

November 1, 2024 - October 31, 2029 Rockland County Plan

Cover Page

Rockland County County Child and Family Services Plan

NOVEMBER 1, 2024 – OCTOBER 31, 2029

Child Welfare Introduction

Through effective intervention, parents, caregivers, and families improve their ability to develop and maintain a safe, stable environment for themselves and their children. Each district seeks to improve outcomes that support the achievement of the state and federal safety, permanency, and well-being goals.

The outcomes identified in the New York State Child Welfare Practice Model are listed below and the strategies the districts will implement to reach these outcomes are listed throughout this county CFSP.

New York State Child Welfare Practice Model Outcomes

- Children are safely maintained in their own home, families and communities with connections, culture and relationships preserved.
- When it is necessary to place children in out-of-home care, it is a safe, short and stable experience concluding with permanent attachments to caring adults.
- Parents and caregivers have the capacity to provide for their children's needs.
- Children are cared for in safe, permanent, and nurturing environments that meet their needs and develop their physical, cognitive, behavioral / emotional and social functioning.
- As youth transition to adulthood, they benefit from services that promote health development, academic success and / or self-sustainability and safe living conditions.
- Organizations are diverse, flexible, professional, and culturally competent and use child-centered, family-focused practice, and demonstrate partnership at all levels.

Data Indicators and Developing Outcome Measures

Identifying gaps between the needs of children and families and the services currently provided, whether due to lack of available services or barriers to service provision, is a crucial first step in county planning. Child welfare systems should use a balanced approach to decision-making informed by data.

New York State statute, regulation, and policy, requires that the goals, objectives, activities, and measures identified must be intended to ensure that:

- families can stay together and develop supportive relationships and maintain or achieve independence.
- families with children in foster care are able to reunite and develop supportive relationships and maintain or achieve independence.
- children whose families are unable to care adequately for them receive appropriate, stable, substitute care.
- children in foster care who are unable to return to their families are provided permanent homes to develop the capacity to live independently upon achieving adulthood.

The outcomes must relate to the state and federal goals, which are broad enough to allow districts to focus its activities based on its unique needs assessments. These goals are best met through collaboration.

Child Protective Services

Safety Outcomes

- Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect. (CFSR Outcome)
 - Children are safely maintained in their own home, families and communities with connections, culture and relationships preserved. (OCFS Practice Model Outcome)
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Resource Inventory, Needs Assessment, and Unmet Needs

1. What services and supports are currently being provided to children, youth, and families to meet the outcomes identified above?

The following services and supports are currently being provided to children, youth, and families to meet the outcomes :

Safe parents / safe kids through the Center for Safety and Change

Partnership for Safe and Healthy Youth, which is comprised of a partnership between DSS, parent advocate, mental health, BOCES, and Probation when needed

Funding Streams to assist Rockland County in providing support groups, recreational activities, tutoring services, funds for basic needs

Safe Harbour Initiative which provides families with wrap around funds

MDT team for all abuse cases

Community Supports for substance abuse programs, mental health programs..etc

Support groups for relatives caring for kin children

Bravehearts Move youth mentoring program.

Recreational program at the Martin Luther King Center for Youths ages 13 and older

Sex Offender Treatment program and a program for sexually reactive children

2. Based on review safety related data, what are the current needs of children and families served?

Current needs of children and families served are Bi-lingual providers for mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, domestic violence assistance/support and programs that support school attendance.

3. What needs, if any, are currently unmet by the existing service array?

The needs that are currently unmet by the existing service array are services for family therapy and Bi-lingual services. Truancy services for school avoidance issues and parent classes for Adolescence Youth.

District 5-Year Goal

1. Based on the above assessment, what is your district's 5-year goal to meet any unmet needs and reach the safety outcome?

Rockland County's 5 year goal to meet any unmet needs and reach the safety outcome are :

Obtaining a school avoidance program - currently seeking a contract

Hiring bi-lingual staff in order to reduce caseload size and improve quality of work with each family member

Seeking bi-lingual providers for mental health services, substance use treatment providers, domestic violence services, and family treatment providers.

Compile a glossary of bi-lingual services providers in the community

2. How will you know you have reached this goal? What data will you use as evidence the goal has been met?

Rockland County will know if we have reached this goal by using the following data/ information:

Internal data

Data collected from CAPTA CARA

Data collected from BFST

Data collected from Celebrating Families

COGNOS

Strategies to Meet the Goal

Strategy	Target Implementation Date	Measure of Progress
<p>Within the next 12 - 24 months, the strategy that Rockland will use to work toward meeting our 5 year goal is :</p> <p>Hiring bi-lingual staff</p> <p>Working with OAP to secure a contract with Candle to address school avoidance</p> <p>Initiate the use of CAPTA CARA full time</p> <p>Work towards identifying appropriate cases and receiving referrals for BSFT</p> <p>Cross training staff so they can</p>		<p>A way of knowing the strategy is having a positive impact toward the 5 year goal :</p> <p>Will have less re-occurrence families who need DSS assistance or are involved with DSS</p> <p>Will have less removals of children into care as families will be able to engage in appropriate treatment</p> <p>All caseworker positions will have been filled</p> <p>Rockland will have secured and will be make referrals to the school avoidance program</p>

strengthen their skills in all areas of
child welfare

Child Preventive Services

Preventive Services Outcomes

- Through effective intervention, parents, caregivers, and families improve their ability to develop and maintain a safe, stable environment for themselves and their children. (OCFS Practice Model Outcome)
 - Services must be sufficient to be individualized to meet the unique needs of children and families served by the agency.
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Resource Inventory, Needs Assessment, and Unmet Needs

1. What services and supports are currently being provided to children, youth, and families to meet the outcomes identified above?

Rockland makes referrals and provides services to address issues that resulted in out of home care. These include mental health (including Sex Offender treatment), substance treatment, substance testing, parenting, casework counseling, supervised visitation, access to transportation. Rockland County DSS is providing robust Preventive Services in line with the OCFS Prevention plan.

Rockland has begun referrals to state supported Evidenced Based Program - Brief Strategic Family Therapy -BSFT

Caseworkers are trained in Motivational Interviewing and utilize this engagement strategy to effect behavioral changes.

Service Plan reviews are taking place. This gives voice to the families and provides clear expectations of the change that is needed for children to be safe.

A centralized intake line continues. A caseworker takes all intakes and works with family for 30 days to determine if a preventive case needs to be opened or if needs can be met by community organization.

Contract with Haverstraw Center for Family Treatment Court participants to receive Celebrating Families - whole family recovery program

2. Based on a review of current data, what are the needs of children and families served?

Current needs of children and families served are Bi-lingual providers for mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, and domestic violence assistance/support.

3. What needs, if any, are currently unmet by the existing service array?

The needs that are currently being unmet by the existing service array are services for family therapy and Bi-lingual services. Truancy services for school avoidance issues and parent classes for Adolescence Youth.

District 5-Year Goal

1. Based on the above assessment, what is your district's 5-year goal to meet any unmet needs and reach the prevention outcome?

Rockland County's 5-year goal to meet any unmet needs and reach the safety outcome are:

Obtaining a school avoidance program - currently seeking a contract

Hiring bi-lingual staff in order to reduce caseload size and improve quality of work with each family member.

Seeking bi-lingual providers for mental health services, substance use treatment providers, domestic violence services, and family treatment providers.

Compile a glossary of bi-lingual services providers in the community.

Psychiatric Social worker that will conduct assessments for substance misuse and mental health.

2. How will you know you have reached this goal? What data will you use as evidence the goal has been met?

Rockland County will know if we have reached this goal by using the following data/ information:

Internal data

Data collected from CAPTA CARA

Data collected from BFST

Data collected from Celebrating Families

COGNOS

Strategies to Meet the Goal

Strategy	Target Implementation Date	Measure of Progress
<p>Within the next 12 - 24 months, the strategy that Rockland will use to work toward meeting our 5 year goal is :</p> <p>Hiring bi-lingual staff</p> <p>Working with OAP to secure a contract with Candle to address school avoidance</p> <p>Initiate the use of CAPTA CARA full time</p> <p>Work towards identifying</p>		<p>A way of knowing the strategy is having a positive impact toward the 5-year goal:</p> <p>Will have less re-occurrence families who need DSS assistance or are involved with DSS.</p> <p>Will have less removals of children into care as families will be able to engage in appropriate treatment.</p> <p>All caseworker positions will have been filled.</p>

appropriate cases and receiving referrals for BSFT

Cross training staff so they can strengthen their skills in all areas of child welfare

Rockland will have secured and will be make referrals to the school avoidance program.

Evidence Based Services

Name of the EBP:

Motivational Interviewing

Target Population(s) to be served:

All children and Families serviced by the Rockland County Department of Social Services.

How will the district monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the EBP?

District will ensure that all staff have completed training and that the progress note documentation supports the use of MI.

Name of the EBP:

BFST

Target Population(s) to be served:

BSFT® is a short-term evidence-based program designated to improve family functioning for families with children 6-18 years old.

How will the district monitor the implementation and effectiveness of the EBP?

The number of referrals being made and progress reports provided by the evidence- based program and the families being served.

Foster Care Maintenance and Services

Permanency Outcomes

- When it is necessary to place children in out-of-home care, it is a safe, short, and stable experience concluding with permanent attachments to caring adults. (OCFS Practice Model Outcome)
 - Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.
-

Resource Inventory, Needs Assessment, and Unmet Needs

1. What services and supports are currently being provided to children, youth, and families to meet the outcomes identified above?

Rockland makes referrals and provides services to address issues that resulted in out of home care. These include mental health (including Sex Offender treatment), cognitive assessments, substance treatment, substance testing, parenting, casework counseling, supervised visitation, access to transportation. Caseworkers are trained in Motivational Interviewing and utilize this engagement strategy to effect behavioral changes.

A dedicated Kin Champion is in place.

Permanency reviews are held monthly. Concurrent planning throughout case. Termination of Parental rights process begins at the 12-month mark.

Return to non-respondent parents outside of the United States

Administrative review of children in out of home care

When appropriate, move to community supervision and/or unsupervised visits

Increased our contracts to include additional QRTP foster care placements options including group home level and supervised setting program (SSP).

Contract with Haverstraw Center for Celebrating Families - whole family recovery program.

Retention of foster parents through support groups, community partnerships, including Wendy's, children's activities and two Annual appreciation events.

Adolescents are supported toward their independence with CHAFFE funds for various independent living needs such as driving lessons, automobile and insurance. They are provided with normative experiences to strengthen their independence in real life settings.

2. Based on a review foster care related data, what are the current needs of children and families served?

Based on the wave 10.5 data Rockland (20%) is below the statewide (30.3%) of exists to permanency in 12 months and Rockland (24%) statewide (30.3%) for permanency in 12-23 months. Permanence in 24+ months is a strength at Rockland (14.3%) statewide (31.9%). Those permanency outcomes were stable with a 0% reentry into foster care in 12 months.

Current needs of children and families served are Bi-lingual providers for mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, and domestic violence assistance/support. Bi-lingual removals have increased, and the lack of language services leads to delays in permanency.

3. What needs, if any, are currently unmet by the existing service array?

The needs that are currently being unmet by the existing service array are services for family therapy and Bi-lingual services.
Additional internal supports to increase permanency.

District 5-Year Goal

1. Based on the above assessment, what is your district's 5-year goal to meet any unmet needs and reach the permanency outcome?

In efforts to further reduce time in out of home placements a FASP 3rd party reviewer will be designated as a gatekeeper. Goals will be reviewed for progress, additional service needs and strategy of what is needed for permanency to be achieved.
Youth ages 14+ will have additional oversight. A tracking system /checklist will be developed to keep track of transition plans, calendar of events and attendance in high school or college for room and board payment purposes.

2. How will you know you have reached this goal? What data will you use as evidence the goal has been met?

The goal of improving permanency will be determined by meeting the AFSA timeline.
The goal of transition planning will be determined by the use of internal data keeping for the completion of the transition planning checklist.

Strategies to Meet the Goal

Strategy	Target Implementation Date	Measure of Progress
<p>In efforts to further reduce time in out of home placements a FASP 3rd party reviewer will be designated as a gatekeeper. Goals will be reviewed for progress, additional service needs and strategy of what is needed for permanency to be achieved.</p> <p>Youth ages 14+ will have additional oversight. A tracking system /checklist will be developed to keep track of transition plans, calendar of events</p>	November 1, 2024	<p>Rockland County will know if we have reached this goal by using the following data/information:</p> <p>Internal data</p> <p>Data collected from CAPTA CARA</p>

and attendance in high school or college for room and board payment purposes.

Data collected from BFST

Data collected from Celebrating Families

COGNOS

Adoption Services

Adoption Outcome

- Children in foster care who are unable to return to their families are provided permanent homes to develop the capacity to live independently upon achieving adulthood.

Resource Inventory, Needs Assessment, and Unmet Needs

1. What services and supports are currently being provided to children, youth, and families to meet the outcomes identified above?

Rockland places children in homes that are open to the idea of adoption. Concurrent planning continues throughout case. Termination of Parental rights process begins at the 12-month mark. A dedicated adoption worker begins discussions with the pre adoptive foster family and caseworker to gather adoption paperwork when Termination of Paternal Rights/Surrender are filed. Ensuring petition for freeing is filed by their 18th birthday, for subsidy eligibility.

Retention of foster parents through support groups, community partnerships, including Wendy's, children's activities and two Annual appreciation events. Recruitment efforts to engage Bi-Lingual applicants. Use of social media to recruit. Use of BINTI in streamlining application process.

Adolescents are supported toward their independence with CHAFFE funds for various independent living needs, this assists foster parents to meet the growing needs of young adults.

2. Based on a review adoption related data, what are the current needs of children and families served?

In 2022 Rockland had 0 discharges to adoption, in 2023 there were 5. These numbers are well below the number of children who had a goal of adoption. Rockland made strategic changes in staffing which has increased the number of children who have finalized adoptions.

The slow pace with the Special Immigrant Juvenile Status process, results in freed bilingual foster children waiting longer to be adopted.

3. What needs, if any, are currently unmet by the existing service array?

Current needs of children are for Rockland to have additional Bi-lingual foster parents and foster parents who are willing to foster teenagers.

District 5-Year Goal

1. Based on the above assessment, what is your district's 5-year goal to meet any unmet needs and reach the permanency outcome?

Hiring bi-lingual staff in order to reduce caseload size and improve quality of work with each family member. Continued outreach in the community to recruit foster parents. Staff have begun recruiting at street fairs and community outreach events.

2. How will you know you have reached this goal? What data will you use as evidence the goal has been met?

Rockland County will know if we have reached this goal by using the following data/ information:

Internal data

COGNOS

OCFS Monitoring and Analysis Profiles

Binti

Strategies to Meet the Goal

Strategy	Target Implementation Date	Measure of Progress
<p>Within the next 12 - 24 months, the strategy that Rockland will use to work toward meeting our 5-year goal is:</p> <p>Hiring bi-lingual staff</p> <p>Cross training staff so they can strengthen their skills in all areas of child welfare</p> <p>Recruitment in bilingual venues.</p>	<p>November 1, 2024</p>	<p>We will know that the strategy is having a positive impact toward the 5-year goal:</p> <p>All caseworker positions will have been filled.</p> <p>Bilingual foster homes will match the number of children who are placed.</p>

Adult Services

Outcome Statements

Vulnerable/dependent adults are protected from abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation while respecting their rights to self-determination and, through the least restrictive means possible, are able to remain safely in the community, to the fullest extent possible.

Vulnerable/dependent adults who require residential placement will receive quality care which respects their wishes in compliance with the law.

(Adapted from the NYS Adult Services Practice Model Outcomes)

Goal:

Vulnerable adults who self-neglect or are abused, neglected, or exploited by others will be identified, have their living situation thoroughly investigated, and be protected.

Needs and Resource Assessment

Describe below the underlying conditions related to your goal in your county. Use the prompt questions in the accompanying resource materials to help guide your thinking.

The latest census figures show that Rockland County's population is approximately 340,000. The percent of Individuals over the age of 65 is currently 16 percent and growing each year. Those who are foreign-born are 20.7 percent. The number of those under 65 with a disability is approximately 5 percent.

Statewide studies from Lifespan of Rochester N.Y and Cornell University continue to support that adult abuse such as neglect and exploitation is under reported for several reasons. Adults are often reluctant to reveal incidents of abuse, especially when the abuser is a family member. In addition, the public and some health and human services workers may not understand or recognize abuse, neglect, or exploitation. They may also not know who to report their concerns for follow up.

