



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

EC LEG OCT 18 '21 PM 2:51

October 18, 2021

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

Re: Authorization to Accept Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds to enhance non-residential services to victims of Domestic Violence

Dear Honorable Members:

Please find attached a resolution requesting legislative authorization to accept TANF funding from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services and to increase contracts with current providers to enhance services for non-residential victims of Domestic Violence.

If your Honorable Body requires any further information, please contact Commissioner Marie Cannon at the Department of Social Services. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/mmk
Enclosure

cc: Commissioner of Social Services, Marie Cannon

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Erie County Department of Social Services
Re: Authorization to Accept Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds to enhance non-residential services to victims of domestic violence
Date: October 18, 2021

SUMMARY

Legislative authorization is requested to accept \$258,647 in funding from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, to enhance non-residential services to victims of Domestic Violence.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The grant funding for this action is derived entirely from 100% Federal dollars. No County tax dollars are necessary to support this request.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Department of Social Services through the New York State Office of Family Services, has been awarded \$258,647 of TANF funds to enhance non-residential services to victims of Domestic Violence. The provisions of the award specifically state that they must be used to provide enhanced or expanded core and/or optional non-residential DV services with existing funding agreements. The Department of Social Services seeks to amend existing contracts with Child and Family Services, Suicide Prevention and Crisis Services, Family Justice Center, and Hispanics United as well as the Interdepartmental Agreement with the Erie County District Attorney's Office. These services must be provided to families with children and whose income is at or below 200% of the poverty level.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

We would be unable to provide enhanced services to Domestic Violence victims with an income up to 200% of the federal poverty level.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Department of Social Services will work with the Division of Budget and Management to amend the existing 2021 Adopted Budget amounts and will then amend contracts to Child and Family Services, Suicide Prevention and Crisis Services, Family Justice Center, and Hispanics United as well as the Interdepartmental Agreement with the Erie County District Attorney's Office.

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

Re: Authorization to Accept Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds to enhance services to non-residential Domestic Violence Victims

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services has been awarded an amount of \$258,647 in 100% federal share Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funds to enhance non-residential services to victims of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the additional Federal TANF funding is awarded for contract expansion for vendors with existing State approval to deliver non-residential services to victims of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the award specifically state that these TANF funds must be used to provide enhanced or expanded core and/or optional non-residential DV services provided by OCFS-approved non-residential DV programs; and

WHEREAS, only expansion of existing contractual services is eligible for this funding, and the vendors used must be among those named in the Department's Consolidated Services Plan (CSP) approved by the State.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of Social Services and/or the County Executive are hereby authorized to enter into or amend contracts with Child and Family Services, Suicide Prevention and Crisis Services, Family Justice Center, and Hispanics United for expanded non-residential services to victims of domestic violence; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the following budget amendments are hereby authorized in the 2021 Adopted Budget:

Department of Social Services, Fund 110, Funds Center 120

ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	INCREASE/ (DECREASE)
516410	Child and Family Services	\$ 51,380
516410	Suicide Prevention and Crisis Services	\$135,000
516410	Family Justice Center	\$ 49,000
516410	Hispanics United	\$ 3,960
911400	ID District Attorney Services	<u>\$ 19,307</u>
	Total Expenditures	<u>\$258,647</u>
414000	Federal Aid	<u>\$258,647</u>
	Total Revenue	\$258,647

RESOLVED, that an interdepartmental agreement be amended between the District Attorney and Social Services for non-residential services to victims of domestic violence; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to adjust the budget of the District Attorney's Office in order to amend funding to implement the interdepartmental agreements; and be it further

RESOLVED, that because only State-approved providers of non-residential services to victims of domestic violence are eligible to receive these funds and because these special services are needed immediately, 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 be furnished to the Erie County Executive, the Commissioner of Social Services, the Erie County Comptroller, the Director of Budget and Management, and the District Attorney.