

**Department of Health**  
11 Martine Avenue – 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
White Plains, N.Y. 10606

**113097**

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Sherlita Amler, MD  
Commissioner of Health

DATE: February 20, 2026

RE: Authorization for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Health, to Amend an Executed Agreement with Lupe Buten, an approved Related Services Provider, for the limited purpose of changing the name of the provider from Lupe Buten to Speak Through Play, Inc. effective retroactive to February 12, 2026

On March 13, 2025, your Honorable Board approved a Resolution (the “March 13, 2025 Resolution”), which authorized the County of Westchester (“County”) to enter into Agreements with approved Related Services Providers, as listed on the Attachment thereto, Pursuant to Section 4410, Part 200 of the New York State Education Law, for the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030, in the total aggregate amount not to exceed \$89,053,290, subject to annual County appropriations, with each Provider to be reimbursed at rates established by the County and accepted by the New York State Education Department to ensure that Providers are paid at the established rates and that the County is reimbursed for state aid.

In particular, the March 13, 2025 Resolution authorized the County to enter into an agreement (the “Agreement”) with Lupe Buten (the “Contractor”), who was listed as one of the approved Related Services Providers on the Attachment thereto, for the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030. The Agreement was subsequently executed.

The Westchester County Department of Health has recently been informed that the Contractor will now be operating under the name of Speak Through Play, Inc. effective retroactive to February 12, 2026. Accordingly, authorization is hereby respectfully requested to amend the Agreement for the limited purpose of changing the name of the Contractor from Lupe Buten to Speak Through Play, Inc. effective retroactive to February 12, 2026.

These providers will serve a continued unfilled need for speech, occupational, physical and speech therapy services for preschool children with special needs in the towns/areas and their associated school districts of Westchester County that currently lack adequate provider capacity to meet the mandated Individualized Education Plan requirements.

These agreements will promote the public health, safety and welfare of Westchester County’s children with special needs by enabling their daily participation in special needs programs and other community settings that typically developing children attend. On an annual basis, approximately 3,600 children are served by the Related Services programs.

The goals and objectives of these programs are to:

- Provide appropriate services to children from three to five years of age with developmental disabilities and/or delays in accordance with their approved Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
- Provide these services in the student's least restrictive setting.

Providers will be monitored, as per their contract requirements and the Health Department's performance measurement indicators, for the provision of services through program site visits and review of their clinical session and progress reports, and accuracy of billing by monthly reviews of submitted documentation.

Except as otherwise stated herein, all other terms and conditions of the agreement shall remain the same.

An appropriate resolution has been attached herewith for your Board's consideration and approval.

SA/MY/dc  
Attachments

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 03/05/2026 - RAYMOND SCUKY, SECRETARY

## RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Health, be it hereby

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Health, is authorized to amend an agreement with Lupe Buten (the "Contractor"), an approved Related Services Provider, for the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030, to be paid at rates established by the County and approved by the New York State Education Department (the "Agreement"), for the limited purpose of changing the name of the Contractor from Lupe Buten to Speak Through Play, Inc., effective retroactive to February 12, 2026; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that except as otherwise stated herein, all other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain the same; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee be and hereby is authorized and empowered to execute and deliver all instruments and to take all actions necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purpose of this resolutions.

|                       |           |  |
|-----------------------|-----------|--|
| Original Agreement    | \$        |  |
| First Amendment       | \$        |  |
| <b>This Amendment</b> | <b>\$</b> |  |
| TOTAL                 | \$        |  |

Agreement # \_\_\_\_\_

| Account to be Charged/Credited   | Fund | Dept        | Major Program, Program & Phase or Unit | Object/ Sub-Object | Trust Account | Dollars |
|--|------|-------------|--|--------------------|---------------|---------|
|  | N/A  |             |  |                    |               |         |
| Budget Funding Year(s) (must match resolution) _____ Start Date _____ End Date _____ |      |             |  |                    |               |         |
| Funding Source   |      | Tax Dollars | _____                                  |                    |               |         |
|  |      | State Aid   | _____                                  |                    |               |         |
| <b>N/A</b>   |      | Federal Aid | _____                                  |                    |               |         |
| (must match resolution)  |      | Other       | _____                                  |                    |               |         |