

## **Department for Children, Youth and Families**

### **Backup Material for Authorization of Grant Acceptance from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services For the Children's Advocacy Center - Child Fatality Review Team, Contract Authorization with SIDS of Pennsylvania Cribs for Kids, and to Amend the 2021 Adopted Budget**

The Department respectfully requests Legislative authorization to accept grant funding from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (NYS OCFS) for the Children's Advocacy Center – Child Fatality Review Team (CFRT) and amend the 2019 Adopted Department for Children, Youth and Families budget. The grant award is a five year award for the contract term of February 1, 2019 to January 31, 2024, with a total value of \$348,185 with no County share for the term.

The Department requests authorization to accept the annual award amount of \$69,637 for the period of February 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022 and to amend the 2021 Adopted Department for Children, Youth and Families budget accordingly. The Department also respectfully requests contract authorization with SIDS of Pennsylvania Cribs for Kids, through this grant award, in the amount of \$10,950.00, for the term of February 1, 2021 to January 31, 2022.

The Albany County Child Fatality Review Team is a collaboration of professionals from various disciplines. The Albany County Child Fatality Review Team purpose and goals are to prevent future deaths and promote child safety. The Team reviews child fatalities, addresses systems issues, makes recommendations for improved practice for those agencies involved in child fatality investigations, and recommends measures to prevent future child fatalities and promote overall safety and well-being of children, especially surviving siblings.

The grant funds for the contract will be used to: 1) ensure educational information is made available to the public and professionals about risk factors that contribute to preventable child deaths such as unsafe sleeping practices for infants, pedestrian safety, bicycle safety, hyperthermia, pool safety and abusive head trauma (shaken baby syndrome) using an array of educational and media approaches; 2) continue a local chapter of the national Cribs for Kids organization and distribute cribs directly to those children in need; and 3) provide training to support continued improved practices and approaches of the multi-disciplinary team members.

The Team is currently comprised of representatives from the Child Protective Service of the Albany County Department for Children, Youth and Families (ACDCYF); the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (NYS OCFS); the Albany County Department of Health (DOH); the Albany County Coroner's office (Coroner); the Office of the Albany County District Attorney (District Attorney); the Office of the Albany County Attorney (County Attorney); a representative of local police department(s)--Albany, Altamont, Bethlehem, Cohoes, Colonie, and Guilderland--in ALBANY County; a representative of the New York State Police; a representative of the Albany County Department of Emergency Services (EMS); and Albany County Sheriff's Office; a pediatrician with expertise in the area of child abuse and maltreatment.

The Department for Children, Youth and Families – Children's Advocacy Center has received funding in the past from NYS OCFS specifically for the Child Fatality Review Team. This funding has allowed, and will continue to support, the Albany County collaborative to increase public awareness and advocacy for the issues that affect the health and safety of children, as well as the team's other stated purpose and goals.