

Department for Children, Youth and Families

Backup Material for Authorization to Accept Funding from the NYS Office of Children and Family Services; Authorization for Signature and Submission of a Supervision and Treatment Services for Juveniles Program Plan to New York State Office of Children and Family Services

The Department respectfully requests Legislative authorization to receive funding from NYS OCFS and to sign and submit a Supervision and Treatment Services for Juvenile Program Plan (STSJP) to NYS OCFS. The total funding allocation is \$172,722 for the term of October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021.

NYS Supervision and Treatment Services for Juveniles Program (STSJP) provides funding to support local programming to divert youth safely from unnecessary detention and/or placement admissions. It is a key element of New York's juvenile justice reform efforts. STSJP funding is allocated to each locality by NYS OCFS.

Albany County is receiving a funding allocation of \$172,722, which will continue to support programming at Albany County Probation Department and Albany County Family Court for juvenile justice involved youth. The goal of this programming is to prevent out of home placement of youth, maintain them safely in their community, and when placement is needed, to safely expedite the reintegration of such youth back into the community. All counties are required to sign and submit a STSJP plan to include such funded programming. As Albany County anticipated this funding in the development of the 2020 Albany County budget and the 2021 requested budget, such funding was already incorporated into the 2020 Adopted Albany County Budget and 2021 requested budget.

Albany County is well positioned to successfully provide such programming and meet the goals of the STSJP funding, as we are participating in a number of other juvenile justice system reform initiatives including the Regional Youth Justice Team.

NYS has implemented the Regional Youth Justice Teams throughout the state; the goal of which is to improve juvenile justice policies, practices and programming. Albany County is one of nine counties participating in the Capital Region Youth Justice Team. Albany County is able to share the strategies being implemented locally through STSJP funding with the other participating counties in the Regional Team as well as statewide.