In the area of self-neglect which can be described as a range of behaviors that cause an individual to neglect their basic needs, such as personal hygiene, appropriate clothing, feeding, or managing their medical conditions appropriately. It may also involve their living conditions or surroundings. This lack of self-care can place the person in serious harm or danger.

During the past 5 years there has been an increase in both areas with referrals of approximately 700. Confirming the need for outreach and development of intervention plans.

Rockland county has a number service organization which can be used to provide information on what is abuse and neglect. This will help assure reports are made to APS. It also has a number of mental, medical and legal service providers which can be utilized as part of an intervention plan.

With the possibility of federal funding for APS there will be new federal regulations to be implemented within the next 5 years bearing on Client Autonomy and actions of APS. This will require revision of procedures currently in place as it relates to APS services.

Strategies and Activities

Describe below the strategies related to your chosen goal and the activities you will attempt to further them. Use the prompt questions in the accompanying resource materials to help guide your thinking.

- Continue to educate the Public and Human Services professionals on finding and addressing adult abuse in the community. This will be done by in person or virtual training.
- Establish an Adult Abuse Awareness Committee whose responsibility will be to develop programs and other activities that will educate the Public and Human Services professionals regarding adult abuse/neglect.
- Through continued Adult Abuse Awareness outreach, educate various professionals who interact with adults that may be subjected to abuse or neglect. Such outreach will have in-service to various organizations i.e. home care agencies, senior centers, and other Human Services providers and organizations that serve residents of Rockland County. These in-service outreach activities will be compiled and maintained in the Assurance File, which will be updated every calendar year and contain contact information from organizations concerning legal, mental health, aging, and other community organizations.
 - Regarding assessments of individuals who may need Adult Protective Services, the assessment process will continue to be improved and refined. During the term of this plan, APS workers will use mobile devices to obtain information about individual's circumstances as well as be able to provide information on available services to meet individual's current needs. In addition, supervisors will be able to provide prompt feedback and direction in dealing with complex circumstances.
 - A checklist will be developed by supervisors to ensure that the key components of the service plan and/or assessment are met and completed.
 - Develop and use existing training programs to assure staff is aware of new development in the delivery of protective services for adult's services. This will be especially important as staff turnover during this plan time frame is expected to be 90 percent.

Measuring and Monitoring

Describe below how you will measure and monitor your strategies and activities to ensure effectiveness. Use the prompt questions in the accompanying resource materials to help guide your thinking.

- The above strategies will be measured and monitored by utilizing the Adult Services Automated Program (ASAP) reports on number of referrals; reoccurrence of referrals; and other demographic statistical data such as reason for referral.
- Monitoring the monthly number of referrals to ascertain any increase in the reports to the Adult Protective Services Intake Unit. This will be measured through the development of a computer statistical analysis program.
- Utilization of mobile devices that will enable workers to have current information that can be used by supervisors and other professional staff of the agency. By the year 2025, 100 percent field staff will receive a mobile device i.e. laptop; and by the year 202, all casework staff will be perfusion in the utilization of this technology.
- Development of a comprehensive checklist that will assist workers in assessing risk factors and developing treatment plans.
- APS will compile an Assurance File to gather data on outreach efforts, and it will contain information regarding organizations that have frequent contact with older adults. This will enable the sharing of information regarding the availability of community resources with older adults and others.
- Ninety percent (90%) of all APS referrals will have a home visit for an assessment within 3 days, If not less or the new compliance required federal regulations. This will be verified through ASAP.

Deputy Commissioner will be responsible for arranging regular supervisory review and oversight along with working with Staff development for appropriate training

Goal:

APS will utilize multi-disciplinary teams and community resources to improve investigations, assessments and service delivery to reduce risk and protect vulnerable adults.

Needs and Resource Assessment

Describe below the underlying conditions related to your goal in your county. Use the prompt questions in the accompanying resource materials to help guide your thinking.

APS will utilize multi-disciplinary teams and community resources to improve investigations, assessments, and service delivery to reduce risk and protect vulnerable adults.

The population of Rockland's residents 60 years old and over 75 years old are increasing according to U.S. Census. Because of advance age and diminished capacity, this population may be more likely to be abused or exploited.

Enhanced Multidisciplinary Teams (E-MDTs), will provide a coordinated response for such elder abuse cases throughout Rockland County. The primary focus is to intervene, minimize and stop complex abuse and exploitation situations through the provision of services to victims.

Currently Rockland APS has partnered with Jewish Family Services of Ulster County to conduct virtual monthly E-MDT meeting. As a result, we have access to a geriatric medical specialist, psychiatrist, a civil attorney and a forensic account.

Strategies and Activities

Describe below the strategies related to your chosen goal and the activities you will attempt to further them. Use the prompt questions in the accompanying resource materials to help guide your thinking.

For the period of this plan Rockland will continue to maintain a (E-MDT) . It will include participants from law enforcement, health, aging, domestic violence and other related services. This will provide an extra resource for complicated cases. It is to augment APS services not replace them.

There will also be exploration for in person team meeting relating to specific areas of abuse such as domestic violence, computer scams, or financial exploitation.

Consideration will also be given to establish an E-MDT for those under 60 years old

Measuring and Monitoring

Describe below how you will measure and monitor your strategies and activities to ensure effectiveness. Use the prompt questions in the accompanying resource materials to help guide your thinking.

Develop a system to gather data that shows number of cases reviewed by the EMDT as well as outcomes such as resulted in pursuing legal action; and obtaining other services.

Use and develop tools and frameworks to assess team dynamics, such as the ability to work cohesively and support each other..

Through regular team meetings , feedback sessions , and observation communication and collaboration can be assessed.

Foster / Adoptive Parent Recruitment and Retention Plan 2023-2027

This template is designed to assist your district (LDSS) in the development of a foster and adoptive parent recruitment and retention plan that is compliant with the Multi-Ethnic Placement Act of 1994 (MEPA), in line with the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), and New York State regulations.

The purpose of this planning template is to guide each LDSS to collect and analyze OCFS-provided and local data to illuminate both strengths and gaps in its current foster home recruitment and retention. Once needs are determined, LDSSs may capitalize on existing strengths and develop a plan to address any challenges.

Plans are due July 1, 2023, and are effective for four years, until July 1, 2027. LDSSs must submit a 2-year update on progress made towards their recruitment targets in the 2025 Annual Plan Update.

With the implementation of FFPSA, OCFS has set the following statewide target:

- A minimum of 50% of children in foster care in kinship foster care

Using the Data Warehouse Family First Prevention Services Act; Outcome Monitoring Report, or the 2022 FFPSA Foster Home Data Packet p.2, please note the percentage of children in the following placement types at the end of 2022 in your district.

On 12/31/22, the Percentage of Children Placed by Placement Type:

Placement Type	Total %
Non-Kinship Foster Homes	54%
Kinship Foster Homes	43%

Use of Approved and Certified Kinship Homes

OCFS supports the use of kinship foster care as a critical strategy for finding homes that best meet the needs of each child. Kinship foster care includes both approved and certified foster homes where the foster parent is a relative or a non-relative with a positive relationship with the child or child's family (e.g., godparent, neighbor, family friend).

Based on your current usage of Kinship foster care, please indicate your LDSS's targets for increasing the use of approved or certified kinship foster homes in the chart below.

Summary of Kinship Foster Care Targets	Target % in 2 years	Target % in 4 years
To increase the percentage of children in foster care in kinship foster homes	Increase percentage of children in kinship foster homes to 50%	Increase percentage of children in kinship foster homes to 53%

One way to meet this target is through the development and implementation of focused recruitment and retention strategies based on current data. The sections below focus on three areas of potential recruitment and retention focus:

- Foster families to support a specific population of children based on age

- Foster families to support a specific population of children based on race / ethnicity
- Foster families to support children with siblings

For each target area, please review your current data, local or OCFS produced, and determine if there is a need for recruitment and / or retention strategies for that area. **At least one recruitment and one retention strategy are required in this plan. These strategies may address one or all the target areas.**

A. Foster families to support a specific population of children based on age

Please indicate the number and percentage of children that came into foster care in 2022 by placement type. A LDSS can find this data on page 2 of the 2022 District FFPSA Foster Home Data Packet.

Number and Percentage of Children that Entered Foster Care / Agency in 2022 by Placement Type and Age:

Placement Type	# of Children Under 13	% of Children Under 13	# of Children Over 13	% of Children Over 13	Total
Non-Kinship Foster Homes	15	75%	5	25%	20
Kinship Foster Homes	5	56%	4	44%	9
Agency-Operated Boarding Homes	0	0%	0	0%	0
Group Homes	0	0%	0	0%	0
Group Residences	0	0%	0	0%	0
Institutions	0	0%	1	100%	1
Totals	20	%	10	%	30

Things to consider:

- Which ages of children are entering care / agency more than others, and to which placement types?
- What percentage of your foster homes have fostered teens? What percentage of your foster homes have fostered infants? Do you have a sufficient number of homes for each age range? *Teen Placement Data source: FFPSA Foster Home Data (Parent Agency Packet), p. 7*
- What supports do you have in place for the foster homes that are caring for teens and infants?
- Based on the information above, does your LDSS have a need to increase recruitment of foster homes to foster teens? Infants?

Please select one:

- My plan will include a recruitment strategy to support a specific population of children based on age.
- My plan will include a retention strategy to support a specific population of children based on age.

- My plan will include both a retention and a recruitment strategy to support a specific population of children based on age.
- My plan will not include a recruitment or retention strategy to support a specific population of children based on age.

Recruitment Strategy:

Rockland County's recruitment plan will consist of community outreach with local faith based organizations, colleges, and community fairs focusing on increasing prospective bi-lingual Spanish families with an emphasis on fostering infants and teens. Goal will be to recruit five additional foster homes annually with the emphasis on care of teens and stay at home foster parents for the care of infants. Rockland County currently provides a virtual information meeting to perspective foster parents. This practice will continue along with the use of our Kinship Champion to increase our fictive/relative homes.

Monitoring Progress: What activities will be implemented to monitor the effectiveness of this strategy?

Agency to make consistent check ins throughout the certification process with perspective foster parents. For the Hispanic prospective foster parents, hands-on support will be provided to ensure they are following up with documentation such as finger prints and obtaining required medical documentation. Rockland will continue to train families in Spanish and or Creole if needed.

Agency will also provide technical support on how to maneuver the Binti Website for registration.

Retention Strategy:

Strategies for Retention Plan to focus on supporting families as needed. A more hands-on approach will be promoted. A monthly support group focusing on advocacy, training, and education will be implemented. Identify and sharing of community resources available to youth and families will be shared monthly at the support group. Rockland County utilizes our community partner AGAPE which supports our adoptive and foster families individually and in a group setting. Volunteer Counseling Center (VCS) provides support to our direct custodians with the program Relative as Parents..

Agency to work with 2 seasoned foster parents to be utilized to mentor and support our newer homes.

Monitoring Progress: What activities will be implemented to monitor the effectiveness of this strategy?

RCDSS continues to partner with the local Wendy's restaurants to celebrate adoption month. RCDSS holds its annual Egg Hunt, summer picnic, and Holiday party to support and honor foster parents for their hard work. RCDSS honors exceptional foster parents during Child Abuse Prevention month. Lastly, the Spanish Speaking Home Finder will continue to serve as the liaison between CWs and Spanish Speaking foster parents.

Rockland Home Finders to attend a monthly support group to obtain strategies of how Rockland DSS can better support our families. Rockland will develop a plan going forward on how to better support our families and youth in their care.

B: Race / Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care and Race / Ethnicity of Foster Homes

What is the race / ethnicity of children admitted to foster care in 2022?

Data source: MAPS (Foster Care Admissions by Age, Race and Ethnicity, p. 7)

Race / Ethnicity of Children	#	%
White	6	18.8%
African American	7	21.9%
Hispanic / Latino	15	46.9%
Native American / Alaskan Native	0	0%
Asian	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Unknown	4	12.5%

What is the race / ethnicity of the foster parents in the foster homes that were open on 12/31/22?

Data source: FFPSA Foster Home Data (Parent Agency Packet), Race for Foster Parent 1, p. 3

Race / Ethnicity of Foster Parents	#	%
White	50	41.3%
African American	42	35%
Hispanic / Latino	25	20.3%
Native American / Alaskan Native	0	0%
Asian	1	.9%
Other	2	1.6%
Unknown	1	.9%

Things to consider:

- Are children of one (or more) race / ethnicity entering more frequently than others?
- How does your current foster parents race / ethnicity reflect the race /ethnicity of children coming into foster care?
- Based on the information above, does your LDSS have a need to increase recruitment of foster parents of a specific race / ethnicity?

Please select one:

- My plan will include a recruitment strategy to support a specific population of children based on race / ethnicity.
- My plan will include a retention strategy to support a specific population of children based on race / ethnicity.
- My plan will include both a retention and a recruitment strategy to support a specific population of children based on race / ethnicity.
- My plan will not include a recruitment or retention strategy to support a specific population of children based on race / ethnicity.

Recruitment Strategy:

Community outreach will focus on faith based communities as well as identifying and partnering with community leaders identified as a support to this population.

Focus to be on identifying prospective bi-lingual Spanish families with an emphasis on fostering infants and teens. Goal is to increase our Spanish Speaking fostering families by 5 annually with an emphasis on fostering teens and infants.

The use of our bilingual Kinship Navigator will assist in locating relatives and or perspective foster homes in this population.

Monitoring Progress: What activities will be implemented to monitor the effectiveness of this strategy?

LDSS will continue to utilize and maintain bilingual staff to assist this population as there has been an uptick in hispanic youth placed in foster care.

Agency to make consistent check ins throughout the certification process with perspective Spanish Speaking foster parents. For the Hispanic prospective foster parents, hands-on support will be provided to ensure they are following up with documentation such as finger prints and obtaining required medical documentation. Rockland will continue to train families in Spanish and or Creole if needed.

Agency will also provide technical support in Spanish if needed on how to maneuver the Binti Website for registration.

Retention Strategy:

RCDSS continues to partner with the local Wendy's restaurants to celebrate adoption month. RCDSS holds its annual Egg Hunt, Summer picnic, and Holiday party to support and honor foster parents for their hard work. RCDSS honors foster exceptional foster parents during Child Abuse Prevention month.

Rockland Home Finders to attend a monthly support group to obtain strategies of how Rockland DSS can better support our families. Rockland will develop a plan going forward on how to better support our families and youth in their care.

Rockland Home Finders to attend a monthly support group to obtain strategies of how Rockland DSS can better support our families. Rockland will develop a plan going forward on how to better support our families and youth in their care.

Monitoring Progress: What activities will be implemented to monitor the effectiveness of this strategy?

Strategies for Retention Plan to focus on supporting families as needed. A more hands-on approach will be promoted. A monthly support group focusing on advocacy, training and education will be implemented. Identify and sharing of community resources available to youth and families will be shared monthly at the support group. Rockland County utilizes our community partner AGAPE which supports our adoptive and Foster families individually and in a group setting. Volunteer Counseling Center (VCS) provides support to our direct custodians with the program Relative as Parents..

Agency to work with 1 seasoned Spanish Speaking foster parent to mentor and support our newer Spanish Speaking homes.

Implement a bi-lingual support group for the Hispanic families.

C: Foster families to support children with siblings

Keeping children together in care with their brothers and sisters is a crucial priority. Please complete the chart below.

Data source: MAPS data, Siblings in Foster Care, p. 8

Group Size	Separated		Partly Separated		Intact		Total # of Sibling Groups by Size
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Sibling Group of 2	0	0%	N/A		16	100%	16
Sibling Group of 3	0	0%	0	0%	3	100%	3
Sibling Group of 4 or More	0	0%	6	100%	0	0%	6
Totals	0		6		19		

Things to consider:

- What percent of sibling groups of two, three and four are placed together (intact)?
- What supports do you have in place for the foster homes that are caring for sibling groups?
- Based on the information above, does your LDSS have a need to increase recruitment of foster homes to support siblings?

Please select one:

- My plan will include a recruitment strategy to support a specific population of children based on sibling group.
- My plan will include a retention strategy to support a specific population of children based on sibling group.
- My plan will include both a retention and a recruitment strategy to support a specific population of children based on sibling group.
- My plan will not include a recruitment or retention strategy to support a specific population of

children based on sibling group.

