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COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

December 16, 2019

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

RE: Authorization to Accept a Donation of Holiday Gifts for Distribution to At-Risk Children Involved in Erie County Social Services
IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION REQUESTED

Dear Honorable Members:

This resolution is requesting authorization for the County Executive and the Department of Social Services to accept a donation of holiday gifts for distribution to at-risk children involved in programs overseen by Erie County Social Services from West Herr Auto Group. This resolution is requested for immediate consideration to ensure the timely delivery of the holiday gifts.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact First Deputy Commissioner Karen Rybicki at 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: Marie Cannon, Commissioner
Karen Rybicki, First Deputy Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Social Services
Re: Authorization to Accept a Donation of Holiday Gifts for At-Risk Children
Date: December 16, 2019

SUMMARY

West Herr Auto Group has collected a trailer containing 827 gifts with an approximate value of \$16,000, which includes a range of items fitting both the younger and older youth involved with The Department of Social Services. Timely approval of this resolution would ensure that the Department of Social Services could take possession and distribute all the gifts to the children in time for the Holiday season.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

For at-risk children the Holiday season is not often a positive experience. Often these children go without gifts so that their caregivers can provide for necessities of life. This is an opportunity for Erie County to create positive memories and have a positive impact in the lives of many children.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Failure to approve would force West Herr Auto Group to find other partners for their donation that would not impact children involved with the Department of Social Services.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

Upon approval of this resolution, the County Executive will authorize the Commissioner of Social Services to identify specific children involved with the Department and for Department staff to coordinate delivery logistics with West Herr Auto Group in an orderly manner.

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

Re: Authorization to Accept a Donation of Holiday Gifts for Distribution to At-Risk Children Involved with Erie County Social Services

WHEREAS, West Herr Auto Group has collected 827 gifts valued at approximately \$16,000 this Holiday Season; and

WHEREAS, the collected gifts contain a range of items fitting for both younger and older children involved with the Department of Social Services; and

WHEREAS, West Herr Auto Group has agreed to assist the Department of Social Services in the distribution of the gifts; and

WHEREAS, providing these gifts fits the vision of the Department of Social Services to create a community where children, adults and families are healthy and safe and enjoy a quality life; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to County Law, all donations must be approved and accepted by the Erie County Legislature;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Legislature of the County of Erie does hereby authorize the Department of Social Services to accept the donation of 827 gifts with an approximate value of \$16,000 from West Herr Auto Group; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive and/or Deputy County Executive and/or Commissioner of Social Services is hereby authorized to distribute these same gifts to the children of families currently involved with programs provided directly or indirectly by the Department of Social Services; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive and/or Deputy County Executive is hereby authorized to execute any and all appropriate documents as may be necessary for the provision of temporary storage space at the county facilities for the distribution of the gifts; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature shall forward certified copies of this Resolution to the County Executive; the Director of the Division of Budget and Management; Marie Cannon, the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services.