

102706

DATE: August 1, 2023

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

SUBJECT: Authority to enter into an agreement with Abbott House, pursuant to which it will provide 'Brief Strategic Family Therapy' services, for the period from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2026, for an amount not-to-exceed \$2,689,725.00, with the County having the option, in its sole discretion, to extend the term for one (1) additional one (1) year period on specified cost terms.

Authority is requested for the County of Westchester (the "County") to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement"; DSS6057-23) with Abbott House, pursuant to which Abbott House will provide therapeutic 'Brief Strategic Family Therapy' ("BSFT") services for the County's Department of Social Services ("DSS"), for children and families involved in the child welfare system, (the "Services"), for the period from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2026 (the "Initial Term"), for an amount not-to-exceed \$2,689,725.00, with the County having the option, in its sole discretion, to extend the term for one (1) additional one (1) year period (the "Option Term"), on the same terms as the Initial Term, except that the not-to-exceed amount for the Option Term shall be \$895,768.00.

BSFT is a proprietary, licensed model that will be used to provide therapeutic services to children and families involved in the child welfare system. This model is an evidence-based practice that treats externalizing (e.g., substance abuse, acting-out, truancy, bullying) and internalizing (e.g., depression, anxiety) symptomatology in youth while restructuring problematic family interactions. The BSFT model is a trauma-sensitive, culturally competent, strength-based model.

On March 20, 2023, the County, acting by and through DSS, issued a request for proposals that solicited proposals from vendors to provide the Services (the "RFP"). In response to the RFP, DSS received six (6) proposals. DSS had several individuals review the proposals and evaluate them based upon the evaluation criteria specified in the RFP. The result of that review and evaluation was that the proposal from Abbott House received the highest score and was, accordingly, ranked first. DSS conducted an analysis of the cost terms for the proposed Agreement and found that they are reasonable. Based upon DSS's review of the proposal from Abbott House and Abbott House's performance under previous contracts with the County, DSS is satisfied that it

is a responsible vendor for the Services.

The proposed Agreement will serve a public purpose by providing therapeutic services to children and families involved in the child welfare system, with such services being intended to treat externalizing and internalizing symptomatology in youth while restructuring problematic family interactions.

The goal and objective of the proposed Agreement is to provide therapeutic services to children and families involved in the child welfare system, with such services being intended to treat externalizing and internalizing symptomatology in youth while restructuring problematic family interactions.

The goal and objective of the proposed Agreement is in the best interests of the County in terms of health and safety, as providing therapeutic services to children and families involved in the child welfare system is anticipated to ultimately help ensure the welfare of such children and families.

The goal and objective of the proposed Agreement will be tracked and monitored by the staff of DSS.

I respectfully recommend the adoption of the attached resolution.

LGT/MBG/bdm/nn

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT 08/31/2023 - JOAN C. CIARDI, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the "County") is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement (the "Agreement"; DSS6057-23) with Abbott House, pursuant to which Abbott House will provide therapeutic 'Brief Strategic Family Therapy' services for the County's Department of Social Services ("DSS"), for children and families involved in the child welfare system, (the "Services"), for the period from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2026 (the "Initial Term"), for an amount not-to-exceed \$2,689,725.00, with the County having the option, in its sole discretion, to extend the term for one (1) additional one (1) year period (the "Option Term"), on the same terms as the Initial Term, except that the not-to-exceed amount for the Option Term shall be \$895,768.00; 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 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.

1. Account to be Charged/Credited:

	Fund	Dept.	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
2023	101	22	8900	5960		\$298,858.33
2024	101	22	8900	5960		\$896,575.00
2025	101	22	8900	5960		\$896,575.00
2026	101	22	8900	5960		\$597,716.67

2. Budget Funding Year(s): 2023-2026

Start Date: 09/01/2023 End Date: 8/30/2026

(must match resolution)

3. Funding Source:

Federal	22%	CFDA#(s)	93.556		
State	27%	State ID#(s)	N/A		
Operating/ Tax Levy	51%				
Capital	N/A				

4. Total NTE: \$2,689,725.00

(must match resolution)