

48748

DATE: November 5, 2015

TO: Board of Acquisition & Contract

FROM: Mae Carpenter, Commissioner
Department of Senior Programs and Services

RE: Authority to enter into an Agreement with the New York State Office for the Aging to accept a Fully Integrated Dual Advantage (FIDA) Options Counseling Demonstration Grant in the sum of \$135,000 to provide assistance to individuals who are dually eligible for Medicare-Medicaid with options to enroll and participate in the FIDA Demonstration, for the program period December 22, 2014 through December 21, 2017

The County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Senior Programs and Services (the "Department"), seeks authority from your Honorable Board to enter into an agreement with the New York State Office for the Aging ("NYSOFA") to accept a Fully Integrated Dual Advantage (FIDA) Options Counseling Demonstration Grant in an amount not to exceed \$135,000 in federal funding to augment the Health Insurance Information Counseling Assistance Program ("HIICAP") and the NY Connects Program ("NY CONNECTS") for the program period commencing retroactive to December 22, 2014 and continuing through December 21, 2017 (the "NYSOFA Agreement"). The reason that the grant is retroactive to December 22, 2014 is that there was a delay in FIDA implementation which affected Westchester County; therefore, the State had to make sure it was allowed to release the funds to Westchester despite the ongoing delay.

Funding will be used to pay for personnel costs associated with educating and counseling individuals about FIDA and assisting those who are dually eligible for Medicare-Medicaid with options to enroll and participate in the FIDA Demonstration.

HIICAP is a Federal and State funded Program under which Medicare information is provided to seniors, caregiver groups and professional case managers and social workers, who deal with these populations in order to educate and assist the elderly population within the County about Medicare and other important health insurance issues. NY Connects is a State program that is implemented on the county level to

improve access to long term care services through coordinated Information and Assistance. It minimizes confusion, supports informed decision-making and enhances consumer choice. It connects consumers of all ages needing long term care to the necessary services and supports regardless of available payment source, be it private pay, public or a combination of both. The FIDA grant will further augment the services under both programs by enabling them to build upon their infrastructure and knowledge base in order to meet the demands associated with the FIDA Demonstration.

It should be noted that NYSOFA has stipulated that the Department must submit three individual annual budgets based on the allocation amounts for each year and one summary budget for the three-year program period as detailed in the chart below. The following dates represent the first, second and third year respectively: December 22, 2014 to December 21, 2015, December 22, 2015 to December 21, 2016 and December 22, 2016 to December 21, 2017. All funding will be retained by the Department.

Annual Allocation			Three-Year Allocation		
HIICAP	NY CONNECTS	Total Annual Allocation	HIICAP	NY CONNECTS	Total Three-Year Allocation
\$31,500	\$13,500	\$45,000	\$94,500	\$40,500	\$135,000

The proposed NYSOFA Agreement will serve a public purpose by providing support to local HIICAP and NY Connects efforts in assisting individuals who are dually eligible for Medicare-Medicaid with options to enroll and participate in FIDA Demonstration. The primary objective is to improve the individuals experience in accessing care, deliver person-centered care, promote independence in the community, and improve quality through improvements in care and coordination. The care approach is an integration of medical, behavioral health, including substance abuse, LTSS (Long Term Services and Supports) and social needs.

The goals and objectives of the proposed NYSOFA Agreement are to build upon current infrastructure and knowledge base of providing impartial, accurate healthcare coverage options. These goals in turn will contribute to an overall objective of allowing Westchester's seniors to remain living in their homes/communities and avoid placement in institutions.

The goals and objectives are in the best interest of Westchester County in terms of fiscal responsibility because enabling seniors to stay in their homes and communities as long as possible rather than being placed in nursing homes, will save taxpayers money.

The goals and objectives of the program will be tracked and monitored by Department staff for compliance.

This is an agreement to accept grant funds and is not a procurement. Therefore, the Westchester County Procurement Policy does not apply.

I certify that my department a) has copies of, or access to, all applicable laws, rules, regulations, grant applications, and grant agreements (including any master grant agreement), as well as any guidance or instructions received from the agency making the grant (the "Grant Terms"); b) has reviewed the Grant Terms; c) is aware of and understands all of the Grant Terms; and d) can and will comply with all of the Grant Terms.

Accordingly, I most respectfully recommend adoption of the attached proposed resolution.

MC/SJ

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 12/03/2015 - JOAN SCUDARZI, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

UPON COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES BE IT HEREBY:

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the "County") is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the New York State Office for the Aging ("NYSOFA"), to accept a Fully Integrated Dual Advantage (FIDA) Options Counseling Demonstration Grant in an amount not to exceed \$135,000 in federal funding to augment the Health Insurance Information Counseling Assistance Program ("HIICAP") and the NY Connects Program ("NY CONNECTS") by enabling the programs to build upon their infrastructure and knowledge base in order to meet the demands associated with the FIDA Demonstration for the program period commencing retroactive to December 22, 2014 and continuing through December 21, 2017 (the "NYSOFA Agreement"); and be it further

RESOLVED, that NYSOFA has stipulated that the Department must submit three individual annual budgets based on the allocation amounts for each year and one summary budget for the three-year program period as detailed in the chart below. The following dates represent the first, second and third year respectively: December 22, 2014 to December 21, 2015, December 22, 2015 to December 21, 2016 and December 22, 2016 to December 21, 2017.

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RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee be, and hereby is, authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be credited	Fund	Dept.	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object Sub Object	Trust Account	Dollars
	263	85	580P	9853	T580	\$135,000
Budget Funding Year(s) (must match resolution)	<u>2014 - 2017</u>		Start Date	<u>12/22/14</u>	End Date	<u>12/21/17</u>
Funding Source	Tax Dollars	\$ _____				
	State Aid	\$ _____				
<u>\$135,000</u> (must match resolution)	Federal Aid	\$135,000				
	Other	_____				

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 12/03/2015 - JOHN COCCIARDI, SECRETARY