Recruitment Strategy:

Rockland has been able to maintain sibling groups of three and under together in one foster home. Challenges have arisen with larger sibling groups.

Agency will continue to utilize our Kinship Champion to seek out relatives for sibling groups as well as all placements. Rockland works with religious community partners who assist in locating potential foster homes in our Orthodox/Hasidic community for all religious youth including larger sibling groups.

Agency to continue community outreach including faith-based organizations and will work toward certifying one or two families who are able to take a large sibling group of four or more children.

Monitoring Progress: What activities will be implemented to monitor the effectiveness of this strategy?

Rockland will reach out to community partners and faith-based organizations to recruit potential foster homes for large sibling groups. Agency to revisit their strategies and progress quarterly and redirect approach if no homes have been located.

Retention Strategy:

RCDSS continues to partner with the local Wendy's restaurants to celebrate adoption month. RCDSS holds its annual Egg Hunt, Summer picnic, and Holiday party to support and honor foster parents for their hard work. RCDSS honors foster exceptional foster parents during Child Abuse Prevention month.

Rockland Home Finders to attend a monthly support group to obtain strategies of how Rockland DSS can better support our families. Rockland will develop a plan going forward on how to better support our families and youth in their care.

Monitoring Progress: What activities will be implemented to monitor the effectiveness of this strategy?

Rockland Home Finders to attend a monthly support group to obtain strategies of how Rockland DSS can better support our families. Rockland will develop a plan going forward on how to better support our families and youth in their care.

Community Partnerships

Recruitment and retention of kinship, foster and adoptive parents should be a community effort. Developing a steering committee or collaborative group is strongly suggested. Community partners can include faith-based programs, youth, foster / adoptive parents, not-for-profit organizations, civic organizations, etc.

Please describe how you have engaged your community partners in your recruitment efforts:

Rockland continues to raise awareness of the need to recruit foster parents who would take in hard to place teens to avoid congregate care placements. Through the use of Binti website, where it's clearly stated that need, Rockland has been able to recruit foster parents and keep children with Juvenile delinquency behaviors out of congregate care.

Rockland has partnered with Heart to Homes, a non-profit organization that offers youth who have aged out of care or who are 18 and discharged from foster care with household items and furnishings for their new apartment. Rockland has offered a housing voucher program to support aged out youth with a positive start to prevent homelessness.

Rockland to collaborate with DSS agencies, including the Child Care Unit and the Housing Unit as well as

community partners to assist in our recruitment and retention efforts. LDSS to identify community partners willing to participate in this process including our religious liasons, faith based leaders, educational partners, mental health professionals, foster parents, adoptive parents and Bravehearts (youth voice). Steering commitee to be developed to review the strengths and challenges of our recruitment and retention efforts and build upon our experiences to improve our parctice.

Youth and Young Adult Supports

OCFS seeks to promote positive youth development through quality, multifaceted programming that helps youths learn, thrive, and develop to their fullest potential.

Positive Youth Development

Positive youth development is an intentional, pro-social approach that constructively engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families; recognizes, utilizes, and enhances young people's strengths; and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships, and furnishing the support needed to build on their leadership strengths. Quality youth development programs should include the following features:

- Physical and psychological safety
- Appropriate structure that provides clear limit-setting, rules and expectations
- Supportive relationships
- Opportunities to belong: meaningful inclusion regardless of gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or disability
- Positive social norms
- Support for efficacy (ability to produce effects) and mattering (be of importance) by engaging, empowering, and challenging youth to make a difference
- Opportunities for skill-building
- Integration of family, school, and community efforts

Your county's strategies should cut across all disciplines that help children grow from early childhood, through adolescence, and into adulthood to become competent and healthy adults who have developed to their fullest potential.

Youth Bureau Information

1. Official name of Youth Bureau:

Rockland County Youth Bureau

2. Percentage of time the Youth Bureau Director spent on youth bureau activities (%FTE):

100%

If not 100%, please list other responsibilities:

|

3. Does the Youth Bureau director report to the Chief Elected Official?

Yes No

4. Please list the number of full-time and part-time staff in the Youth Bureau:

Full time:

10

Part time:

Youth Board Information

1. Please list all members of the Youth Board:

Name	Address	Employer	Professional / Community Affiliations
Bryce Breedyk	4 Townsend Ave, Nyack NY 10960	County of Rockland	
Emmanuel Jobin	28 Glenside Drive New City, NY 10956		Student, Clarkstown South High School
Carolynn Julien	19 Forest Ridge Road Nanuet, NY 10954	Executive Director of GSP, Fairleigh Dickenson University	Board Member - Literacy Solutions NY (Rockland County based literacy non-profit organization) Executive Committee Member - Spring Valley NAACP Treasurer - Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Tau Gamma Zeta Chapter (Rockland County based local chapter of a national sorority) Member - African American Historical Society of Rockland County.
Eric Kurz	1 Buckingham Court Pomona, NY 10970	Principal, Rockland BOCES CTEC	
Carlos Martinez	615 Avalon Gardens Drive Nanuet NY 10954	Executive Director, Bridges	
Ariana Polanco	50 Samsondale Ave West Haverstraw NY 10993	County of Rockland, Health Department	Rockland County Task Force on Water Resources Management -Orangetown Drinking Water Source Protection Plan Task Force -Village of Haverstraw Collaborative
Yesenia Polanco	16 Terpak Court Garnerville NY 10923	School/Community Liaison, Nyack Public Schools	Rockland County Board of Human Rights Leadership Rockland Center for Safety & Change Nyack Center
Julianna Rivera	6 Parker Road Garnerville NY 10923		Student, North Rockland High School youth employee at ARPA and Haverstraw African-American Connection School Honor Society Member
James Russell	219 North Middletown Road, Pearl River NY 10965	Teacher, Clarkstown High School South	

Danielle Satow	15 Foxburn Street, New City, NY 10956.	Coordinator of Youth Mental Health Services, OMH	Chair, Rockland County Child & Adolescent Workgroup
Debra Thomas	33 Jay Street ' Stony Point NY 10980	Executive Director, Rockland Teachers Center & WDB	21C INP LR Econ Dev & Educ/Human Cap Coordinator(s) RBA NYSUT RCYB RCF NYATEP Hudson Valley EDC Workforce Dev Comm NR Chamber Association Rockland Works RCC BOCES
Grant Valentine		Trustee, Village of Chrstnut Ridge	Board Member, Rockland Community College
Doreen Zarcone	11 Highview Avenue Tallman NY 10982	Academic & Career Strategies, Rockland Community College	Tallman Ladies Auxiliary of the Tallman Fire Department Rockland County Volunteer Firefighters Ladies Auxiliary
Hon. Thomas Zugibe	1 South Main Street New City NY 10956	State Supreme Court Judge	

2. How many youths (ages 25 and younger) are currently on the youth board?

Please note 165-1.5(c)(2)(i)(a) requires each Youth Board to meet the specific member requirements.

2

What strategies will the Youth Bureau be employing in the coming year to recruit and retain youth board members?

We will be inviting our newly-selected county representative to the Governor's Youth Council to join the board to share what she is learning from other Hudson Valley Youth Bureau members and from her personal experiences here in Rockland County.

3. The youth board meets:

- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Semi-annually
- Other

Please explain:

5 times each year

4. Please upload copies of minutes of all youth board meetings from the previous year.

County Need

Please reference the 2020 Census data and describe the youth (0–21) population of the County.

Please reference the 2020 Census data and describe the youth (0–21) population of the County.

1. Describe the needs of the children and youth in your county in the areas of positive youth development and sports. Please indicate the method the county used to determine the needs (i.e., needs assessment, surveys, town halls, etc.):

The population of Rockland County, New York in 2022 was 339,022, 8.5% up from the 312,497 who lived there in 2010 making Rocklands' growth higher than both New York state's 1.4% growth and the US population growth of 7.7%.

In 2022, the largest racial or ethnic group in Rockland County was the white (non-Hispanic) group, which had a population of 210,091. Between 2010 and 2022, the Hispanic/Latino population had the most growth increasing by 16.782 from 49,133 in 2010 to 65,915 in 2022.

The population of children ages 0 to 4 years old increased from 7.6% in 2010 to 8.5% in 2022.

The percentage of children and youth living below the poverty level has continually increased from 21.8% in 2017 to 26.3% in 2021, above the poverty rate for New York State.

The number and percent of public-school students chronically absent has more than doubled from 2017-2023.

Youth Bureau staff members participate in monthly and quarterly meetings of the county collaboratives for towns, villages and Child and Adolescent Issues to learn from participants what their focus is to support needs of their families and young people. These meetings also offer opportunities to learn about and share the resources and supports available from county departments and community agencies.

Working with the Family Resource Center staff in each school district keeps us up to date on their changing enrollment and expanding concerns to provide help to the county's growing youth population. They also made it clear to us that many of their students cannot afford to participate in current sports programs so we will be looking to help with this situation as we fund 2024-2025 sports team and sports education opportunities.

2. Describe any planning and needs assessment activities to be undertaken by the youth bureau in this year and include how youth and family voice will be included.

The Youth Bureau Advisory Board participated in a meeting focusing on current and anticipated needs for children, youth and young adults and have modified the Touchstones by adding College Exploration Opportunities as a Service, Opportunity and Support in the Life Area of Economic Security to provide young people with programs that help them learn about preparation for careers and training.

Goals

1. What activities does the Youth Bureau have planned for the coming year to address the needs identified above?

By funding programs and sports activities that engage young people in their communities, schools, peer groups and families the Youth Bureau is actively working to provide opportunities that enhance their life skills and personal strengths.

2025 Youth Sports funding is guided by the principal that sports are effective tools in positive youth development and family engagement and all funded programs will aim to foster physical and mental health and well-being, increasing employment skills such as teamwork, collective problem solving and dispute resolution and helping young leaders emerge from underserved communities.

2. What innovative programming will be supported with any of the (YDP, YSEF and YTS) funding streams this year?

Funded programs provide coaches, mentor and instructors for children and young people from ages 16 months to 18 years through at home, in school and out-of-school time activities.

Rockland 21C sends bi-weekly home visitors to model verbal interaction, reading, and play activities, and teach parents how to increase verbal interaction in the home. stimulating toddlers' positive cognitive growth and behavior traits that pay off in later school competence.

Newly funded *InHabit Art: A Nature-Discovery Art Program* is offered free-of-charge through an afterschool program guiding youth in activities that integrate the visual arts with outdoor learning through 6 weekly classes in fall 2024 and spring 2025. Another goal for the evolution of *InHabit Art* is to form a community center model for arts programming, where nature-based art practices are combined with counseling concepts for healthy youth development and resiliency.

The LGBTQ+ youth and their families are reached through funding of both Rockland Pride Center programs Youth Support and Rainbow Stars as well as CANDLE's Youth Pride Initiative.

3. What opportunities are being funded for youth under YDP this year?

In addition to the programs mentioned above, YDP is funding CANDLE's Game Growth Guild a 10-week group, offered in two age cohorts for younger and older youth aged 4-21, who struggle to express emotions and develop healthy peer relationships. Youth participate in weekly 1-hour group sessions developed to help them explore and understand their emotions, increase self-esteem, develop and practice social skills, and create a sense of community.

CANDLE's evidence based To Good for Violence program is being offered to 950 third and fourth graders in the East Ramapo School District through classroom programs which develop character education and build on skills including decision-making, goal setting and resisting peer pressure giving them a greater understanding and respect for others and helping them refrain from violence and other illegal behaviors.

Opportunities for youth at risk for gang involvement, violence, delinquent behavior, drug abuse, school dropout and/or teen pregnancy are provided by both Project SHIFT and the SNUG Program through activities tailored specifically to the appropriate age, developmental level and degree of risk of each young person involved. Case managers are assigned to support the engagement and practices learned through the programs.

4. Please describe new/ongoing efforts to advertise Youth Development Program (YDP), Youth Sports and Education Opportunity Funding (YSEF), and Youth Team Sports Funding (YTS).

Press releases and flyers have been sent through the County Executive's office and through the Youth Bureau to media sources as well as to schools, community agencies and community organizations. Extensive social media outreach has been and continues to be shared. Invitations have been extended to specific programs that don't consider themselves "sports activities" such as the Rockland County Pride Center and Chiku Awali African Dance, Arts, and Culter, Inc.

To engage a larger audience in the YSEF and YTS funding opportunities, the Youth Bureau is offering two Information Sessions in October: one virtual and one in person at County Government Day/Youthfest at Rockland Community College where participants can get information specific to their program as well as learn ways to respond to the questions on program characteristics, Positive Youth Development features and program monitoring.

Program Monitoring

1. Please describe the monitoring activities taken by the youth bureau for programs funded with YDP, YSEF, and YTS. What changes, if any, will be made based on this monitoring?

Program Monitoring is done by board and staff members at least once during the program year.

After approving funding, board members sign up to do site monitoring and they are emailed the form which provides information on the program's Touchstone Life Area, Goal and Objective as well as contact information if they want to make an appointment to meet with Program Staff.

Monitors are expected to see the program in operation so they can answer the Observation Questions of what they observed such as how many young people were present, what activities were going on, how many staff were there and if the youth were engaged. Then they refer to the Monitoring Form Chart of Positive Youth Development Setting Features and respond to each of the 17 features with a No, Somewhat, Yes or Not Appropriate and then add their personal comments.

They indicate whether any problems were encountered at the time of their visit, and if the program appears to be operating satisfactorily and in compliance. Then sign their name and give the date of their visit.

When the form is returned to the Youth Bureau, the monitor provides their opinion on the value of the program to the participants and whether follow up action is needed to continue funding without taking any action to change/improve the interaction and program activities.

2. Please indicate the frequency of monitoring:

- Quarterly
 - Semi-annually
 - Annually
 - Other
- Please explain:*

Planning Team and Technical Assistance

1. Describe the district's planning team and how they assisted in the identification of underlying factors and the development of this Plan.

Board and staff members including those who support the activities of the Rockland Conservation and Service Corps and the Youth Employment Program through TEEN Works workforce training all contributed

to information and recommendations for this plan.

Communication with collaborative members at monthly meetings and hearing their program activities and needs of their youth and family audiences helped us determine what we need to address over this 5-year plan.

2. Please identify any technical assistance or training needs, if any that would help the youth bureau effectively support positive youth development and services for runaway and homeless youth in the coming year. Please be as specific as possible.

Technical assistance on incorporating a social services data management system, similar to CitySpan, would be very helpful in supporting Positive Youth Development and providing services for runaway and homeless youth. A data management system would improve service delivery by allowing us to track participation, document progress and measure outcomes across programs and services. Since Rockland has multiple departments receiving OCFS funds, this would allow inter-agency sharing and we would be able to identify wraparound supports that are being offered, also allowing us to identify service gaps.

3. What are some of the noteworthy accomplishments of the Youth Bureau, Municipalities, and Programs from the previous year?

Direct service programs - serving 300+ young people

Rockland Conservation and Service Corps (RCSC)

- By recruiting, training and supporting volunteers, the **Rockland Conservation & Services Corps (RCSC)** builds the capacity of municipalities and organizations to address community needs. The RCSC recruits and trains members to meet community needs in environmental issues, including disaster preparedness, documented accomplishments:
 - In 2023, 26 young people worked at 10 sites completing environmental projects plus 7 Friday sites providing 9,267 service hours.
 - In addition to training and providing internships, the Conservation Corps hosted Get Fresh events—weekly, volunteer-driven events delivering 129,253 pounds of rescued food to Rockland food pantries through service of 4,950 volunteer hours.
 - Repair Cafe provided 4 community events allowing people to bring more than 260 items for repair by 17 volunteer repair coaches reducing the amount of waste going into the landfill.

Funded programs were fiscally and site-monitored and found to be in compliance with all county and state regulations.

Runaway and Homeless Youth Services

Person Submitting Report

This is the person OCFS will reach out to with questions or feedback.

Name:

Gabriella Marano-Holahan

Title:

Executive Director

Agency:

Rockland County Youth Bureau

Email Address:

maranog@co.rockland.ny.us

Phone:

(845) 364-2935

Services & Needs

1. Using available data, describe the local RHY population in your county. This includes **all** runaway and unaccompanied homeless youth, not only those accessing services at a RHY program.

Include information for youth until they turn 21; counties that will allow RHY services to be provided to homeless young adults should include information for young people until they turn 25. Data sources to consider are listed in the [guidance document](#).

