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COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

January 14, 2019

Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street – Fourth Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

**Re: Authorization to Accept Grant Funding and Amend Contract
Due to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
Award – Year 3 of 3**

Dear Honorable Members:

Please find attached a resolution requesting legislative authorization to accept grant funding from SAMHSA and to amend the contract with Research Foundation of SUNY to continue to provide enhanced and expanded Drug Court navigation program services to impacted high-risk individuals in Erie County.

If your Honorable Body requires any further information, please contact Commissioner Michael Ranney at the Department of Mental Health. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/cw
Enclosure

cc: Commissioner Michael Ranney

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Erie County Department of Mental Health
Re: Authorization to Accept Grant Funding and Amend Contract Due to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Award – Year 3 of 3
Date: January 14, 2019

SUMMARY

Legislative authorization is requested to accept \$325,000 in funding from SAMHSA, to establish a grant budget for the period 10/1/18 – 9/30/19, and to amend the existing contract with Research Foundation of SUNY to continue to provide the following services: (1) to expand the Drug Court navigation program for Drug Court participants who are currently not eligible for existing navigation services, but are high-risk for opioid overdose; (2) to enhance the existing Drug Court navigation program; (3) to integrate behavioral health treatment with Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) and medical management of addiction; and (4) to reduce opioid overdose among Drug Court participants.

The issues encountered by program participants all contribute to increased risk of the persons overdosing while receiving Drug Court services. However, improvement with the coordination of care specifically related to MAT will reduce the risk of overdose and therefore improve outcomes for this population, which will ultimately benefit all Erie County residents.

The navigation process puts into practice the coordination of all behavioral/physical health needs that the high-risk opioid Drug Court individual would be assessed as having, including housing, treatment, etc. This is a team approach that works with the prescribing local MAT provider to assure these individuals are receiving integrated care both in the courtroom and in the community.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The funding for this action is derived entirely 100% from SAMHSA award dollars. No County tax levy is necessary to support this request.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Erie County Department of Mental Health, through SAMHSA, has been awarded \$325,000 to be allocated under NYSOMH direction for the next 12-month period beginning 10/1/18. The Department of Mental Health seeks to amend its existing contract with the Research Foundation of SUNY for the provision of these services. The funds are targeted toward the continued development and coordination of the invaluable services involved in the Drug Court navigation program process.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

In addition to potentially jeopardizing the future receipt of grant awards, we would be unable to continually provide and/or enhance the services as outlined above. Furthermore, providing assistance to those directly and indirectly impacted by the ever-growing opioid crisis is vitally important to maintaining and improving the well-being of Erie County as a whole.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Department of Mental Health will work with the Division of Budget and Management and the Comptroller's Office to maintain this recurring grant budget, and then will continue to monitor the revised outcomes being delivered from the resultant amended contract with Research Foundation of SUNY.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

Re: Authorization to Accept Grant Funding and Amend Contract Due to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Award – Yr 3 of 3

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, the Erie County Department of Mental Health has been awarded \$325,000 for the 12-month period beginning 10/1/18 by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) as part of a grant to continue offering expanded and enhanced Drug Court navigation program services to affected individuals and their family members; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Office of Mental Health had previously selected the Erie County Department of Mental Health to oversee the provision of the related services; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Mental Health thus requires legislative approval to accept the additional Federal funds and to maintain a grant budget in Fund 281; and

WHEREAS, no County funds will be necessary for Erie County to accept this federal aid to continue serving high-risk individuals residing in Erie County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby authorize the County Executive to accept SAMHSA grant funds and to have the Department of Mental Health oversee the provision of related services by amending its contract with Research Foundation of SUNY, and thus authorizes the Division of Budget and Management to establish a grant as follows:

Erie County Department of Mental Health
Grant Fund 281, Fund Center 12410
October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019
124SAMHSA1819

Revenue	Increase
Account 414000 - Federal Revenue	\$325,000
Appropriation	Increase
Account 517764 – Research Foundation OMH	\$325,000

and be it further

RESOLVED, that to the extent this subcontract may constitute a professional, technical or other consultant service, the County Administrative Code requirement in Section 19.08 for a Request for Proposal (RFP) is hereby waived, as this Honorable Body has previously approved of the County's entering into contract with Research Foundation of SUNY on January 23, 2014 (Comm. 1E-7); 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 the grantor award, provided there are no changes to county share amounts; 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.