

SUSPENSION



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

April 27, 2015

Erie County Legislature  
92 Franklin Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Buffalo, New York 14202

**Re: Establish NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement Program Grant**

Dear Honorable Members:

The attached resolution requests authorization for the Department of Senior Services to accept \$624,053 in NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement Program grant monies from the NY State Office for the Aging. The grant monies are to be used to strengthen NY Connects' ability to serve as a "no wrong door" Aging and Disability Resource Center for Erie County, and will include staff training, program accreditation, and enhancement of community partnerships.

In lieu of creating additional positions to staff this new grant, the Department desires to realign its case management staff and transfer existing grant positions to the new grant, thereby freeing up appropriations in other grants to increase services for seniors

Should your Honorable Body require any further information, I encourage you to contact Commissioner Randy Hoak in the Department of Senior Services. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark C. Poloncarz".

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.  
Erie County Executive

MCP/mc  
Enclosure

cc: Randy Hoak, Commissioner, Department of Senior Services

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## MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature  
From: Department of Senior Services  
Re: Establish NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement Program Grant  
Date: April 27, 2015

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### **SUMMARY**

Approve the attached resolution to accept \$624,053 in NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement Program grant monies from the NY State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA), for the period October 1, 2014 through March 31, 2016. The funding will be used to strengthen NY Connects' ability to serve as a "no wrong door" Aging and Disability Resource Center for Erie County, and will include staff training, program accreditation, and enhancement of community partnerships.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

No additional County funds are required as the grant is 100% funded by NYSOFA.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

The Balancing Incentive Program is working to rebalance long term care spending in New York State. The goal is to spend less money on institutional care and more money on home and community based services, which are substantially less expensive on a per capita basis. In order to achieve this goal, New York State is enhancing the capacity of its NY Connects system. This includes investment in both state-wide infrastructure and in county-based operations located throughout the state. Accepting these additional dollars will give Erie County the ability to provide better service to older adults and disabled residents in need of information and assistance related to long term care.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Balancing Incentive Program (BIP) Medicaid waiver provides the State of New York with \$598 million to increase the number of Medicaid recipients served in non-institutional settings; improve access to long term care services and supports; and promote sustainable strategies for addressing barriers to community living. One reason why home and community based services have historically been under-utilized is lack of awareness of non-institutional options for receiving long term care. BIP funding is being used to support a variety of efforts to overcome information-related barriers, including enhancing NY Connects, the Aging and Disability Resource Center for New York State.

### **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

The Department of Senior Services will not be able to accept these funds for the benefit of residents in Erie County.

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## **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

The Department of Senior Services will establish the budget for the NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement Program grant and process corresponding existing grant and position changes as well as amending applicable subcontract agencies contracts.

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## A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY: DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR SERVICES

RE: Establish NY Connects Expansion and  
Enhancement Program Grant

WHEREAS, the NY State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA) has awarded the Senior Services Department \$624,053 in NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement Program (163ECON1416) grant monies for the period October 1, 2014 through March 31, 2016; and

WHEREAS, these funds are to be used to strengthen NY Connects' ability to serve as a "no wrong door" Aging and Disability Resource Center for Erie County, and will include staff training, program accreditation, and enhancement of community partnerships; and

WHEREAS, in lieu of creating new positions to staff the 163ECON1416 grant, the Department of Senior Services desires to realign its case management staff and transfer existing grant positions to 163ECON1416 thereby freeing up appropriations in other grants to increase services for seniors; and

WHEREAS the new grant is 100% funded by NYSOFA, with \$482,722 of federal and \$141,331 of State monies and requires no local share County funds; and

WHEREAS, the \$141,331 of State monies were previously included in the Department's 163Connects1415 and 163Connects1516 adopted grant budgets, and is now being shifted by NYSOFA to the NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement Program grant in order to secure the federal funding; and

WHEREAS, the adopted budgets for both the 163Connects1415 and 163Connects1516 grants need to be amended to reflect the shifting of the \$141,331 of State monies out of both grants; and

WHEREAS, amending the 163Connects1415 and 163Connects1516 budgets will require the transfer of the Assistant Long Term Care Coordinator position (#5102252) out of both grants and into the 163ECON1416 grant; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Senior Services proposes transferring two existing grant positions, ADRC Representative (#51012202) from BIPIF1415 and a Senior Case Manager (#8172) from EISEP1516 into the new ECON1416 grant, to allow for the continuation of the outreach model initiated in our Ready, Set, Home program, whereby department case managers assist seniors in obtaining services to safely return to their homes after stays in area hospitals and nursing homes; and

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WHEREAS, appropriations saved in the EISEP1516 grant, do to the transfer out of Senior Case Manager position (#8172), allow for 163III-E2015 Case Manager position (#874) to be transferred into EISEP1516, thereby freeing up \$48,629 in 163III-E2015 appropriations to be used to provide home care services to eligible seniors; and

WHEREAS, the Department also proposes utilizing the dollar savings available in the 163EISEP1516 grant, due to the pay differential arising from the transfer of a Senior Case Manager (job group 9) out of and a Case Manager (job group 7) into the grant, to delete a vacant, job group 9, Senior Case Manager position (#8178) in the 163EISEP1516 grant fund the reclassification to a upgraded job group 10, Assistant Long Term Care Coordinator position; and

WHEREAS, the new grant funding allows for the transfer, from the 163III-B2015 grant, of Senior Case Manager position (#8171) and Case Manager Spanish Speaking position (#51012208) into the 163ECON1416 grant thereby freeing up \$140,975 in III-B2015 appropriations to expand services for older adults.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the County Executive be and is hereby authorized to contract with NYSOFA to accept the \$624,053 of NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement Program (163ECON1416) grant monies for the period October 1, 2014 through March 31, 2016; and be it further