Include, at minimum, the following characteristics:

i. Age:

Numbers from The Sanctuary RHY Shelter of Childrens Village for 2023 reflect a total of 13 - ages ranged from 14-17.

ii. Gender identity / expression:

6 Females

7 Males

iii. Sexual orientation:

No statistics are available

iv. Race / ethnicity:

Hispanic 6

Caucasian 2
African American 5
Biracial 1

v. Primary language spoken by youth:

No statistics are available

vi. Child welfare involvement or history:

No statistics are available

vii. Place of origin (where is "home" as defined by the youth?):

No statistics are available

viii. Estimated number of runaway youth vs homeless youth in the county:

Despite the low number of RHY young people reported through the Shelter for Rockland, the Mc-Kinney Vento count in each school district has risen to over 1,700.

2. List the **three most significant needs** of the local RHY population as defined in question #1. Describe how those needs were identified by the county as the most significant.

A list of examples is included in the [guidance document](#)

Service providers who work directly with these young people and their families reported that the most pressing needs of their RHY population are adequate and affordable housing/rapid rehousing, food insecurity, and health services.

3. Describe **how** the municipality's local resources are coordinated to respond to the needs in #2. Include the following in your description:

i. The county's plan to address service gaps in the plan's year:

The Youth Bureau is planning to develop a coalition with the McKinney-Vento representatives to meet with them on a regular basis and hear from them directly allowing them to share their concerns, interests, and frustrations. We believe we can support them with information and guidance about resources from both government departments and community agencies.

ii. Any new services or expansion of services planned in the plan's year:

We will expand our internal and external outreach and coordination to strengthen the county's system of care that specifically supports our RHY so they are aware of and exposed to Rockland's many resources from which they could benefit.

We have unexpended funds available in the Youth Development Program Funds which can be accessed to support new services that are identified through our work with school districts and other sources of identifying RHYA youth.

iii. Where is current information about RHY services made accessible to youth on a 24/7 basis? Include phone numbers, URLs, and other contact information as applicable.

Contact information and services about Sanctuary are publicized through our County Departments and information about service providers that work with children including schools, mental health professionals, Family Resource Center and other service providers have been provided with current information on runaway and homeless services.

Staff from the Sanctuary, DSS, Police Departments, Probation and taxis can provide transportation to the Sanctuary.

iv. Please list the steps taken when a youth presents as runaway or homeless. The steps can be detailed below, or a step-by-step protocol can be uploaded in the [Plan Documents area](#).

DSS works closely with the Children's Village Sanctuary program to provide RHY for up to 30 days with shelter, meals, clothing and daily transportation to their school district of origin. Additional services provided at Sanctuary include psychoeducational, recreational and therapeutic groups. The program works to reunite children with their families whenever possible but also helps find safe, alternative living arrangements if this isn't possible.

Municipal RHY Service Planning Process

1. List the partners consulted by the municipal youth bureau and DSS in composing this plan.

Suggested partners include but are not limited to: the municipal RHY services coordinator, program managers at OCFS-certified RHY programs, Continuum of Care (CoC) board members, youth advisory board, McKinney-Vento liaisons, etc.

Rockland County Youth Bureau

Rockland County Department of Social Services

Children's Village Sanctuary Program

School district personnel responsible for Mc-Kinney Vento

Rockland County Continuum of Care Collaborative (RCCoC) a collaborative dedicated to preventing and eliminating homelessness while ensuring that an effective system of care and services is in place to respond to the needs of at-risk and homeless families and individuals.

2. Describe the process used to collect and compile the information provided in this plan.

Resources to consider are listed in the [guidance document](#)

i. List the **tools and data sources** used by the municipal youth bureau and DSS to develop this plan. Please be as specific as possible.

Data was requested from the Children's Village Sanctuary Program, the Department of Social Services, Rockland's Point in Time Coordinators, leadership of the Rockland County Continuum of Care Collaborative

ii. Is your municipality involved in "point in time" counts to collect data on the **RHY** population?

Yes

No

If yes, please consider sharing any outcome documents with OCFS at RHY@ocfs.ny.gov or by uploading them to this plan.

Municipal Information

Note: Detailed descriptions of these questions and their implications on funding are included in the [guidance document](#).

1. Select the maximum length of stay certified residential crisis services programs eligible for municipal RHY funds will be allowed to offer **runaway youth in crisis shelters** without filing a petition pursuant to article 10 of the Family Court Act:

For more information please refer to 19-OCFS-ADM-06.

- 30 days** for any youth, or up to **60 days** with consent in writing from youth and parent, guardian, or custodian
- 60 days** for any youth 14 years or older, or up to **120 days** with consent in writing from youth and parent, guardian, or custodian
- Not applicable

2. Select the maximum length of stay certified residential Transitional Independent Living Support Programs (TILPs) eligible for municipal RHY funds will be allowed to offer **homeless youth**:

For more information please refer to 19-OCFS-ADM-05.

- 18 months
- 24 months
- Not applicable

3. Indicate whether the county will allow TILPs eligible for municipal RHY funds to provide residential services to **homeless youth under 16 years old** on a case-by-case basis.

Note: In each instance the RHY Service Coordinator is required to notify OCFS per 19-OCFS-ADM-05.

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

4. Indicate whether the county will allow any RHY program included in this plan to make services available to **homeless young adults** (up to age 25).

Note: Residential RHY programs must operate within the terms of their OCFS-issued operating Certificate.

- Yes
- No

i) If the county will **not** allow RHY programs receiving municipal RHY funds to provide services to

homeless young adults, briefly explain why that decision was made:

Children's Village Sanctuary only takes youth up to age 18.

5. List the following information for the RHY service coordinator and any additional designees who are permitted to provide any required notice to OCFS per policies 19-OCFS-ADM-05 and 19-OCFS-ADM-06:

Name	Agency or Organization	Title	Email	Phone
Gabriella Marano-Holahan	Rockland County Youth Bureau	Executive Director	maranog@co.rockland.ny.us	845-364-2935
Phyllis Morena	Rockland County Youth Bureau	Consultant	Morenap@co.rockland.ny.us	845-364-2934
Bryce Breedyk	Rockland County Youth Bureau	Assistant Director	breedybr@co.rockland.ny.us	845-364-2938

RHY Service Coordinator

1) Designation and duties of the municipal RHY services coordinator

Coordinator's Name:

Gabriella Marano-Holahan

Agency or Organization:

County of Rockland

Unit, division, bureau, or office in which the position is located:

Youth Bureau

Percentage of time spent on RHY service coordinator duties (% FTE):

1%

- The municipal RHY service coordinator is also the municipal youth bureau director.
- A copy of job description / responsibilities as maintained by the employer has been uploaded to this plan.

2) Describe **how** the county monitors certified residential RHY programs to confirm youth's educational needs, including transportation to and from educational programs, are being met in accordance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

For more information please visit [NYS-TEACHS](#)

The Youth Bureau and DSS keep in contact with the staff of The Sanctuary and their Rockland social worker and current and potential issues and needs.

Crisis Services Programs (RHY Crisis Shelters and Interim Family Programs)

No programs were entered.

Transitional Independent Living Programs (Supported and Group Residences)

No programs were entered.

Additional Residential Programs Available to RHY

Other than the OCFS certified residential programs listed above, are there any other residential programs in the municipality that are available to runaway and homeless youth and young adults? Please include information such as: program name, operating agency name, description of target population, program directors name and contact info, website URL, etc.

|

Non-Residential Programs

Please provide the following information about each of the non-residential RHY programs and services that operate within your municipality. Once approved by OCFS, programs included in this section are eligible for RHY funding. Minors who receive services from programs included in this section may consent to their own medical care and/or apply for their own identification through the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles.

Agency Name:	Program Name:
Program Address:	Program Director:
Program Phone Number:	Program Director Email:
<input type="checkbox"/> This program will receive OCFS RHY funds in the plan year.	
Target Population (age and other relevant demographics):	

Choose the time frames that best align with the program's hours of operation (Select all that apply):	Choose the days of the week that best align with the program's hours of operation (Select all that apply):
<input type="checkbox"/> 8:00 AM—4:00 PM <input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 PM—12:00 AM (midnight) <input type="checkbox"/> 12:00 AM (midnight)—8:00 AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday <input type="checkbox"/> Monday <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday
Non-residential RHY Service Provided (Select all that apply):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotline <input type="checkbox"/> Street Outreach <input type="checkbox"/> Drop-in Center <input type="checkbox"/> Case Management	

OCFS Support

How can OCFS better support your county's response to RHY and young adults?

Consider support surrounding training, technical assistance, program development, standardizing tools, best practice, positive youth development, cross-system collaborations, etc.

The Youth Bureau would benefit from getting technical assistance on funding streams available through OCFS and OTDA that can be used for RHY funding.

Helpful support would include assistance on strategies for regular legal cross-department information sharing and sharing with school districts.

Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Youth

Summary of Last Program Year

1. Identify from the list below the top needs addressed by the Safe Harbour: NY program last year. For each area selected provide a brief summary of efforts undertaken in the last year and the outcome of those efforts.

- Developing / maintaining a critical team

Efforts undertaken and their outcome:

The Critical team meets on a monthly basis to discuss youth who have been identified to be at risk of exploitation. The team brainstorms ideas, interventions, and resources to support the youth and the family. New members have joined the team to provide an additional lens on identifying youth and to provide ideas on how to support the youth and families.

- Training for professionals

Efforts undertaken and their outcome:

Staff continued to participate in OCFS web ex trainings, Safe Harbour Summit, Anti Human trafficking task force meetings and presentations from Center for Safety and Change. Internal training for new staff and a refresher for existing staff has been provided based on the Rapid indicator tool and the Comprehensive tool in order to better identify youth services.

- Adopting standardized tools and resources
- Raising public awareness
- Direct outreach and service provision to youth
- Developing / maintaining service referral pathways

Efforts undertaken and their outcome:

Rockland County DSS continues to collaborate with community partners. Those partners include:
Brosnan Risk Consultants, which is a security company that assist DSS with locating missing youth.
The Center for Safety and Change, which provides support services to both the youth and parents.
Rockland Probation Department, who helps to identify youth in need of services and makes referrals to the Department of Social Services to assess for exploitation and intervene with services.
Children's Village Bravehearts program supports youth voice and provides a safe judgement

free space.

Partnership for Safe Youth provides a strength-based perspective allowing the family to lead on determining a Service plan and goals.

BOCES Family Resource Center provides the family with tools to parent youth when outside of the classroom as well as making referrals, working with the family and bridging the school, family and the Department of Social Services.

Sun River Health has partnered as a resource for medical, dental and mental health referrals.

Law Enforcement helps with early identification of youth and support to the caseworkers.

CANDLE Rockland has joined in collaboration to evaluate and provide services to youth with excessive absences and school avoidance issues.

Other
Please specify:

2. When considering last year's program goals, which were the most challenging to achieve and what challenges did you face in achieving those goals?

Staff turnover resulted in youth being under identified and low referrals to services for exploited youth. Bi-lingual resources continued to be a barrier for these families as well as limited resources and /or long waitlist. DSS also had a difficult time securing bi-lingual staff in the county. This resulted in a continuous recruitment for bi-lingual caseworkers.

3. What were some of the most significant Safe Harbour: NY program successes or outcomes from the past year?

Rockland County DSS continues to work with Center for Safety & Change to provide services to at risk youth and their families. In partnership with our Goya Cares coalition partners including the Center For Safety and Change, Monique Burr Foundation, Christie's House, and Crimestoppers of Houston, CSS provides schools with free access to preventative education curriculum through school assemblies and in-classroom workshops. Goya Cares is a global initiative dedicated to combatting child trafficking and raising awareness of mental health. Goya Cares uses its platform to educate, raise awareness, build coalition partners, and more importantly prevent this from happening in our communities. In addition, Center for Safety & Change as well as Lucy Marie Notaro of Immigration Mental Health Evaluations. Raissa and Andrea will discuss the importance of NGO collaboration with law enforcement and Lucy will talk more about how she works with survivors to make sure they are emotionally self-regulated so they are able to discuss their experiences with law enforcement or a legal team.

In working with at risk youth and substance abuse issues DSS was able to connect with Promesa Inc., a bilingual adolescent long term substance abuse treatment program. This youth was able to stay at the Cove until his acceptance into the inpatient. The Cove is a safe and family friendly space that was created in the local DSS building to resemble a youth bedroom with living space.

Laptops were provided to youth for the purpose of academic achievement, tutoring and job search.

Normative experiences were provided to youth and their families which included dinner and games at Dave and Busters, bowling, movie tickets, Wendy's, and target gift cards.

Youth had the ability to engage in prosocial activities such as boxing, Music lessons, driving lessons, etc.

a. Please share an example of a positive impact your program has had on a youth. It can be "small" or large. Please do not include names.

A youth working with probation was identified at high risk. He had been living on the streets and custodial parent's whereabouts were unknown. The youth was assessed at the hospital with recommendation for inpatient. The youth was able to stay at the cove with casework supervision until his intake appointment on the next business day.

4. Describe how, in the last year, the Safe Harbour: NY program worked with the LDSS to properly identify and screen youth in accordance with 15-OCFS-ADM-16. Identify any challenges or successes.

Children's Village Sanctuary and Empower House continue to provide services to support Rockland County DSS with youth who are at risk of exploitation. The Department of Social Services also partners with the Center for Safety and Change who provides education to the community and schools on how to identify youth at risk of exploitation. The Center for Safety and Change provides education on teen dating and violence prevention and comprehensive crime victim services. Due to staff turnover there have been under identification of youth. The Center for Safety and Change is able to conduct face to face training to assist staff with identifying youth at risk for exploitation.

a. Of youth screened as trafficked or high-risk, what trends or commonalities did you identify?

Some of the commonalities identified have been gang involvement, truancy and excessive school absences, AWOL, substance use/ misuse, criminal activity, and parent /child conflict.

5. Please provide the names and affiliations of any trainers your county would recommend.

Wonder Girls, a girls empowerment program for middle, high school, and college girls in NY and NJ, is on a mission to raise awareness, educate, and most importantly prevent all forms of violence against women and children including abuse, harassment, domestic violence, teen dating, trafficking, assault, and all crimes.

Ronald Cook Barrett presents on gang awareness and interventions.

Plan for Next Program Year

1. Identify from the list below two or more areas of focus for the upcoming program year. For each area selected, describe the strategies the program will implement to develop or enhance the county's response to trafficked and at-risk youth.

Developing / maintaining a critical team

Training for professionals

Strategies to develop or enhance this area:

Part of the onboarding process for all new staff will include a training session on how to complete the Rapid indicator tool and assess for risk. There will be a review of the Comprehensive tool and how to use the tool as part of gathering information in casual conversation with the youth, not as a checklist.

During supervision sessions supervisors will assess each case and determine if further discussion needs to be had with the youth to determine level of risk and if there has been a change to the

risk level.

Staff Development will search for trainings offered through OCFS that focuses on assessing and servicing youth at risk of exploitation and staff will be signed up as needed.

- Adopting standardized tools and resources
- Raising public awareness
- Developing / maintaining service referral pathways

Strategies to develop or enhance this area:

Rockland County DSS will collaborate with a community organization to develop a contract to combat the attendance issue. The service provider will conduct an evaluation that assesses for the reason behind the youth's school avoidance and develop a service plan and goals to be achieved.

Rockland County DSS will continue to partner with the existing partners such as law enforcement, probation, mental health, BOCES, etc.

2. Describe the strategies the county will employ in the coming year to provide or support direct outreach and service provision to youth who have been trafficked or are at-risk. Strategies should respond to the trends identified in response to question 4a above.

Rockland County DSS has begun to implement a plan on strengthening the relationship with Probation. The Probation Department will be contacting DSS upon initial intake of any youth arrested to engage the youth and family at an earlier point in time. Probation will begin using the Rapid Indicator Tool and Comprehensive upon intake.

Rockland County DSS has increased the number of workers in the school system targeting higher poverty zip code areas.

Continued training for staff on how to engage youth in difficult conversations and identifying youth while focusing on harm reduction.

Tutoring services and school avoidance program to address truancy and excessive absences.

MLK Multi- purpose Center recreational program and Haverstraw Outreach will provide resources to families in the targeted areas.

3. Describe how the Safe Harbour: NY program will support the LDSS to properly identify and screen youth in accordance with 15-OCFS-ADM-16.

