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# COUNTY OF ERIE

**MARK C. POLONCARZ**

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

June 14, 2018

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

**RE: Supportive Services and SREMPY1819 grant County share**

Dear Honorable Members:

The attached resolution requests authorization for the Department of Senior Services to continue to pay the Supportive Services Corporation, a not for profit agency operating employment programs for older adults, the \$18,000 of County share monies budgeted in the Senior Employment grant (163SREMPY1819) grant for which State funding will be eliminated as of July 1, 2018.

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

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.  
Erie County Executive

MCP/mc  
Enclosure

cc: Timothy Hogues, Commissioner, Department of Senior Services

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature  
**From:** Department of Senior Services  
**Re:** Supportive Services and SREMPY1819 grant County share  
**Date:** June 8, 2018

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### **SUMMARY**

The attached resolution requests authorization for the Department of Senior Services to continue to pay the Supportive Services Corporation, a not for profit agency operating employment programs for older adults, the \$18,000 of County share monies budgeted in the Senior Employment grant (163SREMPY1819) grant for which State funding was eliminated as of July 1, 2018.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

No additional county funds are required, as appropriations exist in the 2018 adopted County budget.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

Effective July 1, 2018 the New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA), will cease funding the Department's Senior Employment Grant (163SREMPY1819). The grant was budgeted to receive \$248,880 in State and \$18,000 in County share monies for the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. All the grant funds were appropriated for Supportive Services, which under the grant terms was required to utilize \$188,160 for payroll and fringe benefit costs for low income older adults placed in community service positions, for limited time periods and to develop or enhance job skills. The remaining \$78,720 of grant funds covered 26.2% of the agency's direct services and operational costs for their Senior Employment services.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

For over forty years Supportive Services has provided comprehensive employment services including employment assessments, job development, resume preparation, job match and referral, job coaching, case management referral (if needed) and workshops in navigating the various aspects of retraining and obtaining employment for Erie County job seekers age fifty-five and over.

The Department of Senior Services has a separate 2018 general fund contract with Supportive Services that provides the agency with \$60,000 in operating funds for Senior Employment services. The Department is requesting to increase this contract with the \$18,000 of County share monies originally budgeted for the 163SREMPY1819 grant.

## **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

Supportive Services capacity for operating its older adult employment programs will be significantly reduced, negatively impacting senior job seekers in Erie County. The agency is projecting that the reduction in direct services funding will reduce the number of seniors served from their past average of 682 per year to 300.

## **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

The Department of Senior Services will amend the existing 2018 general fund contract with Supportive Services to pay them the additional \$18,000 for the operation of their employment services program.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:  
DEPARTMENT OF SENIOR SERVICES

RE: Supportive Services & SREMPY1819 grant County share

WHEREAS, Effective July 1, 2018, the New York State Office for the Aging will cease funding the Department of Senior Services Senior Employment grant (163SREMPY1819); and

WHEREAS, this grant was included in the County's 2018 adopted budget and was to receive \$248,880 in State and \$18,000 in County share monies for the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the total grant funds were appropriated for the Supportive Services Corporation, a not for profit agency that operates employment programs for Erie County job seekers fifty-five years and older; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the elimination of the grant, Supportive Services Corp is now facing an operating shortfall of \$78,720 which represents the amount of the 163SREMPY1819 grant funding they were allowed to use for direct care and operating expenses of the agency's employment services program; and

WHEREAS, the Supportive Services Corp via the Senior Employment services provides comprehensive employment assessment, job development, resume preparation, job match and referral, job coaching, case management referral (if needed), and workshops in navigating the various aspects of retraining and obtaining employment for Erie County job seekers fifty-five years and older; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Senior Services has a separate 2018 general fund contract with Supportive Services that provides the agency with \$60,000 in operating funds for employment services for seniors; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Senior Services desires to increase this existing general fund contract with the \$18,000 of County share monies budgeted for the 163SREMPY1819 grant, to reduce the funding shortfall Supportive Services is facing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the 163SREMPY1819 grant be removed from the 2018 adopted County grant budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, the County Executive be and is hereby authorized to amend the Senior Services Department's general fund contract with the Supportive Services Corporation to increase funding by \$18,000, utilizing the County share monies that had been budgeted in the 163SREMPY1819 grant; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Department of Senior Services general fund budget for the Administration & Support cost center (#1631010) be amended as follows:

		INITIAL	CHANGE	AMENDED
		BUDGET		BUDGET
APPROPRIATIONS				
517825	Supportive Srvs Corp	\$60,000	+18,000	\$78,000
559000	County Share-Grants	2,144,729	(18,000)	2,126,729
NET CHANGE			<u>-0-</u>	

and be it further

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