



George Latimer
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

71137

Date: August 19, 2019

To: The Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner of Social Services

Re: Authority for the County of Westchester to amend a Resolution approved on March 10, 2016 as amended by Resolutions approved on January 12, 2017 and March 9, 2017 which terminated the existing foster care agreements and educational provider agreements and authorized the County to enter into agreements utilizing the New York State Revised Model Contract for the Purchase of Foster Care Services (the "NYS Model Agreement") with licensed and approved voluntary Child Care agencies for the provision of institutional/group Foster Care, Therapeutic Foster Boarding Homes, Adoption Services and with the Educational Providers for the provision of educational services in order to add one (1) new foster care agency

By resolution approved on March 10, 2016 as amended on January 12, 2017 and on March 9, 2017 (collectively the "Resolution"), your Honorable Board authorized the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, to terminate existing foster care agreements and educational provider agreements and to enter into agreements utilizing the New York State Revised Model Contract for the Purchase of Foster Care Services (the "NYS Model Agreement") with licensed and approved voluntary Child Care agencies for the provision of institutional/group Foster Care, Therapeutic Foster Boarding Homes, Adoption Services and with the Educational Providers for the provision of educational services effective on or about April 1, 2016 and extending indefinitely until terminated with thirty (30) days prior written notice from either party to the other. The Resolution, as amended, added five additional foster care agencies with which the County was authorized to enter into NYS Model Agreements.

The Department has a child who is freed for adoption, and whose pre-adoptive therapeutic foster parents relocated to Pennsylvania. Mentor is working on certifying the foster family in Pennsylvania. As such, the Department requires that the County enter into contract with Mentor to provide the therapeutic foster care services until the youth is adopted.

Accordingly, authority is now respectfully requested to further amend the Resolution to add the one (1) additional foster care agency listed below:

National Mentor Healthcare, LLC, d/b/a Pennsylvania Mentor.

This agency certifies and oversees community based foster homes. The agency's children's program provides therapeutic treatment and services for children and adolescents in family based foster care via their Community Residential Rehabilitation/ Host Home Program. The agency provides a variety of therapeutic support services needed to safely maintain the foster youth in a community based foster home. As the ongoing needs of the youth and foster family are assessed, Mentor arrange for the delivery and oversight of specialized services, which includes, but is not limited to psychiatric/psychological services.

Pursuant to the proposed Agreements, the Department of Social Services obtains institutional/group foster care and adoption services from voluntary child care agencies.

The public purpose of the proposed agreement is to achieve the safety, well-being and permanency for children placed in foster care by equipping the Department with an adequate supply of institutional/group foster care facilities and adoption service providers.

The goals and objectives of this program are to provide foster care settings which best meet the needs of the children placed, while providing permanency planning as well as adoption and educational services.

The goals and objectives are in the best interests of the County in terms of safety & security because Westchester County children have been temporarily removed from their families and placed in the temporary care and custody of the Commissioner of Social Services for their safety and well-being. This contract is considered a support mechanism for our "at risk" families and for children who cannot remain in the community.

The goals and objectives are in the best interests of the County in terms of health & environment because these providers are licensed by the State to provide specialized services to safely care for youth who have been abused or neglected and cannot be cared for in a family foster home setting.

The Amendment is to the Resolution as the contract has not been executed.

Except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the resolution approved on March 10, 2016 as amended by the Resolutions approved on January 12, 2017 and March 9, 2017 shall remain the same.

We respectfully request your Honorable Board's approval of the attached Resolution.

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APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 08/29/2019 - LISA MRISAJ, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the Resolution approved by your Honorable Board on March 10, 2016 as amended on January 12, 2017 and on March 9, 2017 (collectively the "Resolution") that terminated existing Foster Care and Educational Provider Agreements and authorized the County to enter into agreements utilizing the New York State Revised Model Contract for the Purchase of Foster Care Services ("Model Contract") with licensed and approved voluntary child care agencies and educational providers for the provision of institutional/group Foster Care, Adoption Services and educational services effective on or about April 1, 2016 and continuing indefinitely until terminated by either party (the "Resolution") is hereby amended to add a new agency listed below to take effect upon execution and to extend until terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other (the "Agreements"):

National Mentor Healthcare, LLC, d/b/a Pennsylvania Mentor

and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is hereby authorized to amend the Agreements subsequent to execution of the same in order to adjust the per diem rates to conform to the revised rates issued by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services and the State Department of Education at such time as the County is notified by the State of such revised rates during the contract term and subject to future appropriations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that except as specifically amended hereby, all other terms and conditions of the Resolution shall remain in full force and effect; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is empowered to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase or Unit	Object/Sub- Object	Dollars
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Budget Funding Year(s):
(Must match resolution)

Start Date: upon execution End Date: Indefinite

Funding Source

\$N/A

Tax Dollars N/A
State Aid: N/A
Federal Aid N/A

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 08/29/2019 - LISA MRIJAJ, SECRETARY