Safe Harbour: NY Program will support the LDSS with the ability to continue their partnership with service providers that offer trainings in accordance with 15-OCFS-ADM-16 and flexibility to use the funds in creative ways that allow support to identified youth and their families.

Program Budget

1. Provide a line-item budget for your county's Safe Harbour: NY allocation. Provide a justification / narrative / explanation for each line connecting spending to a task(s) outlined above. Each budget must reflect a

Rockland County: Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Youth

minimum \$2,500 designated for wraparound services for youth who have been trafficked or are at-risk.

This document should be uploaded to the County Plans application

2. If the county utilizes other funding sources to support Safe Harbour implementation, please list those sources here.

N/A

Differential Response to Children (RTLA legislation)

As of December 29, 2022, legislation (Chapter 810 of the Laws of 2021, as amended by Chapter 38 of the Laws of 2022) and regulation (18 NYCRR Part 437) require that each local department of social services (LDSS) establish a RTLA differential response (DR-RTLA) for children under 12 years old who do not fall under the definition of juvenile delinquent under section 301.2 of the Family Court Act (FCA), and whose behavior would otherwise bring them under the jurisdiction of the Family Court pursuant to Article 3 of the FCA.

The DR-RTLA is an opportunity to provide eligible children with interventions that promote racial, ethnic, and gender equity and reduce the possibility of future involvement with juvenile justice and child welfare systems.

For additional assistance in completing the RTLA-DR Annual Plan, please reference the [Raising the Lower Age of Juvenile Delinquency Differential Response Annual Plan Desk Aid](#).

A. Differential Response for Children Procedures

The LDSS is responsible for the DR-RTLA for eligible children and their families in their local district. Please specify any other agency that is responsible at each procedure point and a brief description of how the agencies will collaborate at that procedure point.

1. Intake: Receives the DR-RTLA referral, conducts an initial screening, and makes an eligibility determination

Please specify any agency other than the LDSS that has a role at this procedure point:

Not Applicable

The intake process includes at a minimum the following:

- Receive referrals at a minimum during regular LDSS business hours
- Gather intake information that includes but is not limited to,
 - the reason for the referral to the DR-RTLA, including the specific behavior(s) of the child;
 - the age of the child;
 - contact information for the referral source;
 - child and caregiver contact information;
 - any current safety concerns and/or safety plans in place;
 - contact information of known service providers and familial supports.

Based on the information, the DR-RTLA will make a determination of the child's eligibility.

For eligible children residing in the district, the DR-RTLA program will

- contact the family of an eligible child within one business day of receiving a referral;
- schedule an appointment, within seven business days, with the child, the family and any familial supports identified by the family;
- ask the family if they are currently working with child protective services, child welfare preventive services, or foster care services and obtain permission to speak to the LDSS case manager / caseworker for any applicable information.

When an eligible child or their family has current involvement with child protective services, child welfare preventive services, or foster care services, the DR-RTLA program will contact the LDSS case manager / caseworker to

- inform them of the referral to the DR-RTLA program and the current intake information,
- inform them of the decision of the family to proceed or not proceed with the DR-RTLA assessment,
- inform them of the DR-RTLA processes, and
- obtain information about the assessment of the child's and their family's progress in current interventions and supports.

The DR-RTLA is voluntary to the child and family. If there are safety plans in place, or known safety concerns, the DR-RTLA program will immediately act in accordance with existing policy, regulations, and law.

2. Assessment of the child's and family's strengths, concrete needs, and challenges related to the behavior that led to a referral to the differential response. Such assessment should also consider any individualized vulnerabilities and be responsive to the child's and family's culture.

Name of assessment instrument(s) used:

- Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS)
- Child and Adolescent Service Intensity Instrument (CASII)
- Sexual exploitation screening and assessment **(required) (OCFS-3920—Child Sex Trafficking Indicators Tool and OCFS-3921—Rapid Indicator Tool to Identify Children Who May Be Sex Trafficking Victims or are at Risk of Being a Sex Trafficking Victim)**
- Other
If you selected "Other," please specify:
| Child Welfare risk factors checklist

Please specify any agency other than the LDSS that has a role at this procedure point:

- ↓
 Not Applicable

The DR-RTLA assessment will include an assessment of

- the current safety of the child and safety concerns related to the child's behaviors that led to the DR-RTLA referral, which could include but is not limited to the safety of other children in the family;
- the eligible child's and family's strengths, concrete needs, and challenges or concerns;
- any individualized vulnerabilities;
- cultural considerations; and
- indicators of child sex trafficking.

The assessment(s) will inform the services, supports, and opportunities offered to eligible children and their families.

3. Please indicate below the potential supports to be offered to eligible children and their families:

Please check all that apply

- Positive Youth Development Programming
- Housing / Food / Clothing Supports

- Parent Peer Supports
- Respite Services
- Behavioral Health Services and Supports
- Parent / Caretaker Skill Development Supports
- Educational Supports
- Supervision and Treatment Services for Juveniles Program Services and Supports (non-FSS)
- Child Welfare Preventive Services (*if eligible*) **(required)**
- Family Support Services (FSS) Program (*if eligible and established*) **(required)**
- Other
If you selected "Other," please specify:

4. Plan development and successful intervention engagement process

Please specify any agency other than the LDSS that has a role at this procedure point :

Center or Safety and Change, The PArtnership for Safe and Healthy Youth, MArtin Luther King Center, Bravehearts, BFST

Not Applicable

Supports offered through the DR-RTLA are *voluntary* to the family and child.

The plan development process will

- be family-led,
- be initiated within fifteen days of the referral to the DR-RTLA program, and
- include natural supports and other providers involved with the family, with the family's permission, and as available.

If no safety plans are in place and no safety concerns identified and the family declines the recommended interventions, the DR-RTLA program will provide the family with contact information for the DR-RTLA program and the recommended interventions orally and in writing.

It is also required that the LDSS support the family through a facilitated referral process to agreed-upon interventions. Family team meetings or other family-led collaborative forums may provide the best opportunity for the child and family to meet new providers, to promote continuity of care, and for team members to align strategies and resources to best support the child and family.

The DR-RTLA program will use a facilitated referral process to services, supports, and opportunities to support the child and family at this critical transition point.

5. Follow up with providers and supports regarding child's progress

Please specify any agency other than the LDSS that has a role at this procedure point :

Not Applicable

The LDSS's differential response process to assess the child's progress and collectively determine if there is a need for any further supports to the child and family includes at a minimum all of the following:

- Contacting the family and child on or about 30 days from the development of the support plan

- Obtaining all evaluations and assessments of the child's progress in interventions from the providers, as permitted by the family via a release of information, while the DR-RTLA case is active
- Contacting the provider(s) on or about 30 days after support plan development
- Contacting the family and providers within seven days prior to the DR-RTLA case completion to assess the child's progress and collectively determine if there is a need for further supports to the child and family

B. Planning Activities

Briefly indicate below all the planning activities that the locality has engaged in related to the 5-year planning of the DR-RTLA program.

Partners included in the 5-year planning of the DR-RTLA:

Please check all that apply

- Law enforcement agencies
- Families
- School districts
- Respite service providers
- Youth bureau
- Children's advocacy center
- Community / faith-based organizations
- Anti-trafficking providers
- Dispute resolution centers
- Voluntary agencies
- Other

If you selected "Other," please specify:

Center for Safety and Change

The LDSS collaborative planning activities for the 5-year planning of the DR-RTLA plan included:

Please check all that apply

- Current data assessment
- Focus groups with families
- Community needs assessment focused on the needs of the eligible children and their families
- Other stakeholder meetings
- Meetings with law enforcement
- Other

If you selected "Other," please specify:

1

C. Differential Response Child Population

Please provide the following data for the DR-RTLA child population for **January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023**. If the answer is zero, please indicate such and *do not leave any blank areas*. Specifically, please provide the following as whole numbers (not %):

Number of referrals to DR-RTLA by law enforcement:	1
Number of referrals to DR-RTLA by parents:	0
Number of referrals to DR-RTLA by schools:	0
Number of referrals to DR-RTLA by other sources:	0
Number of total DR-RTLA eligible cases:	1
Number of eligible children 7 years old at referral to DR-RTLA:	0
Number of eligible children 8 years old at referral to DR-RTLA:	1
Number of eligible children 9 years old at referral to DR-RTLA:	0
Number of eligible children 10 years old at referral to DR-RTLA:	0
Number of eligible children 11 years old at referral to DR-RTLA:	0
Number of total DR-RTLA-eligible cases for which participation was declined by family:	1

D. Reduction of System Involvement

Children do well when their parents, caregivers, families, and communities are healthy and stable. To be successful, as a system we must take a more comprehensive, trauma-informed, upstream approach to meet families where they are and have the capacity to rapidly engage with culturally relevant approaches, tools, and resources that strengthen and empower families and their natural supports so that children are safe and can thrive.

The DR-RTLA for eligible children will reduce their likelihood of interaction with the juvenile justice and child welfare systems in the future through the following strategies:

Please check all that apply

- support and empowerment of families and their natural supports to identify their strengths, needs and resources so children are safe and can thrive
- use of community alternatives and interventions to address concerning or harmful behavior through developmentally appropriate means
- use trauma-informed practices when interacting with eligible children and their families
- use culturally responsive and inclusive approaches when interacting with eligible children and their families

Other

If you selected "Other," please specify:

1

E. Promoting Safety and Well-being

As you answer this section, consider how the DR-RTLA can be a trauma-informed, inclusive, accessible, culturally responsive approach that supports, strengthens, and empowers families and their natural supports so that children are safe and can thrive.

The DR-RTLA for this eligible child population will enhance the ability of the district to ensure the safety and well-being of the eligible child population through the following strategies:

Please check all that apply

- family-driven policies that ensure the safety and well-being of eligible children
- assessment process includes an assessment of the current safety of the child and safety concerns related to the child's behaviors that led to the DR-RTLA referral, which could include but is not limited to the safety of other children in the family
- trauma-informed practices when interacting with eligible children and their families
- culturally responsive and inclusive approaches when interacting with eligible children and their families
- positive youth development opportunities that will enhance the well-being of eligible children
- Other
If you selected "Other," please specify:
1

F. Reducing Adverse Impacts

The following equity approaches should be considered as you answer this section.

- Race Equity and Gender Identity—advancing an approach where all children and families, regardless of race and Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression (SOGIE) have the same opportunity through culturally relevant supports and resources to reach their potential
- Social and Economic Well-Being—promoting and supporting a trauma-informed system where concrete needs are met, and opportunities are provided equitably
- Family and Youth Partnership—authentically and effectively sustaining the participation of families and youth at all system levels

The DR-RTLA addresses adverse impacts on marginalized communities through the following strategies:

Please check all that apply

- Performing outreach to marginalized communities to ensure they are aware of resources available and hear their needs
- Engaging with law enforcement, particularly in marginalized communities, to ensure law enforcement's understanding of the new approach with eligible children
- Building capacity for culturally responsive services, supports, or opportunities in partnership with communities
- Responding to feedback from children and families on the DR-RTLA program and their needs
- Other
If you selected "Other," please specify:
1

G. Monitoring Activities

The LDSS's activities must include how the required service elements (i.e., intake, assessment, support planning, intervention engagement, and monitoring of the child's progress) of the DR-RTLA are monitored and how child and family feedback are consistently included in the monitoring activities.

The LDSS will monitor the DR-RTLA for children through the following activities:

Please check all that apply

- Obtaining child feedback consistently **(required)**
- Obtaining family feedback consistently **(required)**
- Supervisory review of DR-RTLA case activities, including but not limited to intake, assessment, support planning, intervention engagement, and monitoring of the child's progress in interventions
- Regularly-scheduled meetings with differential response staff to assess the current processes and protocols for improvements
- Regularly-scheduled meetings with community stakeholders, including law enforcement agencies, to assess the current processes and protocols for improvements
- Other
If you selected "Other," please specify:

The LDSS will ensure the confidentiality of the DR-RTLA records.

The DR-RTLA records shall be maintained for five years after an eligible child has been referred to the LDSS differential response or until the eligible child reaches the age of 12, whichever is sooner. The LDSS will ensure compliance with the record retention schedules for the DR-RTLA records.

H. Funding

Does your county use additional funding (e.g., local dollars or grant funding) to enhance the DR-RTLA for children?

- No Yes

If "Yes," please specify the type of funding and what enhancements it will support:

Programs set up to support families and enhance the DR-RTLA include evidence based programs through Family First Prevention Act and Safe Harbour Funding.

I. Training

The training that will be provided to district staff regarding the LDSS DR-RTLA for children will include, at a minimum:

- an overview of the LDSS differential response structure and DR-RTLA plan;
- information regarding the required elements of the DR-RTLA, including responsibilities for obtaining intake information, screening for eligibility determination, assessment of the eligible child and their family, collaborative support planning with the eligible child and their family, the supportive referral

- process to interventions as needed, and monitoring of the eligible child's progress in interventions;
- the voluntary nature of the differential response and the interventions offered to the eligible child and their family;
- information regarding the DR-RTLA case documentation, confidentiality, and completion requirements;
- information regarding the current continuum of services, supports, and opportunities in the district;
- record retention schedules for the differential response; and
- local district protocols related to when a differential-response-eligible child may be considered for PINS diversion services.

Please provide any additional information that will be contained in the training for district staff:

N/A

Please provide the anticipated frequency of this training:

Anticipated frequency of this training will be quarterly or on an as needed basis.

The training that will be provided to non-district staff regarding the LDSS DR-RTLA for children will include, at a minimum:

- an overview of the LDSS DR-RTLA structure and referral processes;
- contact information for the LDSS DR-RTLA and hours of operation (must at a minimum align with normal business hours of the LDSS);
- eligibility criteria for the differential response and the LDSS processes that will be followed should the referred child not be eligible for the DR-RTLA;
- the requirements of the differential response, including but not limited to monitoring of the child's progress in interventions and follow-up timeframes, and the differential response case completion;
- the voluntary nature of the differential response and the interventions offered to the eligible child and their family;
- information regarding the current continuum of services, supports, and opportunities in the district; and
- record retention schedules for the DR-RTLA.

Please provide any additional information that will be contained in the training for non-district staff:

The training will include community resources and supports within the Department of Social Services.

The non-district staff that will receive such training will include:

Please check all that apply

- Law enforcement agencies
- Families
- School districts
- Respite service providers
- Youth bureau
- Children's advocacy center

- Community-based organizations
 - Anti-trafficking providers
 - Dispute resolution centers
 - Voluntary agencies
 - Legal partners such as County Attorney, Attorneys for the Child, and Family Court Judges
 - Other
- If you selected "Other," please specify:*

Please provide the anticipated frequency of this training:

Training will be provided on an as needed basis. The information will also be included in the outreach presentations conducted yearly with community stakeholders.

The training set forth in section 840 of the Executive Law for police officers—whose main responsibilities are juveniles—provides instruction, among other areas, on the differential response program. It includes the definition of the program's eligible population and best practices by law enforcement that involve the collaboration with LDSSs for children under the age of 12 who are eligible for the LDSS differential response program. This training is released to police officers by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services.

J. Technical Assistance

Does your county have any technical assistance needs related to the raising the lower age of juvenile delinquency legislation?

- No Yes

K. Differential Response for Children Contact

Please provide the name, title, email address, and phone number of the contact for the DR-RTLA program.

This information will be posted publicly on the OCFS website.

Name:

Mideline Josaphat

Title:

Sr. Caseworker

Email Address:

mideline.josaphat@dfa.state.ny.us

Phone Number:

845-405-4180 X5

Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS) Diversion Services

The PINS Reform Law (Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2005) requires that a Local Department of Social Services (LDSS) Consolidated Services Plan or Child and Family Services Plan (Integrated County Plan) include a Persons In Need of Supervision (PINS) diversion services section. PINS reform legislation (Part K of Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2019) includes the elimination of the use of detention for PINS youth as of January 1, 2020.

These requirements apply to all localities and support increased community-based services to PINS youth and families, and collaboration at the local and regional level to develop effective responses to status offenders and their families.

Please note that the information in this form is specific to the **PINS Diversion Services population and process** in your locality or jurisdiction, **not** to the post-petition PINS population or the juvenile delinquent (JD) population.

Designation of Lead Agency

Counties should configure their PINS diversion services according to their individual efficiencies and strengths. The designation may be changed in the future through an update to the plan or at the time of the next plan submission. While the LDSS is required to identify one lead agency, cooperative procedures may require other agencies to perform certain functions or services.

