

**86154**

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Date: July 2, 2021

To: The Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Leonard G. Townes  
Commissioner, Department of Social Services

Re: Authority to enter into an agreement with Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service (“Fordham”), pursuant to which the County will participate in the Fordham’s Masters in Social Work Program, wherein Fordham’s Social Work students will participate in a field education/internship program at the County’s Department of Social Services facilities, supervising foster care visits between parents and children, for the period from September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022.

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The County of Westchester (the “County”), acting by and through its Department of Social Services (the “Department”), requests authority to enter into an agreement (“Agreement”) with Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service (“Fordham”), pursuant to which the County will participate in Fordham’s Masters in Social Work Program, wherein Fordham’s Social Work students will participate in a field education/internship program at the Department facilities, supervising foster care visits between parents and children, using the Coached Visitation Method. The Agreement will be for a term from September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022. There will be no monetary compensation paid to the County for its participation in this program.

Under the Agreement, the Social Work interns will supervise approximately two to five foster care visits per week. As a result, each intern will supervise approximately eight to twenty visits per month. It is anticipated that some scheduled visits/families will remain constant while others will vary and end as the permanency goals of the children are changed.

Under the Agreement, the Social Work interns will work with children and families who are being served by the Department’s foster care personnel. The children’s ages will range from newborn to 21 years old.

Pursuant to the proposed Agreement, both parties will agree to indemnify and hold harmless the other party from and against any losses, claims and liability resulting from any negligent act or omission of the other party.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement are to provide the fieldwork and clinical experience necessary to educate Fordham' Social Works students in a professional environment.

The goals and objectives are in the best interests of the County in terms of public health because this program will help train future social workers whose services are needed to ensure that children and other local residents in the County are receiving proper assistance and social services.

The goals and objectives of the proposed Agreement will be tracked and monitored by the Department.

As the Agreement does not constitute a procurement of goods or services, the requirements of the County Procurement Policy do not apply.

Accordingly, I most respectfully recommend the adoption of the annexed Resolution.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 01/29/2021 JOAN POGGIARDI SECRETARY

**RESOLUTION**

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

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester (the “County”), is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service (“Fordham”), pursuant to which the County will participate in Fordham’s Masters in Social Work Program, wherein Fordham’ Social Work students will participate in a field education/internship program at the County’s Department of Social Services facilities, supervising foster care visits between parents and children, for the period from September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that there will be no monetary compensation paid to the County for its participation in this program; and be it further

**RESOLVED**. that under the terms of the proposed Agreement, both parties will agree to indemnify and hold harmless the other party from and against any losses, claims and liability resulting from any negligent act or omission of the other party; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive, or his duly authorized designee, is hereby authorized to execute any documents and take any actions reasonably necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

Account to be Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$0.00

Budget Funding Year(s) 9/1/2021-8/31/2022  
(must match resolution)

Funding Source      Tax Dollars \_\_\_\_\_  
                                  State Aid \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_      Federal Aid \_\_\_\_\_  
 (must match resolution) Other \_\_\_\_\_