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January 21, 2026

Honorable Joanne Cunningham, Chairwoman
Albany County Legislature
112 State Street, Room 710
Albany, NY 12207

Re: Raise the Age Enhanced Case Management and Community Support

Dear Chairwoman Cunningham:

Enclosed is a request for Legislative Action for permission to enter into a contract for Raise the Age service with Northern Rivers. RFP #2021 was originally awarded to Northern Rivers after proposals were submitted and a thorough evaluation was performed. The RFP term of contract was for one year with two (2) additional years in one-year intervals. Albany County Purchasing has determined an RFP is no longer required due to the specific grant requirements.

The program is designed to provide enhanced case management services to Raise the Age population, while incorporating the use of parent advocates and community coaches/credible messengers. These individuals will be members of the community with real life experiences that will be helpful in assisting youth and families navigate the juvenile justice system, all of which will be under the supervision and guidance of a case manager. Services will include mentoring, transportation, skill building, parental support/education, housing assistance, vocational/educational advocacy, and clinical services for those youth in need of such. Northern Rivers will work closely with the Probation Department responding to each youth's individual needs.

This program will be funded through Raise the Age reimbursement with no cost to the County. It is estimated to be \$647,174 and will serve up to 100 families a year at the Probation Department. It is anticipated that each youth will remain in the program on an average 90-180 days.

It is respectfully requested this be considered. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (518) 487-5194.

Sincerely,

William Connors
Probation Director

WC/km
Enc.

cc: Honorable Dennis Feeney, Majority Leader
Honorable Frank Mauriello, Minority Leader
Rebekah Kennedy, Esq., Majority Counsel
James Curran, Esq., Minority Counsel