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COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

February 15, 2016

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

**Re: Department of Social Services
Division of Family Wellness
Improving Permanency Outcomes Planning Grant**

Dear Honorable Members:

The Department of Social Services has been awarded a planning grant of \$7,500 by the Redlich Horwitz Foundation. This grant will fund a plan to improve permanency outcomes and will make the Department eligible for up to two implementation grants up to \$150,000 over two years. The attached resolution authorizes the County Executive and/or the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services to accept \$7,500 from the Redlich Horwitz Foundation and enter into a contract with Community Connections of New York to produce the plan.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact the Department of Social Services. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/bb
Enclosure

cc: Al Dirschberger, Department of Social Services

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Social Services – Division of Family Wellness
Re: Improving Permanency Outcomes Planning Grant
Date: February 15, 2016

SUMMARY

The attached resolution authorizes the County Executive and/or the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services to accept \$7,500 from the Redlich Horwitz Foundation and enter into a contract with Community Connections of New York to produce a plan.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The resolution will allow Erie County to accept a \$7,500 grant.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Department of Social Services has identified permanency as an area in need of improvement. Acceptance of this planning grant will allow the Department to present a proposal to the Redlich Horwitz Foundation for an implementation grant.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Redlich Horwitz Foundation is dedicated to improving the lives and long-term outcomes of children and young adults in the foster care system in New York. The Foundation issued a request-for-proposal to improve permanency outcomes in New York State. The Department of Social Services applied and were awarded a \$7,500 planning grant.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

The Department of Social Services would not be able to accept this grant.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Social Services Department will accept funding from the Redlich Horwitz Foundation and enter into a contract with Community Connections of New York.

**A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

RE: Improving Permanency Outcomes Planning Grant

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services has been awarded a planning grant of \$7,500 by the Redlich Horwitz Foundation; and

WHEREAS, this grant will fund a plan to improve permanency outcomes and will make the Department eligible for up to two implementation grants up to \$150,000 over two years; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services has identified Permanency as an area in need of improvement; and

WHEREAS, Community Connections of New York (CCNY) is a non-profit agency which provides training, evaluation and quality improvement services to human services agencies and government entities; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services worked with CCNY in the funding proposal to the Redlich Horwitz Foundation and they are the agency best situated to continue the work of constructing a proposal to help Erie County receive an implementation grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of Social Services and/or the County Executive are hereby authorized to enter into a contract not to exceed \$7,500 with CCNY for Professional Services; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the following budget amendments are hereby authorized in the 2016 Adopted Budget:

Department of Social Services, Fund 110, Department 120

ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE
516020	Professional Svcs Contracs & Fees	<u>\$7,500</u>
	Total Expenditures	<u><u>\$7,500</u></u>
467000	Miscellaneous Dept. Income	<u>\$7,500</u>
	Total Revenues	<u><u>\$7,500</u></u>

RESOLVED, the County Administrative Code requirement in Section 19.08 for a Request for Proposals (RFP) is hereby waived and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Erie County Executive, the Commissioner of Social Services, the Erie County Comptroller, and the Director of the Division of Budget and Management.