

Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

**37271**

DATE: December 4, 2013

TO: Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner  
Department of Social Services

RE: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester ("County") to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Institute for Human Development ("WIHD") for a term commencing January 1, 2014 and terminating December 31, 2014 whereby the Westchester Institute for Human Development will administer the "Project IMPACT" program that will promote permanency, safety and well being for children with parents who have cognitive or learning disabilities and have children at risk of foster care placement in an amount not to exceed \$310,258 to be paid pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation

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Authority is requested for the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Institute for Human Development ("WIHD") whereby the Westchester Institute for Human Development will administer the "Project IMPACT" program that will promote permanency, safety and well being for children with parents who have cognitive or learning disabilities and have children at risk of foster care placement. The agreement shall commence January 1, 2014 and expire December 31, 2014 in an amount not to exceed \$310,258 to be paid pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation. The 2014 requested amount is \$14,965 higher than that of last year due to higher personnel costs.

The contract serves a **public purpose** as the program will strengthen overall family functioning that may in turn reduce the risk of child abuse or neglect and/or need for foster care placement, and train the participants to improve their ability to handle child behaviors.

**The goals and objectives of this program are to:**

- To provide permanency, safety, and well-being for children with parents with cognitive and/or learning disabilities who are at risk of foster care placement.

- To identify service needs for the child and family following intensive in-home services and to link families with appropriate services in order to reduce family disruption for these families.
- To provide intensive, in-home parent training services to families at risk for foster care placement of their children.
- To provide parenting services consistent with the parenting curriculum that meet the learning needs of parents with cognitive disabilities.
- To verify that children in those families receive all appropriate health, mental health, and developmental services.
- To assist caseworkers in becoming more knowledgeable about the needs of these parents so they can be empowered to support permanency for children in those families.

**The goals and objectives are in the best interests of the County in terms of public health and safety** as the services empower parents who have cognitive disabilities with concrete parenting skills, that strengthen and stabilize families, thereby reducing the risk of abuse, neglect and/or need for foster care placements for the children of Westchester County.

**Furthermore, in terms of fiscal responsibility**, the services provided by the program help to avert the need for foster care placements and the costs associated with such placements resulting in savings for the County and the tax payers.

**The goals and objectives will be monitored** using the performance measurement indicators developed by the Department and approved by the County Budget Office. The Program Office will be responsible for setting the milestones and tracking their achievements by reviewing the performance reports submitted by the vendor and making site visits.

Based on the **Performance Measures Indicators** reported as of the third quarter, 2013, the program served 17 families and 36 children and averted 100 percent of foster care placements, thus keeping these families in-tact.

This Agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant of Section 3 (a) xviii of said policy. This contract is exempt from the requirements of the Common Grant Rule as the program falls under Social Services Block Grant.

A resolution for your Honorable Board's approval is annexed herewith.

## R E S O L U T I O N

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

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester (“County”) is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Institute for Human Development (“WIHD”) whereby the Westchester Institute for Human Development will administer the “Project IMPACT” program that will promote permanency, safety and well being for children with parents who have cognitive or learning disabilities and have children at risk of foster care placement for the period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 in an amount not to exceed \$310,258 to be paid pursuant to an approved budget ; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this Agreement is subject to County Appropriation; 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 the 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 authorized designee is empowered to execute all documents necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be  
Charged/Credited

	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
2014	101	22	8900	5960	-----	\$310,258

Budget Funding Year(s): 2014      Start Date: 01/01/14      End Date: 12/31/14  
(must match resolution)

Funding Source	Tax Dollars: <u>32%</u>
	State Aid: <u>47%</u>
<u>\$310,258</u>	Federal Aid: <u>21%</u>
(must match resolution)	Other: _____