



George Latimer
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Leonard G. Townes
Commissioner

95471

DATE: August 12, 2022

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

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

SUBJECT: Request for authority for the County of Westchester acting by and through its Department of Social Services to enter into an agreement with the New York State Office of Children and Family Services to accept a grant in the amount of \$200,000 for the hiring of essential staff to implement and operate the Mobile Crisis Response Program.

Authority is respectfully requested from your Honorable Board for the County of Westchester ("County"), acting by and through the Department of Social Services ("Department"), to enter into an agreement with the New York State Office of Children and Family Services ("OCFS") to accept a grant in the amount of \$200,000 for the hiring of essential staff to operate the County's Mobile Crisis Response Program for the term January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 (the "Grant Agreement").

As part of the Family First Prevention Services Act ("FFPSA") New York State provided grant funding to Local Department of Social Services Districts to implement a mobile response pilot program as a strategy to develop and operate coordinated programs of community based family support and family preservation services to prevent child maltreatment among families at risk, assure children's safety within the home, and preserve integrity of the family unit in which children have been maltreated, when the family's needs can be safely addressed effectively in the home. On July 7th, 2022 your Honorable Board authorized the Department of Social Services to enter into a grant agreement with OCFS in order to accept a grant in the amount of \$250,000 for the term from April 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 pursuant to which the County would purchase a mobile crisis van. The grant agreement was subsequently executed. To support the implementation of the mobile response pilot program, OCFS is leveraging additional Family First Transition grant funding to provide essential staff for the County's Mobile Crisis Response Program.

The grant agreement will support the Department by providing grant funding to hire one full-time Clinician, one full-time Behavioral Specialist, and one full-time Driver for the County's Mobile Crisis Response Program. These positions will ensure that County's Mobile Crisis Van will have qualified staff to effectively deliver in house crisis stabilization, de-escalation, and mediation support to customers of the Department's Child Welfare Programs.

The Grant Agreement with OCFS does not constitute a procurement and therefore, the provisions of the Westchester County Procurement Policy do not apply.

The Grant Agreement **shall serve a public purpose** by providing the Department with funds to be used for its work regarding the implementation of mobile crisis stabilization services for the customers of the Department's Child Welfare programs.

The **goals and objectives** of the proposed Grant Agreement are to provide the Department with funds for the hiring of essential staff to operate the Mobile Crisis Response Program.

The **goals and objectives** of the proposed Grant Agreement are **in the County's best interest** regarding **fiscal responsibility** as the Grant Agreement will make available to the Department non-County funds to be used to hire essential staff for the County's Mobile Crisis Response Program to take the necessary and prudent steps to provide the Department's customers with mobile crisis stabilization services.

I certify that my department, a) has copies of, or access to, all applicable laws, rules, regulations, grant applications, and grant agreements (including any master grant agreement), as well as any guidance or instructions received from the agency making the grant (the "Grant Terms"), b) has reviewed the Grant Terms, c) is aware of and understands all of the Grant Terms, and d) will comply with all of the Grant Terms.

Accordingly, authority is hereby requested for the County, acting by and through the Department, to enter into the proposed Grant Agreement.

I respectfully recommend your Honorable Board's approval of the attached Resolution.

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 with the New York State Office of Children and Family Services in order to accept a grant in the amount of \$200,000 pursuant to which the County will hire essential staff to implement and operate the Mobile Crisis Response Program for the term from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive, or his authorized designee, is authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be Charged/Credited:

Fund	Dept.	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
263	22	X032	9853	G032	\$200,000

Budget Funding Year(s): 2022

Start Date: January 1, 2022 End Date: December 31, 2022
(must match resolution)

Funding Source:

Federal	100%	CFDA#(s)	93.556		
State	%	State ID#(s)			
Operating/ Tax Levy	%				
Capital	%				

Total NTE: \$200,000
(must match resolution)