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RESOLVED, to staff the new NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement Program grant, deal with the reduction of funding in the normal Connects grant and realign staffing within the Department's case management programs, the following existing grant positions be transferred among the Department's grants (B100 #8302):

Position name	Position #	Transfer From Grant	Transfer To Grant	Effective Transfer Date
Assistant Long Term Care Coordinator	51012252	163Connects1415	163ECON1416	10/1/14
Assistant Long Term Care Coordinator	51012252	163Connects1516	163ECON1416	10/1/15
Case Manager Spanish Speaking	51012208	163III-B2015	163ECON1416	1/1/15
ADRC Representative	51012202	163BIF1415	163ECON1416	10/1/15
Senior Case Manager	8172	163EISEP1516	163ECON1416	4/1/15
Senior Case Manager	8171	163III-B2015	163ECON1416	1/1/15
Case Manager	874	163III-E2015	163EISEP1516	4/1/15

; and be it further

RESOLVED, that effective April 1, 2015 the vacant job group 9, Senior Case manager position (8178) in the EISEP1516 grant be deleted and fund the reclassification to a upgraded job group 10, Assistant Long Term Care Coordinator position (B100# 8303); and be it further

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RESOLVED, that the budget for the NY Connects Expansion and Enhancement Program grant (163ECON1416) for the period October 1, 2014 through March 31, 2016, be established as follows:

APPROPRIATIONS		INITIAL BUDGET
Account	Description	
500000	Full Time Salaries	\$ 268,337
500350	Other Employee Payments	\$ 2,000
502000	Fringe Benefits	\$ 187,655
505000	Office Supplies	\$ 1,000
510000	Local Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 6,000
510100	Out of Area Travel	\$ 2,000
510200	Training & Education	\$ 1,000
516020	Professional Svcs, Cnt & Fees	\$ 169,000
530000	Other Expenses	\$ 2,410
916390	ID Senior Services Grants	\$ -18,849
980000	ID DISS Services	<u>\$ 3,500</u>
	TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	<u>\$ 624,053</u>

REVENUES		INITIAL BUDGET
Account	Description	
414000	Federal Aid	\$482,722
409000	State Aid	\$141,331
	TOTAL REVENUE	<u>\$624,053</u>

and be it further

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RESOLVED, that the budget for the 163Connects1415 grant, be amended as follows:

<b>REVENUES</b>		CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
Account	Description			
409000	State Aid Revenues	\$317,278	<u>-\$141,331</u>	\$175,947
	<b>TOTAL CHANGE</b>		<b><u>-\$141,331</u></b>	
<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>				
Account	Description	CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
500000	Full Time Salaries	\$131,460	-\$51,245	\$80,215
502000	Fringe Benefits	95,395	-27,614	67,781
505000	Office Supplies	1,250	-850	400
510000	Local Mileage Reimbursement	1,250	-1,050	200
510100	Out or Area Travel	1,250	-1,150	100
510200	Training & Education	5,000	-4,500	500
510602	Professional Svcs Contracts & Fees	43,000	-18,000	25,000
530000	Other Expenses	4,870	-3,329	1,541
916390	ID Senior Services Grant Services	32,593	-33,593	-1,000
980000	ID DISS Services	<u>1,210</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>1,210</u>
	<b>TOTAL CHANGE</b>	<b>\$317,278</b>	<b>-\$141,331</b>	<b>\$175,947</b>

and be it further

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RESOLVED, that the budget for the 163Connects1516 grant be amended as follows:

	CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Account	Description		
409000	\$315,947	<u>-\$141,331</u>	\$174,616
		<u>-\$141,331</u>	
			<b>TOTAL CHANGE</b>

	CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>			
Account	Description		
500000	\$137,849	\$-55,716	82,133
500350	796	0	796
502000	101,976	-33,452	68,524
505000	700	-300	400
510000	750	-550	200
510100	500	-400	100
510200	500	-250	250
510602	35,000	-15000	20,000
530000	1,721	-839	882
916390	34,824	-34,824	0
980000	<u>1,331</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>1,331</u>
	<b>\$315,947</b>	<b>-\$-141,331</b>	<b>\$174,616</b>

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the budget for the 163III-E2015 grant be amended as follows:

	CURRENT BUDGET	CHANGES	AMENDED BUDGET
<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>			
Account	Description		
500000	\$280,595	\$-30,972	\$249,623
502000	179,816	-17,657	162,159
516026	42,795	<u>+48,629</u>	109,272
		<b>\$ -0-</b>	
			<b>TOTAL CHANGE</b>

and be it further

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RESOLVED, that the budget for the 163III-B2015 grant be amended as follows:

<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>		<b>CURRENT BUDGET</b>	<b>CHANGES</b>	<b>AMENDED BUDGET</b>
Account	Description			
500000	Full Time Salaries	\$723,810	\$-87,021	\$636,789
502000	Fringe Benefits	462,610	-53,954	408,656
516026	Home Care Services	62,285	<u>+140,975</u>	203,260
	<b>TOTAL CHANGE</b>		<b>\$ -0-</b>	

and be it further

RESOLVED, that, the Director of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to adjust items of appropriations and revenues which may be impacted by changes to grantor awards; and be it further

RESOLVED and, if necessary, the County Executive is hereby authorized to execute amendments to Senior Services agencies contracts to effectuate adjusted funding levels; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the County Executive's Office, the Division of Budget and Management, the Comptroller's Office, and the Department Senior Services.