



**Robert P. Astorino**  
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin P. Mahon  
Commissioner

**DATE:** April 19, 2010

**TO:** The Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

**FROM:** Kevin P. Mahon  
Commissioner of Social Services

**RE:** Authority for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, to exercise the second option to extend an agreement with The Children's Village, Inc., for the provision of After Care From Foster Care Tier I & Tier II Program, providing after care case management, supports and services to foster care families in a two "Tier" design for the period from June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$2,006,643 to be paid pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriations

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Following the completion of an RFP process and pursuant to a resolution approved on June 22, 2006, the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, entered into an agreement (the "Agreement") with The Children's Village, Inc., (CV) for the provision of a community based, culturally competent, family focused After Care From Foster Care Tier I & Tier II Program providing after care case management, supports and services to foster care families in a two "Tier" design for the period June 1, 2006 through May 31, 2007 in an amount not to exceed \$612,919 with the County having the option to extend the agreement for two (2) subsequent three-year periods at amounts to be negotiated. Tier I is for up to one year post discharge and Tier II is beyond one year post discharge as assessed to prevent return to care. This Agreement was subsequently executed.

Through the resolution approved on August 30, 2007, your Honorable Board authorized the County of Westchester to exercise its first option to extend the Agreement ("First Extension Agreement") for an additional three-year period commencing on June 1, 2007 through May 31, 2010 for an amount not to exceed \$2,397,830. This First Extension Agreement was subsequently executed.

Authority is now requested for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, to exercise its second and final three-year option to extend the Agreement ("Second Extension Agreement") for the period from June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$2,006,643 to be paid monthly pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriations. The amount requested reflects a decrease in the overall cost of the contract as a result of contract negotiations with the vendor to contract at a rate reflected in the actual expenditures for prior contract years thereby resulting in a reduction in the per child cost of providing aftercare services to children exiting foster care. The total cost over three years shall not exceed \$2,006,643 in the aggregate.

The services to be provided through this contract serve a **public purpose** in that it preserves the family and reduces the risk of re-entry into foster care, thus averting the need for foster care placement. Aftercare services assist the families in addressing the special needs of their children, as well as navigating community based services to address such needs. The support services provided pursuant to this program assist children who return from foster care to reintegrate back into the community and the school system, thereby promoting the safety and welfare of the targeted population.

The **goals and objectives** of this contract are to provide aftercare support services to families of children who are returning from the Westchester County foster care system. Children transitioning out of the foster care system are more likely to face an increased rate of poor educational achievement, unemployment, mental health issues, incarceration and homelessness. The Aftercare Program seeks to ensure that children successfully transition to their local school system and maintain academic improvement and find employment. The program addresses the health and safety needs of this population, provides drug and alcohol treatment and promotes the self sufficiency of these families. The Vendor shall be using the following services to accomplish the goals and objectives:

- Initial assessment of family unit
- Case management
- Face-to-face contact
- Telephone contact
- Crisis support and management
- Case planning
- Counseling
- Parent skill enhancement training
- Support System Development
- Family Therapy/Family Communication Building
- Behavior Management
- Marital Counseling
- Self Management of Moods and Behavior
- School Interventions
- Linkages to community based organizations
- Concrete and Advocacy Services

The **goals and objectives are in the best interest of the County in terms of public health and safety** because the services provided through this contract help to maintain or restore family

functioning and increase the stability of families, thereby reducing the risk of abuse, neglect and/or need for replacement in the foster care system. The program is designed to enhance the physical well being and safety of the children discharged from foster care. Further, it promotes the safety of the County residents as the program would prevent these children from getting involved in anti-social activities.

**The goals and objectives are in the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility** in that the Department will be able to avert the need for foster care replacements and the costs associated with such placements. Preventing children from re-entering the foster care system can result in substantial savings for the County and the taxpayers.

- **Family Foster care cost annualized per child** - The cost of foster care in a family foster setting can range from \$17.10 to \$58.65 per day per child depending on the age and level of care provided. That translates into an annualized foster care cost from **\$6,241.50 to \$21,407.25 per child per year.**
- **Residential Foster care cost annualized per child** - The cost of Residential foster care costs can range from \$47.15 up to \$627.00 per day per child. That translates into an annualized cost for residential care from **\$17,206.10 to \$228,855 per child per year.**
- **Contract program cost per child** – The annual estimated cost of the Aftercare From Program operated through The Children’s Village is \$668,881. The Vendor is expected to serve approximately 147 children each year over the next three years which translates into a per child cost of **\$4,550.21 per year.**

**The negative consequence** for not approving this agreement will be that the Department will show an increase in children re-entering foster care. The recidivism rate was about 24% for children being discharged from the Westchester County Foster Care system in the years prior to the inception of this specialized aftercare services program. However, the Department has witnessed a dramatic reduction in the rate of recidivism, bringing it down to 4%, after the After Care From Foster Care Program was initiated. The reduction in the recidivism rate supports the effectiveness of the aforesaid program.

**The goals and objectives as stated in the resolution, will be tracked and monitored** to evaluate success using the performance measurement indicators developed by the Department and approved by the County Budget Office. They include, but are not limited to, reviewing of periodic reports submitted by the vendor and making onsite visits.

Based on the **Performance Measurement Indicators** reported from June 1, 2007 through March 31, 2010, the Department is able to report that the vendor has met its targets as stipulated by the contract and has served its contract capacity. Over the same period, the CV-Aftercare Program has averted 96.50% foster care replacements.

Except as specifically modified herein, all other terms and conditions of the original agreement as extended shall remain in full force and effect.

Accordingly, authority is now requested for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, to exercise its second and final option to extend the aforesaid agreement for the period from June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2013 for the above said purpose.

Approval of the attached resolution by your Honorable Board is respectfully requested.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 5-6-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

## RESOLUTION

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

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Social Services, is hereby authorized to exercise its second and final option to extend an agreement with The Children's Village, Inc., whereby The Children's Village, Inc., will operate a community based, culturally competent, family focused After Care From Foster Care Tier I & Tier II Program providing after care case management, supports and services to foster care families in a two "Tier" design for the period from June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$2,006,643 to be paid pursuant to an approved budget; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the 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 except as specifically modified herein, all other terms and conditions of the original agreement as extended shall remain in full force and effect with the second and final extension; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is authorized to execute all documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution.

Original Contract Amount:	\$ 612,919
First Extension:	\$2,397,830
<b>This Extension:</b>	<b><u>\$2,006,643</u></b>
Total	\$5,017,392

Account to be  
Charged/Credited

	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
2010	101	22	8900	5960	_____	\$390,181
2011	101	22	8900	5960	_____	\$668,881
2012	101	22	8900	5960	_____	\$668,881
2013	101	22	8900	5960	_____	\$278,700

Budget Funding Year(s): 2010-13  
(must match resolution)

Start Date: 06/01/10

End Date: 5/31/13

Funding Source

Tax Dollars: 41%

State Aid: 41%

\$2,006,643

Federal Aid: 18%

(must match resolution)

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 5-6-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY