

Robert P. Astorino  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

**43397**

**DATE:** November 21, 2014

**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, 2015 and terminating December 31, 2015 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 are 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 are at risk of foster care placement. The agreement shall commence January 1, 2015 and expire December 31, 2015 in an amount not to exceed \$310,258 to be paid pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation. The not to exceed amount being requested for 2015 is the same as last year.

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 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.

**The goals and objectives are in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** as the services assist in averting the need for foster care placements and the costs associated with such placements resulting in savings for the County as well as the tax payers.

**The goals and objectives will be monitored** using the performance measurement indicators developed by the Department. The Program Office will be responsible for setting the milestones and tracking their achievement by reviewing the performance reports submitted by the vendor. Based on the **Performance Measures Indicators** reported for the period from January 2014 through September 2014, the program served 15 families and 37 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 to Section 3 (a) xviii of said policy. This contract is also exempt from the requirements of the Federal Common Grant Rules as the program falls under the Social Services Block Grant.

A resolution seeking authority to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Institute for Human Development to provide the aforesaid services is annexed herewith for your Honorable Board's approval.

## RESOLUTION

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 are at risk of foster care placement for a term commencing January 1, 2015 and terminating December 31, 2015 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
2015	101	22	8900	5960	-----	\$310,258

Budget Funding Year(s): 2015      Start Date: 01/01/15      End Date: 12/31/15  
(must match resolution)

Funding Source                      Tax Dollars: 36%  
   State Aid: 35%  
\$310,258                                Federal Aid: 29%  
(must match resolution)            Other: