



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

July 20, 2016

Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION

Re: Authorization to Amend Contract with Housing Options Made Easy Inc. through additional OMH funding

Dear Honorable Members:

Please find enclosed a memorandum and proposed resolution pertaining to an increase in the 2016 contract with Housing Options Made Easy Inc.

On April 6, 2016 the County was notified that additional New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) funding in the amount of \$262,500 (\$350,000 annualized) would be allocated to support a Community Reintegration Team consistent with Erie County's approved 2015-2016 System Transformation Plan. This team will support long-stay individuals in their transition from the psychiatric center to the community. This has been awarded to Housing Options based on results of a RFP process conducted by Erie County. As a result, the ECDMH is requesting authorization to amend and increase its existing contract with the aforementioned provider in as timely a manner as possible in order to comply with the state's desire to offer this program to consumers immediately.

Should your Honorable Body require any further information, please contact Commissioner Michael Ranney at the Department of Mental Health. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,


Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/mc
Enclosure

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Erie County Department of Mental Health
Re: Authorization to Amend Contract with Housing Options Made Easy Inc.
through additional OMH funding
Date: July 20, 2016

SUMMARY

On April 6, 2016 the County was notified that additional New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) funding in the amount of \$262,500 (\$350,000 annualized) was being allocated to support a Community Reintegration Team consistent with Erie County's approved 2015-2016 System Transformation Plan. This team will support long-stay individuals in their transition from the psychiatric center to the community. The funds provided are part of the statewide System Transformation Plan initiative to reduce the need for and length of costly psychiatric treatments and hospitalizations.

The Department of Mental Health is requesting authorization to expand its existing contract with Housing Options Made Easy so that the provider can immediately start to deliver this program to the community.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The funding for this action is derived entirely from NYS OMH resources. These funds are being appropriated to Housing Options Made Easy Inc. in the amount of \$262,500 for the fiscal year 2016 and \$350,000 annually thereafter. No additional funding is necessary for this proposal.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Due to New York State's desire to implement these new services quickly, the Erie County Department of Mental Health is requesting the authorization to amend its existing contract with the respective provider to allow for a swift and effective implementation. Housing Options was awarded this as a result of a countywide RFP process. The proposed resolution assures that services will be delivered in a manner that will help to identify individuals currently on inpatient or residential census who are ready for discharge and in need of the knowledge and expertise that the Community Reintegration Team can provide to them.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This is an increase to the NYS OMH funding in the Housing Options Made Easy Inc. contract to provide community based mental and behavioral health services associated with the Buffalo Psychiatric Center and New York State System Transformation Plan through the Erie County Department of Mental Health.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Failure to approve this action would delay and possibly jeopardize the implementation of and access to the expanded resources being made available to Erie County to provide these invaluable services to our residents.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Erie County Department of Mental Health's contract with Housing Options Made Easy Inc. will be amended as described above and the Department will continue to oversee the provider's program operations, performance goals and contract compliance activities.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

Re: Authorization to Amend Contract with Housing
Options Made Easy Inc. through additional OMH funding

WHEREAS, the Erie County Department of Mental Health is responsible for the delivery of a comprehensive range of mental and behavioral health services for the residents of Erie County; and

WHEREAS, 2016 budget appropriations were allocated to Housing Options Made Easy Inc. for the provision of Office of Mental Health and Department of Housing and Urban Development services; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) has informed the Erie County Department of Mental Health of a \$262,500 increase to its state aid for fiscal year 2016 (\$350,000 annualized), with a quick time frame requirement for implementing the associated behavioral health services; and

WHEREAS, in order to quickly implement these behavioral health services the Erie County Department of Mental Health recommends that the County immediately amend its contract with Housing Options Made Easy Inc. for the provision of the targeted behavioral health services; and

WHEREAS, no County funds will be necessary for Erie County to accept this state aid to serve individuals residing in Erie County; and

WHEREAS, \$262,500 in NYS OMH funding is being appropriated to Housing Options Made Easy Inc. for fiscal year 2016.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that in order to implement behavioral health services to adults associated with the Buffalo Psychiatric Center (BPC) System Transformation Plan allowing for targeted reinvestment in Erie County's mental health system, the Department of Mental Health is authorized to immediately amend the agency contract of Housing Options Made Easy Inc.; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is hereby authorized to accept the NYS OMH funding and amend the 2016 contract with Housing Options Made Easy Inc. on or around July 22, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to process the following budgetary adjustment:

2016 BUDGET – Mental Health, Business Area 124
Cost Center 1241020, Fund 110

<u>Revenue</u>		<u>Increase</u>
406830	State Aid	\$262,500
<u>Expense</u>		<u>Increase</u>
517665	Housing Options OMH	\$262,500

and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be furnished to the Office of the County Executive, the Department of Mental Health, the Office of the Comptroller, and the Division of Budget and Management.