

Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

**30707**

Date: November 27, 2012

To: 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 Julia Dyckman Andrus Memorial, Inc. for the provision of Therapeutic and Parent Aide Services (TAPAS) for families with children at risk of foster care placement for the period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$196,550 to be paid on a monthly basis pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation

Authority is requested for the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with Julia Dyckman Andrus Memorial, Inc. for the provision of Therapeutic and Parent Aide Services (TAPAS) for families with children at risk of foster care placement for the period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$196,550 to be paid on a monthly basis pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation.

This contract serves a **public purpose** in that it preserves the family, reduces risk of abuse, neglect and/or need for foster care placement as families are better equipped to understand and handle child behaviors.

**The goal and objective of this contract** is to provide preventive services to families with children at risk of foster care placement. Trained Parent Aides provide in-home family support service designed to strengthen parenting skills in order to alleviate and/or prevent stress-induced family situations that may result in incidents of child abuse and neglect, family violence, foster care placement, PINS (Person In Need of Supervision) petition, and/or truancy. Services provided to children and parents under this contract will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Parenting skills education
- Home and finance management
- Behavior management techniques
- Nutrition
- Conflict Resolution

- Teaching alternate methods of non-violent discipline
- Establishing routines
- Understanding child developmental stages
- Accessing well-child care, social services and community resources

The **goal and objective is in the best interest of the County in terms of public health and public safety** because the services provided through this contract enhance parental child-rearing abilities by empowering parents, strengthening families and increasing the stability of families, thereby reducing the risk of abuse, neglect and/or need for foster care placements.

The **goal and objective is in the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** as the Department is able to avert the need for foster care placements and the costs associated with such placements. Preventing children from entering the foster care system can result in substantial savings for the County and the taxpayers. The Julia Dyckman Andrus Memorial, Inc., annualized program cost is \$196,550. This program plans to provide services to 66 families during the contract term. At this rate of service, cost for the contract year projects to be \$2,978 per family, regardless of the number of children in that family.

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 onsite visits.

Based on the **Performance Measurement Indicators** available at the end of the third quarter, the Department is able to report that the vendor is meeting targets and outcomes as outlined in the current agreement. From January 1, 2012 through September 30, 2012, the vendor provided services to 50 families and 112 children. This program has a 100% foster care diversion rate. During the same period, over 90% of the parents showed improvement in parenting skills, household management and knowledge of resources.

This contract falls under the Social Services Block Grant and therefore is exempt from the requirements of the Common Grant Rule.

This contract is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy under Section 3(a) xviii as the services provided thereunder are for the well-being of children and youth in the County of Westchester who are at risk of foster care placement.

Accordingly, the County of Westchester is hereby requesting permission to enter into this agreement with Julia Dyckman Andrus Memorial, Inc., as described above.

A resolution requesting the same is attached for your Honorable Board's approval.

R E S O L U T I O N

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 Julia Dyckman Andrus Memorial, Inc. for the provision of Therapeutic and Parent Aide Services (TAPAS) for families with children at risk of foster care placement for the period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$196,550 to be paid on a monthly basis pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this 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 the County Executive, or his duly authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents and to take all actions necessary and appropriate on behalf of the County of Westchester to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be  
Charged/Credited

2013	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
	101	22	8900	5960	-----	\$196,550

Budget Funding Year(s): 2013  
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 01/01/2013

End Date: 12/31/2013

Funding Source

Tax Dollars: 41%

State Aid: 30%

**\$196,550**

Federal Aid: 29%

(must match resolution)

Other: