

DANIEL P. MCCOY
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DANIEL C. LYNCH, ESQ. DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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November 3, 2022

Honorable Andrew Joyce, Chairman Albany County Legislature 112 State Street, Room 710 Albany, New York 12207

Dear Chairman Joyce:

The Office of the Albany County Executive respectfully requests authorization to accept and utilize the State issued funds awarded by our previously submitted application for the Second Upstate Family Defense (Child Welfare) Quality Improvement & Caseload Reduction Grant

This grant was administered by the New York State, Office of Indigent Services. The Second Upstate Family Defense (Child Welfare) Quality Improvement & Caseload Reduction funding will be used to support Albany County's Public Defender's, Conflict Defender's and Assigned Counsel's ability to expand pivotal services to those in need as well as reduce the influx in cases received from Family Court. This new effort is in direct response to the lack in quality given to populations disproportionately represented. Operational capacity will be increased with the hiring of one attorney in the Public Defender's Office, the integration of one non-attorney Social Worker in the Conflict Defender's Office in addition to deliver services other than counsel to its panel attorneys. This investment into Albany County's Public Defender's Office will allow for enhanced services to be provided to parent(s) in the County of Albany who lack the resources to respond effectively to government action following the temporary or permanent removal of a child from their home. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

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Daniel P. McCoy

Albany County Executive

cc: Hon. Dennis A. Feeney, Majority Leader Hon. Frank A. Mauriello, Minority Leader Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel Arnis Zilgme, Minority Counsel