Select the Lead Agency for PINS Diversion Services:

Probation

LDSS

This is a change in Lead Agency from the previous year.

Inventory of PINS Diversion Service Options

*Indicate the PINS diversion services that are available in your county and whether a service gap exists. Please note that these service categories are required for PINS Diversion Services. **Please answer all portions of each question.** Counties may coordinate efforts with providers to establish regional services.*

Service Categories

Residential Respite (required)

The county has the required respite available for the PINS Diversion Services population.

Are there any limitations that preclude all youth under PINS Diversion Services being served?

No

Yes

There is a service gap in residential respite services

Crisis Intervention—24 hours per day (required service component)

The county has the required crisis intervention available for the PINS Diversion Services population

Are there any limitations that preclude all youth under PINS Diversion Services being served?

No

Yes

There is a service gap in crisis intervention services

Diversion Services / Other Alternatives to pre-dispositional placement (required service component)

The county has the required diversion services / other alternatives to pre-dispositional placement available for the PINS Diversion Services population.

Are there any limitations that preclude all youth under PINS Diversion Services being served?

No

Yes

There is a service gap in diversion services / other alternatives to pre-dispositional placement

Conducts sexual exploitation screening and assessment (required service component)

Providers:

DSS Caseworkers and Probation Officers conduct the sexual exploitation screening and assessments. At risk or confirmed youth for sexual exploitation are referred to the Multi-disciplinary team including victim services for strategizing around engagement and service provisions.

Are there any limitations that preclude all youth under PINS Diversion Services being served?

No

Yes

There is a service gap in sexual exploitation screening

PINS Diversion Services Procedures

Please complete every portion of each question. Record the agency that is responsible for each procedure.

PINS Diversion Services includes at a minimum the following:

Rockland County: Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS) Diversion Services

a. Determination of the need for residential respite services and need for alternatives to pre-dispositional placement

Responsible Agency(ies):

Probation

LDSS

Other

Please specify:

b. Provision of an immediate response to youth and families in crisis (includes 24 hours a day response capability)

Responsible Agency(ies):

Probation

LDSS

Other

Please specify:

c. Serving as the PINS diversion services intake agency, including, but not limited to:

- accepting referrals for PINS diversion services,
- conducting initial conferencing with the child, family,
- diligently attempting to avoid the filing of a PINS petition,
- discussing possible services and supports with the child and family to avoid the filing of a petition, and
- making a PINS diversion services eligibility determination

Responsible Agency(ies):

Probation

LDSS

Other

Please specify:

d. Conducting an assessment of the needs, strengths, and risk for the youth continuing with PINS behavior

Name of assessment instrument used:

YASI

YLSI

Other

Please specify:

Responsible Agency(ies):

Probation

LDSS

Other

Please specify:

e. Conducting the sexual exploitation screening and assessment

Name of screening instrument used:

Rapid Indicator Tool

Child Sex Trafficking Indicators Tool

Other

Please specify:

Responsible Agency(ies):

Probation

LDSS

Other

Please specify:

f. Working with the youth and family to develop case plan

Responsible Agency(ies):

Probation

LDSS

Other

Please specify:

g. Determining with the youth and family the recommended service providers and making referrals to agreed-upon interventions

Responsible Agency(ies):

Probation

LDSS

Other

Please specify:

h. Making a case closure determination in collaboration with the youth, family, and any relevant service

Rockland County: Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS) Diversion Services

providers

Responsible Agency(ies):

Probation

LDSS

Other

Please specify:

PINS Diversion Services Documentation

Where are your PINS Diversion Services documented?

Caseload Explorer

Locally Maintained File

Other

Please specify:

PINS Diversion Services Plan

A. Planning Activities

Indicate below all PINS Diversion Services Strategic Planning activities the locality has engaged in related to this current plan. Include all stakeholders involved to date in the PINS Diversion Services planning process.

The specific collaborative planning activities for the development of the PINS Diversion Services plan included:

Current data assessment

Community needs assessment

Meetings with juvenile justice stakeholders

Focus groups with families and/or youth

Other stakeholder meetings

Other

Please specify:

Partners included in the planning of the PINS Diversion Services:

School Districts

Youth Bureau

- Probation Department
- Family Court Personnel
- Runaway and Homeless Youth Providers
- Dispute Resolution Center
- Families and/or Youth
- Law Enforcement Officials
- Local Department of Social Services
- Respite Service Providers
- Anti-trafficking Providers
- Community/Faith-based Organizations
- Other

Please specify:

|

B. PINS Diversion Services Population

Please record the PINS Diversion Services population in your county for calendar year 2023. If the answer is zero, please indicate such and **do not leave any blank areas**. Specifically, please provide the following as whole numbers (not %).

Number of PINS Diversion Services cases carried over from previous year:	52
Number of Total PINS Diversion Services referrals:	78
Number of PINS Diversion Services referrals filed by parents:	32
Number of PINS Diversion Services referrals by schools:	30
Number of PINS Diversion Services referrals by police:	3
Number of PINS Diversion Services referrals by victim:	0
Number of PINS Diversion Services referrals other sources:	13

Please identify other sources:

| Mental health, hospitals

Number of Total PINS Diversion Services cases closed:	42
Number of PINS Diversion Services cases closed as Successfully Diverted:	42

Number of PINS Diversion Services cases closed as Unsuccessful and Referred to Petition:	0
Number of PINS Diversion cases closed for other reasons (include Withdrawn and Terminated with Bar to Petition):	0
Number of PINS Diversion Services cases that remained open at end of calendar year:	69

C. Pre-PINS Diversion Efforts

Youth with PINS behavior and their families are engaged in services and supports in an attempt to address the presenting issues, as an alternative to proceeding with a PINS complaint.

Is your county providing any pre-PINS diversion services or supports?

- No
- Yes

If "Yes," please list and describe the service and the location:

DSS has an Adolescent Unit who works closely with youth who are identified at risk for PINS due to their behaviors which include parent/child conflict, truancy, breaking curfew, possible criminal behavior, gang affiliation, substance misuse, and undiagnosed mental health. The Caseworker works closely with the family to address the issues and behaviors that are concerning in the family. Caseworker counseling, Youth Peer Advocacy Services, Tutoring, funding for Pro-Social Activities, and BFST are some of the support services provided to address the issues and behaviors that are presented in order to divert youth and having to proceed with a PINS complaint. The Partnership for Safe and Healthy Youth is available to provide cross-system service planning that involves education, juvenile justice and/or mental health needs.

Does your county collect data on Pre-PINS services?

- No
- Yes

Number of youth who received Pre-PINS services in calendar year 2023:

147

D. Focus Areas of Need

Based on your assessment of needs during your planning activities, choose up to two areas of need that your collaborative would like to impact over the course of this 5-year planning period for PINS Diversion Services. Focus areas should consider the needs for specific vulnerable populations (e.g. youth who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and gender non-conforming (LGBTQ+), females, neuro-diverse needs of youth) and/or processes that continue to promote disparities in PINS Diversion Services and outcomes for youth and families.

For each area of need:

1. Identify the focus area for improvement for PINS Diversion Services.

2. Identify the strategy(ies) to be implemented to impact the area of need.
3. For the *annual plan updates (APU)*, please note the progress made regarding the area of need.

Focus Area #1

Select Focus Area:

School-based PINS behaviors

List the strategy(ies) to be implemented to impact the area of need:

- DSS is working on contracting for School Avoidance program. I
- Caseworkers are going to the homes to transport youth to school
- Purchase of alarm clocks
- tutoring services
- offering laptops and graphic calculators as tools
- Connection to Partnership for Safe and Healthy Youth as a supportive service

Focus Area #2

Select Focus Area:

Behavioral health (mental health/substance use/developmental)

List the strategy(ies) to be implemented to impact the area of need:

- BSFT - Brief Strategic Family Therapy to assist with parent child conflict and enhance communication
- Motivational Interviewing to assist in engaging with the family and assessing and identifying needs

E. Technical Assistance / Other PINS Related Information for OCFS and DCJS

Does your county have any technical assistance needs related to PINS Diversion Services?

- No
 Yes

Does your county have any training needs related to PINS Diversion Services?

- No
 Yes

Please specify:

Support on dealing with school attendance and truancy, engagement, how to deal with parent/child conflict, and identifying exploitation.

Does your county have any technical assistance needs related to improving equity / addressing disparities in PINS Diversion Services?

No

Yes

Is your county planning to change the PINS Diversion Services Lead Agency in the near future?

No

Yes

F. PINS Diversion Services Lead Agency County Contact

Please provide the name, title and email address of the lead agency county contact for the PINS Diversion Services plan.

Name:

Vanessa Torres

Title:

Director

Email Address:

vanessa.torres@dfa.state.ny.us

PINS Pre-dispositional Placement Services

As outlined in 20-OCFS-ADM-22, Persons in Need of Supervision Reform Changes, Local Department of Social Services are to have a plan to provide PINS pre-dispositional care and maintenance services as ordered by family court.

Pre-dispositional placements can only occur in the following settings:

- Foster care settings, certified or licensed by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) or another authorized agency, such as: foster boarding home, group home, and residential treatment center.
- A short-term safe house as defined in Social Services Law 447-a for youth who have been determined by the court to be sexually exploited. Placement in a runaway and homeless youth program may not be ordered by the court without the consent of the respondent youth, as these settings are voluntary.

Please indicate below whether the LDSS has the availability of PINS pre-dispositional care and maintenance services:

- LDSS has a plan to provide PINS pre-dispositional care and maintenance Services as ordered by family court.
- LDSS **does not** have a plan to provide PINS pre-dispositional care and maintenance services as ordered by family court.

Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)

The CCAP section of the plan is effective on the date that it is approved by OCFS. The approval date for the CCAP section of the plan can be found on [the OCFS website](#).

Part One: NYS Child Care Block Grant

I. Administration

1. Total estimated NYSCCBG funds available:	\$5018000
2. Estimate of local share:	\$120000
3. Projected spending for FFY 2024–2025:	\$15000000
4. Estimated number of children being served:	1150
5. Method of provision (vouchers, contracts, etc.):	Paid directly to Child Care provider
6. Does your district have a contract or formal agreement with another organization to perform functions using the NYSCCBG?	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	

If the district has a contract or formal agreement with another organization, provide the name of the organization and the amount of the contract.

Function	Organization	Amount of Contract
<input type="checkbox"/> CCAP eligibility screening		\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Determining if legally exempt providers meet OCFS-approved additional local standards		\$
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assistance in locating care	Child Care Resources of America	\$562010
<input type="checkbox"/> Child care information systems		\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment processing		\$
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <i>Please specify function:</i> Information, referral, education, and registering and inspecting LE providers	Child Care Resources of America	\$

II. Waiting List

The district will establish a waiting list for families not eligible for a child care guarantee when it has projected that all available NYSCCBG funds are needed for open child care cases.

Yes No

III. 24-Month Eligibility

The district chooses to authorize child care assistance for a 24-month eligibility period.

Yes No

IV. Preliminary Eligibility

The district opts to provide child care assistance during the application determination period for all families who apply for child care assistance.

Yes No

V. Interim Eligibility

Describe how the district implements interim eligibility for families experiencing homelessness, including the length of the interim eligibility period, which cannot exceed three months:

- *When a applicant applies and states they are homeless, we initially treat them like anyone else. If they state they can not get information or have lost some documentation we will help them obtain the necessary documents. We open the case, but maintain them as a pending application until all documents are received or denial/closing at 90 days.*

VI. Reasonable Distance

The following defines "reasonable distance":

- *Reasonable distance for Temporary Assistance recipients traveling to participate in work activities will not exceed 30 miles from provider to activity.*
- *Reasonable distance for Temporary Assistance recipients working will not exceed 45 miles from provider to work location.*

Describe any steps / consultations made to arrive at your definition:

- *TA activities are usually done within the county. The county is geographically small and no two locations are more than 30 miles apart.*
- *To determine distance for work we looked at where most of our recipients work and they are generally within the county (30 miles). However, we do have some that work in Orange County, the Bronx, Queens, and New Jersey; none of which have been more than 45 miles from provider to work location.*

VII. Transportation

Are there circumstances where the district will reimburse for transportation?

Yes No

Part Two: Title XX Child Care

Does the district use Title XX funds to provide child care?

Yes No

Part Three: District Options that Apply to Both NYSCCBG and Title XX

I. Differential Payment Rates

1. Districts must complete the Differential Payment Rate Percent (%) column in the table below for each of the four differential payment rate categories. The state requires a minimum differential of 5% for licensed and registered providers for homelessness and for all providers for non-traditional hours. For these categories, the district must enter "5%" or, if it chooses a higher rate, up to 15%.

The differential payment rate categories for legally exempt providers for homelessness and for nationally accredited programs are optional. If the district chooses not to set differential payment rates, the district must enter zero. If the district chooses to set a differential payment rate, enter the appropriate percentage up to 15 percent (15%). If the district selects a differential payment rate for nationally accredited programs, that rate must be in the range of five percent (5%) to 15 percent (15%). If the district selects a differential payment rate for legally exempt providers for homelessness, the rate may be from 1 percent (1%) to 15 percent (15%).

Differential Payment Rate Category	Differential Payment Rate Percent
Homelessness: Licensed and Registered Providers <i>State required minimum of 5%</i>	5%
Homelessness: Legally Exempt Providers	0%
Non-traditional Hours: All Providers <i>State required minimum of 5%</i>	15%
Nationally Accredited Programs: Licensed and Registered Providers <i>Legally exempt child care providers are not eligible for a differential payment rate for accreditation.</i>	0%

2. For providers that qualify for multiple differential payment rates, the total percentage may not exceed 25% above the applicable market rate or actual cost of care. However, a district may request a waiver from the Office to establish a payment rate that is in excess of 25% above the applicable market rate upon showing that the 25% maximum is insufficient to provide access within the district to child care providers or services that offer care addressing more than one of the differential payment rate categories. If your district wants to establish a total differential payment rate that is more than 25% above the applicable market rate, describe below why the 25% maximum is insufficient to provide access to such child care providers or services.

II. Increased Enhanced Market Rate for Legally Exempt Family and In-Home Child Care Providers

1. The enhanced market rate for legally exempt family and legally exempt in-home child care providers who have completed 10 or more hours of training annually is set at 70% of the applicable market rates established for registered family day care. Indicate if the district is electing to establish a payment rate that is in excess of the enhanced market rate for legally exempt family and in-home child care providers who have completed 10 or more hours of training annually and the training has been verified by the legally exempt caregiver enrollment agency.

Yes No

2. If yes, indicate the percent (71%–75%), not to exceed 75%, of the child care market rate established for registered family day care.

| %

III. Enhanced Market Rates for Legally Exempt Group Child Care Programs

Answer both questions:

1. Indicate if the district is electing to establish an enhanced market rate for child care services provided by legally exempt group child care programs that have prepared an approved health care plan and have at least one caregiver in each classroom with age appropriate cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification and the enhanced requirements have been verified by the enrollment agency.

Yes No

2. Indicate if the district is electing to establish an enhanced market rate for child care services provided by legally exempt group child care programs when, in addition to the training required in 18 NYCRR §415.13, the director has completed an approved course and a minimum of 15 hours of approved training annually and each employee with a caregiving role completes a minimum of 5 hours of approved training annually and the enhanced requirements have been verified by the enrollment agency.

Yes No

If a district chooses to establish both legally exempt group child care enhanced rates and a program is eligible for both enhanced rates, then the enhanced market rate must be based on the percentages selected for each individual market rate, up to a maximum of 87%.

IV. Sleep

Does the district choose to expand eligibility for child care assistance beyond the requirements of 18 NYCRR §415.4?

Yes No

V. Child Care Exceeding 24 Hours

Does the district choose to pay for child care services that exceed 24 hours?

Yes No

1. Child care services may exceed 24 consecutive hours when such services are provided on a short-term emergency basis or in other situations where the caretaker's approved activity necessitates care for 24

hours on a limited basis. Check below under what circumstances the district will pay for child care exceeding 24 hours.

- On a short-term emergency basis
- The caretaker's approved activity necessitates care for 24 hours on a limited basis

2. Describe any limitations on the payment of child care services that exceed 24 consecutive hours.

- *More than 24 consecutive hours will be permitted when a single parent must travel for work or is hospitalized.*
- *Documentation from the employer and or hospital must be provided.*

VI. Child Care Services Unit (CCSU)

Does the district choose to include 18-, 19-, and / or 20-year-olds in the CCSU?

