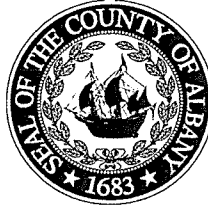


DANIEL P. MCCOY
COUNTY EXECUTIVE



MOIRA E. MANNING
COMMISSIONER

DANIEL C. LYNCH
DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

COUNTY OF ALBANY
DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES
112 STATE STREET - SUITE 400
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207
(518) 447-7500 - FAX (518) 447-7766
www.albanycounty.com

April 9, 2020

Redlich Horwitz Foundation
Attention: Rashida Abuwala, Director

Re: COVID-19 Rapid Response Fund

Dear Mrs. Abuwala,

I hope you are well and staying safe. This public health crisis has forced Albany County to change the way we do business to meet the needs of children and families. We are in desperate need of laptops, smartphones and tablets to assist in keeping children in foster care connected to their families and to assess the ongoing safety of these children. These funds will be used in the following methods to assist Albany County in meeting the mission of our agency during this pandemic.

- Purchase of (15) iPhones 7 or 8 model. Albany County currently has a contract with Verizon. The cost of the phones would be free and the monthly charge would be \$34.99 with an annual cost of \$9,972.15.
The iPhones would be used to facilitate virtual face to face contact with parents, youth and children. It would also be used for permanency planning conferences and child safety assessments.
- Purchase of (3) iPads. Equipment cost \$3,600.00 and monthly charge of \$39.00 with our Verizon contract.
The iPads would be used to facilitate contact/visits between children who are placed in foster care with their families. The iPads would be used to locate/identify Kinship resources by working with birth families. The iPads would also be used by families who do not have the resources to attend family court appearances remotely.
- Purchase of (10) Laptops. Equipment cost \$9,620.3 and (5) MiFis, no equipment charge with a \$34.99 monthly charge.

The laptops would be used to allow caseworkers to work from home and (in the field after the pandemic). These laptops would allow caseworkers to maintain continuity of work flow so that there is not a backlog of paperwork to process, such as permanency hearing reports, progress notes, and Connections work.

Albany County DCYF currently has 244 children in Foster care in both traditional foster homes and congregate care facilities. Our goal is to continue to reduce the use of congregate care facilities by increasing our Kinship Family resource homes. The requested equipment would support our County's ability to align with Family First legislation. This technology will enable our staff to expand our Kinship Foster Care programs to support and maintain children within their families and communities. Thank you in advance for reviewing Albany County's request.

Proposed:

	<u>Equip</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>1 month</u>	<u>19 month</u>
Ipad	\$1,200.00	\$39.99	3	\$3,719.97	\$5,879.43
Iphone	\$0.00	\$34.99	15	\$524.85	\$9,972.15
Laptop	\$962.03	\$0.00	10	\$9,620.30	\$9,620.30
MiFi	\$0.00	\$34.99	5	\$174.95	\$3,324.05
					\$28,795.93

Sincerely,

Michelle Dowe
 Child Welfare Director
 Albany Co. Dept. for Children Youth & Families
 112 State Street, 4th floor
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 (518) 447-4905
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