

George Latimer
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire
Commissioner

ONBASE # 72843

DATE: November 20, 2019

TO: Honorable Members of the 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 the Westchester Institute for Human Development, (“WIHD”) pursuant to which WIHD 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 the period from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 for an amount not to exceed \$367,000.

Authorization is requested for the County of Westchester (“County”) acting by and through its Department of Social Services (“the Department”) to enter into an agreement the Westchester Institute for Human Development, (“WIHD”) pursuant to which WIHD 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 the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 for an amount not to exceed \$367,000 to be paid on a monthly basis pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation.

The services to be provided pursuant to this agreement will serve 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 agreement 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
- 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

- Provide intensive in-home parent training services to families at risk for foster care placement of their children
- Provide parenting services consistent with the parenting curriculum that meet the learning needs of parents with cognitive disabilities.
- Verify that children in those families receive all appropriate health, mental health, and developmental services.
- 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 of this Agreement are in the best interest 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 of this agreement are in the best interest 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 placement resulting in savings for the County as well as the taxpayers.

The **goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored using 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 Measurement Indicators, the Department is able to report that From January 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019, the program served 16 families and 45 children and averted 100% of foster care placements, thus keeping these families intact.

This agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures pursuant to Section 3(a) xviii.

It should be noted that this agreement is not subject to the competitive procurement requirements of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (formerly, the Grants Management Common Rule) as the federal funding for this program falls under Social Services Block Grant.

Accordingly, the County of Westchester is hereby requesting authority to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Institute of Human Development for the aforesaid purpose.

An appropriate resolution requesting your Honorable Board's approval is attached herewith.

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the “County”) acting by and through its Department of Social Services, is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the Westchester Institute for Human Development, (“WIHD”) pursuant to which WIHD 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 the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 for an amount not to exceed \$367,000 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 authorized designee is hereby authorized to take such action and execute such documents as may be necessary and proper to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be charged/credited:

	FUND	DEPT	Major Program, Program & Phase, Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
2020	101	22	8900	5960		\$367,000

Budget Funding Year(s): 2020 **Start Date:** 1/1/2020 **End Date:** 12/31/2020
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source: Tax Dollars: 33%
\$367,000 State Aid: 44%
 (must match resolution) Federal Aid: 23%