

109995

DATE: November 22, 2024

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with Greater Mental Health of New York, Inc. pursuant to which it will provide its Hybrid Clinic program for the period from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, for an amount not to exceed \$470,459.

Authorization is requested for the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting by and through its Department of Social Services (the "Department" or "DSS"), to enter into an agreement (DSS6006-25) with Greater Mental Health of New York, Inc. ("Greater Mental Health") pursuant to which Greater Mental Health will provide its Hybrid Clinic program (the "Program"), to address the mental health needs of children and families who are involved in the child welfare areas of Preventive Services ("PS"), Child Protective Services ("CPS"), and Foster Care ("FC"), for the period from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, for an amount not to exceed \$470,459, to be paid on a monthly basis pursuant to an approved budget and subject to appropriation (the "Agreement").

The Program is designed to address and prevent child abuse and neglect in families at high risk as defined by DSS, thereby reducing the need for psychiatric hospitalizations/foster care placements while expediting the reunification process. Services will focus on addressing the referred individual's mental health needs, improving functioning, and assisting the family in supporting the individual's mental health needs. Family and collateral sessions will focus on improving parenting skills, management of the household, and the well-being of the family. Evidence-based practices will be utilized to address the risk of abuse and neglect, prevent higher levels of care such as psychiatric hospitalizations and foster care placements, and expedite the reunification process. Families will be connected to at least one community-based provider based on need.

The goals and objectives of this Agreement are in the best interest of the County in terms of public health and safety to meet the mental health needs of children and families in a timely and supportive manner by delivering services in a culturally competent manner that is respectful of cultural differences and recognize the individual strengths of children and families. The services provided through this Agreement will improve emotional and/or mental functioning and increase the stability of children, adults, or families, thereby reducing the risk of abuse, neglect, and/or need for foster care placement.

The goals and objectives of this Agreement are in the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility because it can use the Medicaid rate for children who are in foster care and for those children and families in prevention it can also avert the need for foster care placement and the cost associated with such placements. Preventing children from entering the foster care system can result in substantial savings for the County and the taxpayers.

The goals and objectives will be tracked and monitored by using performance measurement indicators developed by the Department. The Department will evaluate success through the monitoring of established performance measures as stipulated in the agreement. They include, but are not limited to, reviewing of periodic reports submitted by Greater Mental Health, monthly meetings and making onsite visits.

Based on the Performance Measurement Indicators, the Department is able to report that from January 1, 2024, through September 30, 2024, the Hybrid Clinic program has served 13 adults and 14 children as of September 2024. The Hybrid Clinic program has exceeded its 85% target goal with 100% of children and adults diverted from hospitalization interventions. During this same period, the program has also met its performance target with 85% of children experiencing a reduction in symptomology after 3 months in services.

The procurement of this Agreement is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures pursuant to Section 3(a) xvii thereof. 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 Greater Mental Health of New York, Inc. for the aforesaid purposes.

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

LGT/MBG/tml
Attachment

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 (DSS6006-25) with Greater Mental Health of New York, Inc. pursuant to which it will provide its Hybrid Clinic, for the period from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, for an amount not to exceed \$470,459, to be paid on a monthly basis pursuant to an approved budget (the "Agreement"); 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.

1. Account to be Charged/Credited:

Fund	Dept.	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
101	22	8900	5960		\$470,459

2. Budget Funding Year(s): 2025

Start Date: January 1, 2025 End Date: December 31, 2025
(must match resolution)

3. Funding Source:

Federal	35%	CFDA#(s)	93.667		
State	30%	State ID#(s)	N/A		
Operating/ Tax Levy	35%				
Capital	N/A				

4. Total NTE: \$470,459
(must match resolution)

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & COM

APPROVED BY: RAYMOND SCULKY, SECRETARY