



Monroe County Legislature

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No. <u>210173</u>
Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature Of Monroe County
Committee Assignment
HUMAN SERVICES -L
WAYS & MEANS

To The Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 County Office Building
Rochester, New York 14614

Subject: Amend the 2021 Operating Budget to Transfer Appropriations from the Legislature's Community Contingency Fund to the Department of Human Services – Youth Bureau for the Crisis Nursery of Greater Rochester

Honorable Legislators:

The Crisis Nursery of Greater Rochester delivers free, temporary childcare during family emergencies to many families in our community each year. These emergencies include unexpected illness, motor vehicle accidents, unemployment, mental health episodes, unexpected death, domestic violence, legal issues, homelessness and/or unstable/unsafe housing. In addition to childcare at no cost, families and caregivers have access to a resource navigator, who can provide referrals to community resources that can deliver permanent assistance. The Crisis Nursery cares for more than 2,000 babies and children annually.

Due to the on-going pandemic, the need for services has greatly increased. Families are experiencing additional stress and trauma and are reaching out for help. The nature of a crisis means it is unplanned and the need is immediate. The children, all too often, experience anxiety and trauma because of the situation their family is experiencing.

Experienced and consistent staffing is essential to providing the best care for the children and families. These factors are vital to providing a safe and supportive space. Critical staffing means that the largest budget cost for the Crisis Nursery is for quality direct service staff. Providing nutritious food and other supplies necessary for children during their time at the Nursery is another big budget item. This proposal requests \$70,000 in total funding to support a permanent part-time position at each of the two locations, at \$35,000 each, to help fill the gaps for coverage.

The Crisis Nursery includes two facilities; one on the west side of the City of Rochester on Genesee Park Blvd and at Owen's House, located in the northeast quadrant of Rochester on

Rosewood Terrace. Both locations are within two miles of a major health care medical center. Both Crisis Nursery locations are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and 365 days a year and are staffed by The Center for Youth and volunteers.

This Honorable Body and the administration have a long history of collaboration with The Center for Youth and the Crisis Nursery through the Monroe County Youth Bureau. This proposal would utilize funds from the Legislature's Community Contingency Fund to fund the salary for one (1) part-time position at Crisis Nursery-Genesee Park Blvd, and one (1) part-time position at Crisis Nursery-Owen's House, for a total of \$70,000 or \$35,000 for each location.

The specific legislative action required is:

Amend the 2021 operating budget to transfer \$70,000 from the Legislature, general fund 9001, funds center 1001020000, Community Contingency Fund to the Department of Human Services – Administrative Services, Youth Bureau, general fund 9001, funds center 5601010000 for the purpose of funding two (2) part-time positions; one at Crisis Nursery-Genesee Park Blvd. and one at Crisis Nursery-Owen's House.

The legislative action requested in this referral is not an "Action," as that term is defined in 6 NYCRR § 617.2(b), and is not subject to review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

No additional net County support is required in the current Monroe County Budget.

Respectfully submitted,



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