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# COUNTY OF ERIE

**MARK C. POLONCARZ**

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

September 30, 2022

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

**RE: Authorization to Enter into Contract with Stall Senior Medical and Rutowski Pharmacies, Inc. for Home Monkeypox Vaccination**

Dear Honorable Members:

Please find the attached resolution requesting legislative authorization for Erie County to enter into a contract with Stall Senior Medical and Rutowski Pharmacies, Inc. to provide home Monkeypox vaccinations.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact the Commissioner of Health, Dr. Gale Burstein. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Poloncarz".

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.  
Erie County Executive

MCP/ja

Enclosure

cc: Gale R. Burstein, MD, MPH, FAAP, Commissioner of Health

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature  
**From:** Department of Health  
**Re:** Authorization to Enter into Contract with Stall Senior Medical and Rutowski Pharmacies, Inc. for Home Monkeypox Vaccination  
**Date:** September 30, 2022

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### **SUMMARY**

The purpose of this resolution is to authorize the Erie County Department of Health (“ECDOH”) to enter into a contract with Stall Senior Medical and Rutowski Pharmacies, Inc. for at-home Monkeypox vaccination visits.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Neutral. Sufficient funding to pay for the cost of providing this at-home vaccination service exists through the Epidemiology & Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Disease Grant (127ELCCOVID2022), Fund 281, Account #516020 – Professional Services, Contracts & Fees. The cost that ECDOH will pay to the contractors for each home visits is \$125. While, ECDOH cannot estimate a total cost for the visits, the contract with Stall Senior Medical and Rutowski Pharmacies, Inc. will be set up for value not to exceed \$100,000, which would be equivalent to approximately 4 at-home vaccinations a day for a 6-month period. The \$125 service fee will include the vaccination, patient education, arrangement for a follow up vaccination in 28-35 days and entering vaccination information in NYSIIS.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

Monkeypox spreads through close, physical contact between people. This means anyone can get Monkeypox. However, based on the current outbreak, certain populations are being affected by Monkeypox more than others, including men who have sex with men (MSM).

By having this contract in place, it will allow for increased privacy and confidentiality as many men in this population prefer not to go to a sexual health clinic for this service out of fear of being seen and the perceived stigma of this population.

Erie County has had previous experience working with Stall Senior Medical and Rutowski Pharmacies, Inc. during this past year in dealing with COVID-19.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Department of Health will require that the contractor work with individuals in the community who prefer to receive their vaccination at home to ensure their privacy and confidentiality and to also provide COVID-19 home tests. Monkeypox vaccine and COVID-19

vaccines cannot be given together due to significant side effects. Once administered this data will be entered into NYSIIS by the contractor and arrangements will be made for follow-up vaccine within 28-35 days.

### **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

The individuals who request this service would therefore be unable to receive such within the privacy of their own home. They would be forced to get the vaccine at a sexual health clinic and therefore risk their anonymity. This could cause them not to get vaccinated thereby increasing their risk of becoming seriously ill from contracting this virus.

### **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

The Health Department will follow the appropriate steps necessary to enter into the agreement.

**A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

RE: Authorization to Enter into Contract with Stall Senior Medical and Rutowski Pharmacies, Inc. for Home Monkeypox Vaccination

WHEREAS, the Erie County Department of Health has responsibility to ensure vaccinations are available to all eligible residents; and

WHEREAS, certain individuals in the population currently being infected with Monkeypox, which is men who have sex with men, prefer to be vaccinated at home to protect their privacy; and

WHEREAS, Stall Senior Medical and Rutowski Pharmacies, Inc. have the personnel available to provide such services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Executive to enter into contracts with Stall Senior Medical and Rutowski Pharmacies, Inc. for a value not to exceed \$100,000 for the provision of at-home Monkeypox vaccines; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby wave the procedures provided for in Section 26.08 of the Erie County Administrative Code to secure the services of Stall Senior Medical and Rutowski Pharmacies, Inc. for the public health need for provision of at-home Monkeypox vaccines; and be it further

RESOLVED, that sufficient funding to pay for the cost of providing this at-home vaccination service exists through the Epidemiology & Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Disease Grant (127ELCCOVID2022), Fund 281, Account #516020 – Professional Services, Contracts & Fees; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the County Executive, the Division of Budget and Management, the Department of Law and the Department of Health.