other: _____

\$2,351,403

(must match resolution)

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 5-13-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY