



Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

**20287**

DATE: July 6, 2011

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin M. McGuire, Commissioner  
Department of Social Services

RE: Authority to amend a grant agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (the "MOU") with the New York State Office of Children & Family Services, pursuant to which the County received a grant to fund the County's participation in the statewide Disproportionate Minority Representation Project, in order to further extend the term of the grant/MOU from December 15, 2009 through June 30, 2011 to December 15, 2009 through September 30, 2011

---

By resolution approved on December 17, 2009, your Honorable Board authorized the County of Westchester (the "County") to enter into a grant agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (the "MOU") with the New York State Office of Children & Family Services ("OCFS"), pursuant to which the County would accept funds from OCFS in an amount not-to-exceed \$40,000 for the period from December 15, 2009 through December 14, 2010 in order to fund the County's participation in the statewide Disproportionate Minority Representation Project (the "Agreement"). The Agreement was subsequently executed.

By resolution approved on February 17, 2011, your Honorable Board authorized the County of Westchester to extend the term of the aforesaid grant/MOU from December 15, 2009 through December 14, 2010 to December 15, 2009 through June 30, 2011. The amendment was subsequently executed.

OCFS recently informed the County that it is further extending the term of the grant/MOU from December 15, 2009 through June 30, 2011 to December 15, 2009 through September 30, 2011. Accordingly, authority is hereby requested from your Honorable Board for

the County to amend the Agreement/Memorandum of Understanding in order to extend the term thereof from December 15, 2009 through June 30, 2011 to December 15, 2009 through September 30, 2011.

All other terms and conditions of the Agreement/MOU as amended shall remain in full force and effect and unchanged.

This proposed agreement will serve a public purpose by funding the County's participation in the statewide Disproportionate Minority Representation Project, which seeks to address the disproportionately high rates of placement of children of color in foster care and/or other out of home placements.

The goals and objectives of this proposed agreement are:

- Providing service strategies, approaches, and linguistic capacities which promote the delivery of services that are culturally competent and reflective of the population and community to be served;
- Collecting and analyzing data relevant to disproportionality and service provision;
- Strategically locating services within communities, to promote better access to service delivery in high need areas; and
- Promoting cross-agency dialogue and partnership regarding service planning to address disproportionality (including but not limited to social services, mental health, health, education, housing, substance abuse, probation agencies, and community based providers).

The goals and objectives of this proposed agreement are in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility, as a reduction in the aforementioned disproportionality through this program could lead to a reduction in the need for certain government-provided social services, thereby allowing the County to reduce those services and either save money or reallocate those funds to other critical areas.

The goals and objectives of this proposed agreement will be tracked and monitored by way of quarterly program reports that are submitted to OCFS.

Accordingly, I most respectfully recommend approval of the attached resolution.

**RESOLUTION**

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Social Services, be it hereby:

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester (the "County") is hereby authorized to further amend a grant agreement/Memorandum of Understanding with the New York State Office of Children & Family Services ("OCFS"), pursuant to which the County would accept funds from OCFS in an amount not-to-exceed \$40,000 for the period from December 15, 2009 through June 30, 2011 in order to fund the County's participation in the statewide Disproportionate Minority Representation Project (the "Agreement"), in order to further extend the term of the Agreement /MOU from December 15, 2009 through June 30, 2011 to December 15, 2009 to September 30, 2011; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement as amended shall remain the same; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute all instruments and take all actions reasonably necessary to implement this Resolution.

Account to be  
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Budget Funding Year(s):2009 Start Date 12/15/09 End Date 09/30/11  
(must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars: N/A  
State Aid: N/A  
Federal Aid: N/A  
\$N/A Other: N/A  
(must match resolution)