- Yes No

If yes, please answer the following:

a. The district will include the following in the CCSU

(Check all that apply)

- 18-year-olds
- 19-year-olds
- 20-year-olds

OR

b. The district will only include the following in the CCSU when it will benefit the family

(Check all that apply)

- 18-year-olds
- 19-year-olds
- 20-year-olds

Describe the criteria your district will use to determine whether 18-, 19-, or 20-year-olds are included in the CCSU.

To determine if we are counting an 18 year-old in the household,

- *they must be residing in the household and*

- attending high school

If they have employment the head count and income must be beneficial to the family.

VII. Waivers

Districts have the authority to request a waiver of any regulatory provision that is non-statutory. Does the district choose to request a waiver(s)?

- Yes No

VIII. Notices

1. The district has chosen to use local equivalent(s) of OCFS required form(s).

- Yes No

2. The district elects to use the OCFS-6025, Application for Child Care Assistance (the local district may add the district name and contact information to the form).

- Yes No

Part Four: Additional Local Standards for Child Care Providers

Does the district choose to implement any additional local standards?

Yes

No

Part Five: Fraud and Abuse Control Activities

I. Child Care Front End Detection Plan

Each district must submit a child care front end detection plan as part of their CFSP. This plan is an anti-fraud tool that is designed to determine which child care assistance applications suggest a higher than acceptable risk for erroneous or fraudulent child care assistance payments, and procedures to refer such applications to the district's fraud unit.

1. Please mark which of the following indicators, if any, the district uses to determine which CCAP applications suggest a higher than acceptable risk for fraudulent or erroneous CCAP payments:

P.O. Box supplied as a mailing address without a reasonable explanation

Applicant has a history of denial, case closing or overpayment, resulting from an investigation

- Applicant is self-employed, but cannot provide adequate business records
- Primary tenant with no utility bills in their name
- Information on application is inconsistent with prior case information
- Applicant unsure of their own address
- Applicant cannot supply documentation to verify identity, or identity is suspect
- Documentation or information provided by applicant is inconsistent with the application
- Child care provider lives in the same household as the child
- No absent parent information or information is inconsistent with the application
- Other
Please specify:
Child(ren) under the age of six with no birth certificate(s) available and Applicant working off-the-books.

2. Please describe the step-by-step child care front end detection process for CCAP applications.

a. Describe how the application is reviewed for indicators by eligibility staff and the process by which it is referred to the appropriate investigative unit if the indicator cannot be resolved.

- *The child care eligibility worker is responsible for reviewing the application for FEDS indicators. The child care eligibility worker calls the applicant to conduct an interview. If information is inconsistent and they say they cannot document the information **we will** send a FEDS referral to our Special Investigations unit.*
- *If there is a language barrier, misunderstanding of what the question meant in writing and they were able to answer verbally and they can document the information we **do not** refer them to our Special Investigations Unit.*

b. Describe how the investigator completes a report of investigation including common investigation processes, findings, recommendations, and how the results are communicated to the eligibility unit. This description must include the responsible staff members, the process for referrals, and targeted time frames for completion of the investigation. Investigative steps including reviews, collateral contacts, and interviews must also be outlined below.

- *The child care eligibility worker will write up a FEDS referral and attach a copy of the application and a copy of all documentation received to the referral. The case is logged on our FEDS spreadsheet with date, case name, case number, reason for referral. The FEDS referral packet is walked to the Special Investigations unit and given to the FEDS/Special Investigations Supervisor.*
- *The FEDS/Special Investigations Supervisor assigns the referred case to a FEDS investigator, who then emails the referring Child Care Assistance Unit worker to communicate that they will be handling the FEDS investigation and ask any clarifying questions. Any additional documentation or verbal important changes are shared with the investigator assigned verbally and in writing.*

c. Describe the process used to submit the Monthly report to OCFS by the tenth of the following month including the title of the responsible staff member(s).

- Continued effective communication between the referring Child Care Assistance Unit worker and the investigator assigned the FEDS investigation is a cornerstone of a successful FEDS plan. The following two activities have been identified as a best practice:

1. All communication is to be documented, including any verbal discussions, and;
2. The referring Child Care Assistance Unit worker will notify the investigator in a timely manner if they receive additional information about the applicants(s), or there is a change in the status of the application (withdrawn, failed to comply with eligibility requirements, etc.). The investigator will do the same.

- The investigator will identify the indicator(s) checked off on the FEDS referral and use those indicators as a starting point for the FEDS investigation.
- Investigative tools that can be used by an investigator include but are not limited to documentary evidence (earnings statements, recent receipts, lease agreements, etc.) computer matches (RFI matches, comparing child care assistance application data with current or recent Temporary Assistance/SNAP application and cases data) public records, third-party vendor queries (The Work Number, CLEAR, etc.), collateral contacts social media searches, and telephone conferences. In-person interview and home visits are conducted only when necessary.
- The investigative timeframe will be within 30 days of receipt of the FEDS referral.
- The FEDS investigator will respond to the referring Child Care Assistance Unit worker with a written summary of investigative findings. This summary will conclude with a recommendation based on information gathered and client compliance during the investigative timeframe. The FEDS investigator will walk the summary of investigative findings to the referring Child Care Assistance Unit worker.

3. List all local child care front end detection forms.

- FEDS referral

II. Program Integrity

1. In accordance with 18 NYCRR §415.4(l)(3), each social services district must submit a description of the sampling methodology used to determine which providers of child care assistance services will be reviewed for the purpose of comparing the child care provider's attendance forms for children receiving CCAP services with any Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) inspection forms to verify that child care was actually provided on the days listed on the attendance forms.

Describe the sampling methodology and review process:

- *Moving forward, the Compliance Unit will review all providers who received over \$100,000 in subsidy payments during the previous calendar year, all daycares that are new to receiving a subsidy payment, and a sample of providers who received less than \$100,000 in subsidy payments, to total a minimum of 50 reviews per year.*

2. In accordance with 18 NYCRR §415.4(l)(2), each social services district must establish a sampling methodology used to determine which cases will require verification of a recipient's continued need for child

care, including, as applicable, verification of participation in employment, education, or other required activities within the authorized eligibility period.

Please note: The district cannot use criteria such as race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, religious creed, political belief or any other factors prohibited by law as indicators in drawing the sample.

Describe the sampling methodology and review process:

- *Every month the Special Investigations Unit will randomly select a minimum of two open child care cases for a review of eligibility to evaluate the household's continued need and eligibility for childcare during the authorization period. Once a case has been randomly selected, the Special Investigations Unit will then review that case and verify current case data. Investigative tools used include but are not limited to documentary evidence, public records, social media searches, telephone conferences, etc.*

III. Inspections of Child Care Provider Records and Premises

The district may choose to make announced or unannounced inspections of the records and premises of any provider / program that provides child care to children in receipt of child care assistance to determine if the child care provider is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations and any additional requirements imposed on such a provider by the social services district per 18 NYCRR §415.4.

The district has the right to make inspections of any child care provider prior to children in receipt of child care assistance receiving care, including care in a home, to determine if the child care provider is in compliance with applicable laws and regulations and any additional requirements imposed on such a provider by the district.

The district must report violations of regulations as follows:

- Violations by a licensed or registered child care provider must be reported to the applicable Office of Children and Families (OCFS) Regional Office.
- Violations or areas of non-compliance by an enrolled or enrolling legally exempt child care provider must be reported to the applicable Enrollment Agency.

Does the district choose to make inspections of such child care providers / programs?

- Yes No

Select the organization that will be responsible for conducting inspections:

- Local social services staff

Provide the name of the unit and contact person:

Compliance Unit - Mathew Paul

- Contracted agency

The following types of child care providers / programs in receipt of child care assistance payments are subject to this requirement:

Legally Exempt Child Care

- In-Home
- Family Child Care
- Group programs

Licensed or Registered Child Care

- Family Day Care
 - Registered School-Age Child Care
 - Group Family Day Care
 - Day Care Centers
 - Small Day Care Centers
-

Non-Residential Domestic Violence Services

In accordance with the Domestic Violence Prevention Act and subsequent budget provisions, **districts are required to provide non-residential services to victims of domestic violence, either directly or through a purchase of service agreement.** Whether provided directly or through a purchase of service, **each program** must be approved through the Child and Family Services Plan process.

Non-residential domestic violence programs **must** comply with 18 NYCRR Part 462.

Please provide the information required below.

Indicate Service Provision

Please check one.

- The district will provide the non-residential domestic violence services directly.
- The district has a contract with one or more non-profit organizations to provide the non-residential domestic violence services.

County Contact Person

County Contact Person:

Melissa Chappell

Phone Number:

845 364-3078

E-Mail address:

melissa.chappell@dfa.state.ny.us

Program Closure

Agency / Program Name:

Date Closed:

Reason for Closing:

(e.g., Dissolution of contract between district and non-profit organization, non-profit closed, etc.)

Program Information

Agency Name:

Center for Safety & Change, Inc.

Program Name (if different):

DV Non-Residential Services Program

Business Address:

9 Johnsons Lane
New City, NY 10956

Contact Person:

Melissa Place

Telephone Number:

845-634-3391

Email Address:

mplace@centersc.org

If there is a purchase of service agreement/contract, please provide the following:

Effective Date:

|

End Date:

|

Funding Sources:

|

Districts are reminded that the purchase of service agreement / contract they have with a non-profit organization providing non-residential services for victims of domestic violence must comply with the provisions in 18 NYCRR Part 405 and 462.3(d):

By checking this box, the district attests that non-residential services for victims of domestic violence:

- Will be provided to **any victim of domestic violence** as defined in 18 NYCRR Part 462.2(e).
- Will be on a group eligibility basis. **Individual application for services will not be required.** A victim need only provide oral and/or documentary information to establish they are victim of domestic violence as defined in 18 NYCRR Part 462.2(e).
- Will be **voluntary** for the domestic violence victim and provided in a **trauma-informed, survivor-centered, and culturally responsive manner.**
- Will be **provided to all victims of domestic violence** regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, marital status,

disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, alien or non-qualified alien, or limited English proficiency.

- Will be **available regardless of the victim's ability to pay** and / or eligibility for public assistance and care. And that **the district cannot mandate a victim to apply for public assistance.**
- Will be available in the **common language(s) of the community** being served.

Program Requirements

This program is intended to be a separate and distinct program specializing in services for victims of domestic violence. 70% of the clientele served must consist of victims of domestic violence and their children.

All questions must be answered

Describe how the program is separate and distinct and how it fits into the overall agency?

The DV Non-Residential Services Program was developed specifically to serve domestic violence victims who did not require or desire residential placement, and the program has been the core of Center's services for the over three decades. DV Non-Residential services include, but are not limited to: a 24/7 crisis hotline, individual and group counseling, support and empowerment groups, advocacy and accompaniment services, safety planning, legal services and court assistance, information and referral services, community outreach and education, children's services and school advocacy, transportation and translation services, and education programs for professionals, for teens, and for others. Most non-residential services are provided at one of eleven office locations in Rockland County; some services for domestic violence victims with special circumstances may be provided at other sites. The DV Non-Residential Services program is a separate and distinct program designed specifically for domestic violence victims who do not require or desire residential placement.

Describe the eligibility criteria for clients utilizing the services of the non-residential domestic violence program?

A person is deemed eligible for non-residential victim services when she or he provides oral and/or documentary information to establish such eligibility, as defined by 18 NYCRR Part 462.2(d), regardless of the person's income or immigration status. Once information is provided which establishes that the person is a victim of domestic violence or intimate partner violence, the person is not required to provide any additional information for the purposes of determining eligibility for services. The Center's office is fully handicapped accessible and has female, male, and gender neutral restrooms. Limited English and non-English-speaking clients are accommodated by staff who speak a variety of languages including, but not limited to, Spanish, Creole, Hebrew, Yiddish, Russian, Hindi, Urdu, Marathi, and Sindhi.

Describe how special needs populations, including non-English speakers, disabled, and hearing impaired, are accommodated?

The Center employs staff who speak a variety of languages, including Spanish, French/Creole, Hebrew, Hindi, Urdu, Marathi, Gujarati, Sindhi, and Russian. The Center also has access to a 24/7 Language Line that provides interpretation for over 200 languages and dialects. Should a client require additional language services, such as ASL, the Center would contact BRiDGES, community-based, peer-driven, cross-disability, not-for-profit organization dedicated to advocacy and leadership on behalf of people with disabilities, for assistance. Should a staff member for BRiDGES be utilized, he or she would sign the Center's confidentiality pledge and adhere to the Center's policy on client confidentiality.

Explain how the location(s) where the non-residential domestic violence services are provided ensures the safety and confidentiality of the persons receiving services and their identities.

DO NOT PROVIDE LOCATION ADDRESS(ES)

The Center for Safety & Change's main office is located in New City, NY; however, the agency also operates ten satellite office locations. The Center's ability to offer and provide services at various locations throughout the county reduces the barrier transportation often poses to victims and enables victims to receive services in their own communities. The Center utilizes a secure, online database system, Apricot, to document all client data. Apricot allows staff to record initial intakes, demographic data, referrals, services provided, and anecdotal information for each client and enables the production of high quality reports regarding service outcomes

Provide an estimate of the number of victims of domestic violence the program will serve, and a description of the indicators used to determine the estimate.

The Center anticipates it will serve 1,200 victims under this project. The Center utilizes a secure, online database system, Apricot, to record initial intakes, demographic data, referrals, services provided, and anecdotal information for each client. Apricot produces high quality reports regarding service outcomes while eliminating redundancy.

Core Services Chart

(see 18 NYCRR Part 462.4(a) for description of each core service)

Core Service	Days Provided	Hours Provided	Service Delivery Method	Location of Service Provided	Position Providing Service
Telephone Hotline Assistance	7 days/week	24hrs/day	Advocacy and empowerment model	trained volunteers occasionally answer the hotline when all Center staff are otherwise occupied. Calls answered after business hours and on weekends and holidays are transferred via a call-forwarding system to the Center Emergency Residential Shelter.	All advocates, hotline receptionist, and Director of Operations.
Information and Referral	7 days/week	24hrs/day	Advocacy and empowerment model	All office locations and off site locations, when needed.	All staff
Advocacy	5 days/week	8+hours/day	Advocacy and empowerment model	All office locations and off site locations, when needed.	All staff
Counseling	5 days/week	8+hours/day	Advocacy and empowerment model	All office locations and off site locations, when needed.	All staff are able to provide supportive counseling when needed.

Community Education and Outreach	5 days/week	8+hours/day	Advocacy and empowerment model	All office locations and off site locations, when needed.	Community Educator, Director of Training, Education & Social Change, Chief Legal Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Program Officer, Chief Executive Officer, Deputy Program Director, Coordinators, and other staff.
Language Access Services	7 days/week	24hrs/day	Advocacy and empowerment model	All office locations and off site locations, when needed.	All staff, as needed.

All core services listed are a requirement listed in 18 NYCRR 462.4(a) and must be provided directly by the program in a timely manner as defined in the regulation.

Optional Services Chart

(see 18 NYCRR Part 462.4(b) for description of optional services)

Core Service	Days Provided	Hours Provided	Service Delivery Method	Location of Service Provided	Position Providing Service
Children's Services	5 days/week	8+hours/day	Advocacy and empowerment model	All office locations and off site locations, when needed.	Advocates, Counselors, Therapists, Deputy Program Officer, and other staff, as needed.
Support Groups	4 days/week	3+ hrs/day	Advocacy and empowerment model		Advocates and counselors.
Transportation	5 days/week	8+hours/day	Advocacy and empowerment model	All office locations and off site locations, when needed.	All staff

Optional services, as per 18 NYCRR Part 462.4(b), are services that the district has opted to include in its agreement / contract with the non-profit organization in addition to the core services above.

Staffing Requirements of the non-residential domestic violence program

Each program must employ **both** a qualified program director **and** a sufficient number of staff who are

Rockland County: Non-Residential Domestic Violence Services

responsible for providing core and optional services. Please refer to 18 NYCRR Part 462.5(b) for more information.

List each **position** including the **title, responsibilities, and qualifications for that position**.*

* Do **not** give current program staff members' names or qualifications.

