

George Latimer  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin M. McGuire  
Commissioner

**80973**

**DATE:** November 24, 2020

**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 Julia Dyckman Andrus Memorial, Inc. (“JDAM”) pursuant to which JDAM will provide Andrus Parenting Services for families with children at risk of foster care placement, for the period from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for an amount not to exceed \$225,000.**

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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 with Julia Dyckman Andrus Memorial, Inc. (“JDAM”) pursuant to which JDAM will provide Andrus Parenting Services for families with children at risk of foster care placement, for the period from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for an amount not to exceed \$225,000 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** by preserving the family, reducing risk of abuse, neglect and/or need for foster care placement as families will be better equipped to understand and handle child behaviors.

The **goals and objectives of this agreement** will be to provide preventative services to families with children at risk of foster care placement. Trained Parent Aides will provide in-home family support services designed to strengthen parenting skills which will alleviate and/or prevent stress-induced family situations that may result in incidents of child abuse and neglect, family violence, foster care placement, PINS (Persons In Need of Supervision) petitions, and/or truancy. Services provided to children and parents under this agreement will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Parenting skills education;
- Home and finance management;
- Behavior management techniques;
- Nutrition;
- Conflict resolution;

- Teaching alternative methods of non-violent discipline;
- Establishing routines;
- Understanding child developmental stages;
- Accessing well-child care, social services and community resources

The **goals and objectives of this Agreement are in the best interest of the County in terms of public health and safety** because the services provided through this agreement will enhance parental child-rearing abilities by empowering parents, strengthening families and increasing the stability of families, thereby reducing the risk of abuse, neglect and/or need for foster care placements.

The **goals and objectives of this agreement are in the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** as the Department will be able to avert the need for foster care placements and the costs associated with such placements. Preventing children from entering the foster care system will result in substantial savings for the County. This program will provide services to 66 families during the term of the agreement.

The **goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored using performance measurement indicators developed by the Department.** They include, but are not limited to, the review of periodic reports submitted by JDAM and onsite visits.

**Based on the Performance Measurement Indicators, the Department is able to report** that from January 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020, JDAM is satisfactorily meeting targets and outcomes as outlined in the current agreement. JDAM has a capacity to service 56 families annually. JDAM has provided services to 31 families and 51 children, year-to-date. During this time, 93% of the families served, demonstrated positive parent child attachment. Additionally, JDAM has entered 100% of its progress notes within 5 business days.

The procurement of this agreement is exempt from the application of the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures pursuant to Section 3(a) xviii as the services to be provided therein are for the well-being of children and youth in the County of Westchester who are at risk of foster care placement.

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 is hereby requesting authority to enter into an agreement with Julia Dyckman Andrus Memorial, Inc. 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 Julia Dyckman Andrus Memorial, Inc. (“JDAM”) pursuant to which JDAM will provide Andrus Parenting Services for families with children at risk of foster care placement, for the period from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for an amount not to exceed \$225,000 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:

	<b>FUND</b>	<b>DEPT</b>	<b>Major Program, Program &amp; Phase, Or Unit</b>	<b>Object/ Sub-Object</b>	<b>Trust Account</b>	<b>Dollars</b>
2021	101	22	8900	5960		\$225,000

**Budget Funding Year(s):** 2021      **Start Date:** 1/1/2021      **End Date:** 12/31/2021  
(must match resolution)

**Funding Source:**                                      Tax Dollars:    49%  
**\$225,000**    State Aid:        30%  
(must match resolution)                              Federal Aid:     21%