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COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

OPEN

March 26, 2012

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

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION REQUESTED

RE: Department of Social Services - Child Care Fraud Prevention Grant

Dear Honorable Members:

Authorization is requested to accept New York State Office of Children and Family Services funds in the amount of \$94,051 to establish Grant 120CCFRAUDPREV1213, to create and fill a position of Special Investigator, and to contract for related services. There is no fiscal impact to this resolution as there is 100% reimbursement for this program with no local share.

New regulations from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) effective 10/5/2011 enable Erie County Department of Social Services (ECDSS) to defer payments to providers and clients when inaccuracies are discovered. OCFS has awarded a grant to ECDSS to reduce child care subsidy fraud for the period 4/1/2012 – 3/31/2013. This grant would enable ECDSS to identify areas of risk and indicators of fraud and abuse, reduce the number of child care subsidy overgrants, reduce fraudulent provider claims, and design and implement a prevention and education program for clients and providers.

Should your honorable body require further information, I encourage you to contact Mr. Frank DeCarlo at the Department of Social Services. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

Enclosure

6E-7

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Social Services
Re: Department of Social Services - Child Care Fraud Prevention Grant
Date: March 23, 2012

SUMMARY

Authorization is requested to accept New York State Office of Children and Family Services funds in the amount of \$94,051 to establish Grant 120CCFRAUDPREV1213, to create and fill a position of Special Investigator (B-100 #6852 , Job Group 08), and to contract for data development, prevention materials development, and community facilitation.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact to this resolution as there is 100% reimbursement for this program with no local share.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

This grant would enable ECDSS to identify areas of risk and indicators of fraud and abuse, reduce the number of child care subsidy overgrants, reduce fraudulent provider claims, and design and implement a prevention and education program for clients and providers.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

New regulations from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) effective 10/5/2011 enable Erie County Department of Social Services (ECDSS) to defer payments to providers and clients when inaccuracies are discovered. OCFS has awarded a grant of \$94,051 to ECDSS to reduce child care subsidy fraud for the period 4/1/2012 – 3/31/2013.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

ECDSS would be unable to take advantage of the no-cost opportunity to recover overpayments of child care subsidies.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

Grant 120CCFRAUDPREV1213 will be established and funded. The position of Special Investigator will be created and filled. ECDSS will contract for data development, prevention materials development, and community facilitation.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

RE: Department of Social Services - Child Care Fraud Prevention Grant

WHEREAS, new regulations from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) effective 10/5/2011 enable Erie County Department of Social Services (ECDSS) to defer payments to providers and clients when inaccuracies are discovered; and

WHEREAS, the DSS Special Investigating Division is backlogged with work and does not have the capacity to review additional cases; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Children and Family Services has awarded a grant of \$94,051 to ECDSS to reduce child care subsidy fraud for the period 4/1/2012 – 3/31/2013; and

WHEREAS, this grant is sufficient to fund one full-time employee and additional professional services; and

WHEREAS, there is no fiscal impact to this resolution as there is 100% reimbursement for this program with no local share.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is hereby authorized to accept funds in the amount of \$94,051 for the “Child Care Fraud Prevention” grant program and to establish the grant project; and be it further

RESOLVED, that ECDSS is hereby authorized to create and fill a position of Special Investigator (B-100 #6852, Job Group 08); and be it further

RESOLVED, that ECDSS is hereby authorized to contract for data development, prevention materials development, and community facilitation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the following appropriations are established in the Department of Social Services for the period of April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013 for the Child Care Fraud Prevention grant:

Department of Social Services, Fund Center 120, Fund 281
Grant 120CCFRAUDPREV1213

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>INCREASE</u>
500000	Full-Time Salaries	42,821
505000	Fringe Benefits	25,478
516020	Professional Services	15,000
912000	ID DSS Services	<u>10,752</u>

	Total Expenditure	<u>\$94,051</u>
409000	State Aid Grant Program	<u>\$94,051</u>
	Total Revenue	<u>\$94,051</u>

and be it further

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