Staffing Chart

Position Title	Responsibilities of Position	Qualifications of Position
Chief Legal Officer	Provides oversight of all legal services provided by agency attorneys, legal advocates, and paralegals. Represents victims of crime in family law and immigration matters. Seeks out and provides guidance to the agency on other legal matters.	J.D. with 5+ years of experience working with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and/or crime in a multidisciplinary setting preferred.
Legal Advocates	Serve as liaisons to all Rockland County DV courts and at stakeholder meetings; ensure proper data collection; provide supportive counseling, crisis intervention, crime victims compensation assistance, transportation, I&Rs; accompaniment and advocacy with DSS, court, police and probation; answer hotline calls; and develop safety plans. In addition, legal advocates provide accompaniment and assistance to clients in IDV court, attend all sessions of IDV court to track client outcomes, and assist attorneys in all aspects of legal services including, but not limited to, Apricot, maintain court documents, and schedule appointments.	Bachelor’s degree in Counseling, Psychology, Social Work, Criminal Justice, Sociology or related field a plus but not required, or 3+ years of experience within the criminal justice system/working with victims of crime in a multidisciplinary setting or related field preferred.
Paralegals	Under attorney supervision, conduct outreach, provide intakes, submit Freedom of Information Act Requests, and FBI background checks. Each paralegal/DOJ Rep will carry an affirmative application caseload that includes U Visas, VAWA Self-Petitions, Battered Spouse Waivers, Work Authorizations and T Visas. DOJ Reps/Paralegals will also provide trial support in immigration court and wage theft cases. Paralegals will provide accompaniment to Info Pass, Enforcement and Removal and Biometrics appointments.	Paralegal Certificate/degree and/or bachelor’s degree in Counseling, Psychology, Social Work, Criminal Justice, Sociology or related field a plus but not required, or 3+ years of experience within the criminal justice system/working with victims of crime in a multidisciplinary setting or related field preferred.
Volunteer Coordinator	Responsible for all aspects of volunteer resources including, but not limited to, recruiting & supervising volunteers, providing presentations, attend meetings to collaborate and share information within the community that will increase the number of volunteers within the agency.	Bachelors Degree in Communications or related field, and 3+ years of experience working in the domestic violence or crime victim field.

Office Manager	Primary responsibility is to ensure the smooth operation of the Center offices and coordination between all Center sites. Duties include, but are not limited to managing all technological needs and assessments in order to enable advocates to work efficiently remotely, managing agency correspondence, agency files, ordering supplies, answering hotlines and screening client calls, referring clients to appropriate staff, entering client information into Apricot, greeting clients and providing assistance to clients who utilize the Women's Center. She also answers hotlines and provides advocacy and accompaniment, as needed.	Experience working in the Human Services, domestic violence or crime victims field. Bachelor's Degree in Human Services or related field, or 3+ years of experience working in the domestic violence or human services field.
Hotline Receptionists	Answer hotlines and screen victim calls, refer victims to appropriate staff, enter client information into the Center's database, and assist Office Manager, as needed	Experience working in the Human Services, domestic violence or crime victims field.
Counselors	Provide supportive counseling services, accompaniment, I&Rs, crisis intervention, crime victims compensation assistance, transportation, translation, advocacy with schools, DSS, courts, police and probation; answer hotline calls; and develop safety plans.	Bachelors Degree in Human Services or related field, or experience working in the domestic violence or crime victim field.
Therapists	Provide therapeutic counseling services, accompaniment, I&Rs, crisis intervention, crime victims compensation assistance, transportation, translation, advocacy with schools, DSS, court, police and probation; answer hotline calls; and develop safety plans.	Must have a Master's Degree in Social Work, Counseling, or Psychology with 2+ years of clinical experience and valid NYS licensure.
Director of Children, Youth and Counseling Services	Responsible for all aspects of service delivery for child and youth victims of child abuse, dating violence, DV, and/or sexual abuse and their families. Provides advocacy, accompaniment, supportive counseling, crisis intervention, transportation, information and referrals; supervises all counselors and advocates who provide services to children and youth; develops safety plans; attends meetings to collaborate and share information within the community; and prepares reports, as necessary.	Master of Social Work (MSW), and 4+ years of experience working in the domestic violence or human services field and 1+ years of experience in a supervisory position.
Director Advocacy and Supportive Services	Responsible for all aspects of service delivery for victims of DV and their families. Provides advocacy, accompaniment, supportive counseling, crisis intervention, transportation, information and referrals; supervises all counselors and advocates who provide services to children and youth; develops safety plans; attends meetings to collaborate and share information within the community; and prepares reports, as necessary.	Bachelors Degree in Human Services or related field, and 5+ years of experience working in the domestic violence or crime victim field.

Chief Executive Officer	Responsible all aspects of the agency management and supervision including services, programs, fiscal, facilities, personnel, fundraising, and administration, and provides leadership in coordinated community action to address DV, SA, child abuse, human trafficking and other crimes. Provides supportive counseling and crisis intervention; answers hotline calls; provides I&Rs; develops safety plans; provides crime victims compensation assistance, translation, advocacy with systems such as, DSS, court, police and probation; and provides case consults to staff regarding client cases.	Bachelors Degree in Human Services or related field, and 7+ years of experience working in the domestic violence or crime victim field.
Director of Community Engagement & Social Change	Responsible for all aspects of educational programs which includes teens, faculty and staff. Provides program presentations to program design, implementation, staff trainings and supervision, and evaluation, curriculum development and grant reporting. Attend meetings to collaborate and share information within the community.	Bachelors Degree in Education or related field, and 3+ years of experience working in the domestic violence or crime victim field.
Attorneys	Provide legal advice and options, safety planning, and representation to victims on issues concerning family, immigration laws, contract law, public benefits law, and criminal law.	.D. with 2+ years of experience working with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and/or crime in a multidisciplinary setting preferred.
Coordinator of Safe Parent/Safe Kids	Works directly and indirectly with non-offending parents and their children through the Safe Parent/Safe Kids Program. The Coordinator spends time at the Child Protective Services office each week, working closely with CPS staff to address DV and child abuse as distinct yet interrelated problems and to facilitate survivor empowerment, self-sufficiency, and independence. The Coordinator provides advocacy, accompaniment, supportive counseling, crisis intervention, transportation, information and referrals, and develops safety plans.	Experience working in the Human Services, domestic violence or crime victims field. Bachelor's Degree in Human Services or related field, or 3+ years of experience working in the domestic violence or human services field.
Director of Grants & Compliance	Provides support and oversight of completion and submission of required progress reports in a timely manner, monitors program performance and ensures goals and objectives are being met, and ensures the Center is in compliance with all requirements of the contract.	Bachelors degree in public relations, communications, English, fundraising, or journalism. Experience with federal, state, and local compliance requirements for grant-funded programs, policies and procedures related to grants management.
Finance Controller	Monitors and maintains records of grant expenditures and budget, monitors fiscal compliance, and prepares and submits fiscal reports in a timely manner.	Bachelor's degree in business administration, finance, economics, statistics or accounting.

Data Manager	Oversees the Center's existing database program, Apricot; Creates reports to extract required information in contracts; monitors the reports to ensure they are functioning correctly, and makes adjustments to reports, as needed.	Experience collecting and tabulating data, proficiency in Apricot.
Coord. Of Services & Outreach (Latine, Asiain, Black, LGBTQ, & Jewish)	Identifies and conducts specific outreach efforts to the specific communities they represent, making these communities aware of the Center's services and helps guide victims toward appropriate services at the agency. Provides guidance to the Center's staff about cultural considerations and best approaches when working with victims from specific communities. Discusses, reviews and approves the Center's policies and strategies and ensures they are entirely inclusive; assists with the hiring of new staff to ensure openness to cultural learning. Provides supportive counseling and crisis intervention; answers hotline calls; provides information & referrals; provides accompaniment and advocacy with DSS, Family & Criminal Court, police and probation; develops safety plans; provides crime victims compensation assistance, transportation, etc. as needed.	Bachelors Degree in Human Services or related field, or experience working in the domestic violence or crime victim field. Candidates must identify as a member of the community they represent and must be proficient in speaking, reading and writing English and other languages their community utilizes.
Chief Operating Officer	Provides supervision for the agency's domestic violence staff. Provides direct services. Provides case consults to staff regarding client cases. Provides leadership in coordinated community action to address DV, sexual assault, child abuse, human trafficking and other crimes.	Bachelors Degree in Human Services or related field, and 5+ years of experience working in the domestic violence or crime victim field.
Chief Program Officer	Provides supervision for the agency's outreach programs. Provides supervision and case consults. Provides leadership in coordinated community action to address violence in Rockland.	Bachelors Degree in Human Services or related field, and 5+ years of experience working in the domestic violence or crime victim field.
Deputy Program Officer	Oversees and leads the agency's trauma-based therapeutic and support services for adult and youth victims/survivors of crime; provides therapeutic services adult and child victims/survivors of DV, SA, human trafficking, and other crimes; provides referrals to clients for additional needs within and outside of the agency. provides direct supervision and support to the Director of Children and Youth Services and the Sr. Director of Counseling Services.	Bachelors Degree in Human Services or related field, and 5+ years of experience working in the domestic violence or crime victim field.
Advocates	Provide crisis intervention and safety planning; develop safety plans; answer hotline calls; provide supportive counseling, information & referrals (I&Rs), crime victims compensation assistance, transportation, translation, and accompaniment and advocacy with other agencies such as DSS, court, police and probation, as needed.	Bachelor's degree in Counseling, Psychology, Social Work, Criminal Justice, Sociology or related field a plus but not required, or 3+ years of experience within the criminal justice system/working with victims of crime in a multidisciplinary

setting or related field preferred.

T and U Visa Reporting for 2023

18-OCFS-LCM-15, dated August 14, 2018, provided "Protocols for Signing Forms for Non-Immigrant Clients Applying for U Visas and T Visas" This LCM lays out the record keeping and reporting requirements:

9. RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

LDSSs must maintain information on the number of requests received for U visa certifications and T visa endorsements, including the number of requests granted for each type of visa. LDSSs are required to submit this information to OCFS on an annual basis as part of the county Child and Family Services Annual Plan update process.

Please provide the information requested below:

1. In 2023, how many T visa applications were received?

| 0

2. In 2023, how many T visa certifications were issued?

| 0

3. In 2023, how many U visa applications were received?

| 18

4. In 2023, how many U visa certifications were issued?

| 13

Title XX Program Services Matrix

The Title XX Matrix is updated in WMS by using the **Title XX Menu**. This matrix is the basis for the authorization/payment of Title XX services and for child care assistance funded under the New York State Child Care Block Grant.

Districts are required to enter Program Matrix information into the Welfare Management System (WMS) at the beginning of each 5-year County Plan Cycle. The State will issue a General Information System Notice (GIS) when the Matrix is open and available for update. Following the issuance of the GIS, each district must update the WMS Title XX Matrix whether or not changes have been made, and submit it to the state for review. Additionally, when the LDSS updates the matrix, if there is a change from the last update, please note that below.

If you have questions about how to update the Matrix, please email ocfs.sm.wms@ocfs.ny.gov.

The following resources are available to assist with updating the Title XX Matrix in WMS:

- [A Computer Based Training \(CBT\)](#) with step by step instructions on how to complete the Appendix F Title XX Program Services Matrix.
- [Instructions to complete the Program Matrix](#).
- [Full WMS manual](#).

Are there changes to the services your county intends to provide during the 2024 Child and Family Services Planning cycle?

- Yes
- No

List of Data Sources

The list below contains common data sources often used in county planning. Please check all sources your county used in developing this plan. The list is not all-inclusive; if you have other sources of data, please indicate those as well.

Data Source	Child Protective Services	Child Preventive Services	Foster Care Maintenance Services	Adoption Services	Youth & Young Adult	Adult Services
KWIC (Kid's Well-being Indicators Clearinghouse)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
U.S. Census Data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Child Trends Data Bank	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PRISMS (Prevention Risk Indicator/Services Monitoring System (OASAS))	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NYS Department of Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Domestic Violence Information System	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD data (Point In Time (PIT), Annual Homelessness Assessment Report to Congress, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disproportionate Minority Representation Dashboard (DRM) Dashboard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FFPSA Foster Home Data Packet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NYS OCFS Data						
MAPS (Monitoring and Analysis Profiles)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
QYDS (Quality Youth Development System)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OCFS Data Warehouse Reports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Child and Family Services Plan Child Level Data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OCFS Race/Ethnicity Disparity Data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

OCFS Preventive Services Data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OCFS Bright Spots Data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OCFS Family First Data Packets (Congregate Care Bubble Charts and Foster Home Data Packets)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OCFS Juvenile Detention Automated System (JDAS)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OCFS Detention Risk Assessment Instrument System (DRAIS)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OCFS Agency Online Profile (OAOP)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
YASI data (Youth Assessment & Screening Instrument)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safe Harbour: NY program data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adult Services Automation Project (ASAP.Net)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Adult Protective Services (APS.Net)—NYC only	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local Surveys						
County Search Institute Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communities That Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TAP Survey	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
United Way (Compass Survey or other)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other						
Other Data Sources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Specify Any Other Data Sources:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	ASAP Adult Services Automation Project Local developed Database

								tracking programs.
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Required Interagency Consultations

18 NYCRR 407.5(g)(3) As required by sections 423(3)(a) and 473(2)(a) of the Social Services Law, discussions and meetings with public, private and voluntary organizations which are involved in adult and family and children's services must be held to acquire their advice and consultation in the development of the plan. At a minimum, such organizations must include: health and mental health agencies; aging, legal and law enforcement agencies; societies for the prevention of cruelty to children; family court judges; youth bureaus or boards; and departments of probation.

Please list below all agencies that participated in the development of this section of the plan.

Agency Type	Child Protective Services	Child Preventive Services	Foster Care Maintenance Services	Adoption Services	Youth and Young Adult Services	Adult Services
Health ⁴	Local Early Intervention Coordinating Council (LEICC)	Local Early Intervention Coordinating Council (LEICC)	Local Early Intervention Coordinating Council (LEICC)	Local Early Intervention Coordinating Council (LEICC)		Rockland County Health Department
Mental Health ⁴	Rockland County Department of Mental Health Dr. Hoerter	Child and Adolescent Workgroup - Danielle Satow	Child and Adolescent Workgroup - Danielle Satow	Child and Adolescent Workgroup - Danielle Satow		Community Service Board (Mental Health)
Youth Bureau ³	Youth Bureau - Phyllis Morena	Youth Bureau - Phyllis Morena	Youth Bureau - Phyllis Morena	Youth Bureau - Phyllis Morena		
Department of Probation ³	Rockland County Department of Probation Joe DiPaulo	Rockland County Department of Probation	Rockland County Department of Probation	Rockland County Department of Probation		
Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children ¹						
Law Enforcement ^{1,2,4}	Rockland County Sheriff's Department	Rockland County Sheriff's Department	Rockland County Sheriff's Department	Rockland County Sheriff's Department		Rockland County Police Chiefs Association
Aging ⁴						Rockland County Office for the Aging
Legal ^{1,4}	Rockland County Attorney's Office	Rockland County Attorney's Office	Rockland County Attorney's Office	Rockland County Attorney's Office		County Attorney's office (DSS Legal)

Family Court (judge or designee) ¹	Rockland Child Welfare Court Improvement Project Tracey Lyons	Rockland Child Welfare Court Improvement Project - Tracy Lyons	Rockland Child Welfare Court Improvement Project - Tracy Lyons	Rockland Child Welfare Court Improvement Project - Tracy Lyons		
Local Advisory Council ^{1,2,3}	Citizens Advisory Council	Citizens Advisory Council	Citizens Advisory Council	Citizens Advisory Council		
Other Relevant Government Agencies						
Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies	Child Care Resources of Rockland - Keshia Allen	Child Care Resources of Rockland	Child Care Resources of Rockland			
RHYA Providers ³	Childrens Village Sanctuary	Childrens Village Sanctuary	Childrens Village Sanctuary	Childrens Village Sanctuary		
Other Public / Private / Voluntary Agencies ^{1,4}	Haverstraw Center	Haverstraw Center	Haverstraw Center	Haverstraw Center		
Other (#1)						
Other (#2)						

1. Must be consulted when developing the Child Protective Services section of the Plan.
2. Must be consulted when developing the Foster Child Maintenance and Services section of the plan.
3. Must be consulted when developing the Youth and Young Adult Services section of the plan
4. Must be consulted when developing Adult Services section of the Plan.