

**Albany County Department for Children, Youth and Families**

**Justification for contractual agreements between Albany County and Providers of Qualified Individual Assessments**

The Department respectfully requests Legislative authorization to enter into contractual agreements with the below provider agencies for the term of September 1, 2022- August 31, 2023.

The Family First Prevention Services Act took effect on October 1, 2021. The goal of this legislation is to reduce the number of children in congregate care, and to increase the number of kinship and foster care homes. This legislation is intended to promote interventions that keep children safely at home with relatives or in the community, whenever possible. The goal is to reduce lengths of stay in congregate care and prevent recurrence of placement.

Family First Legislation requires if a child is placed in qualified residential treatment program (QRTP) , within 30 days of the start of each placement, the child must be assessed to determine the appropriate level of care by a qualified individual (QI). This QI is a licensed clinician with a minimum of two years of child welfare experience and will work DCYF, the QRTP and permanency team to develop the assessment within 30 days of the placement in congregate care.

The following agencies are approved by the NYS Office of Children and Family services as Qualified Individual providers.

Berkshire Farm Center & Services for Youth  
13640 State Route 22, Canaan, NY 12029

JCCA Repair the World  
858 E. 29th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11210

LaSalle School  
391 Western Avenue, Albany, NY 12203

Cornerstone Mobile Counseling  
417 East German St, Herkimer, NY 13350

Northern Rivers Family of Services  
60 Academy Road, Albany, NY 12208

William George Agency  
3829 U.S. Rt. 11, Marathon, NY 13803

St. Anne Institute  
160 N. Main Ave, Albany, NY 12206

Hillside Children’s Center  
1183 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, NY 14620

St. Catherine’s Center for Children  
40 N. Main Ave, Albany, NY 12203

Learning Insights  
PO Box 1214, Highland, NY 12528

Albany Psychological Service  
PO Box 3830, Albany, NY 12203

Maximus US Services, Inc.  
6 Bottle Creek Drive, Cape May, NJ 08204

There is no anticipated cost to the county for the assessments, as they will be paid by Medicaid through the Child and Family Treatment Services and Supports (CFTSS) services.