



# COUNTY OF ERIE

**MARK C. POLONCARZ**

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

FILED SEP 29 '25 4:33

September 19, 2025

Erie County Legislature  
92 Franklin Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Buffalo, New York 14202

**RE: Acceptance of Grant Award from New York State Department of  
Criminal Justice Services**

Dear Honorable Members:

Please find enclosed a resolution from the Department of Probation seeking legislative authorization of a Grant Award from the New York State Department of Criminal Justice Services to work with an academic partner, Niagara University, to evaluate the Probation GIVE Model.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Commissioner Richard Robillard. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mark Poloncarz".

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.  
Erie County Executive

MCP/pd  
Enclosure

cc: Richard Robillard, Commissioner of Probation

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature  
**From:** Department of Probation  
**Re:** Acceptance of Grant Award from DCJS  
**Date:** September 19, 2025

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### **SUMMARY**

Since 2022, the Erie County Probation Department (ECPD) has implemented the "Probation GIVE Model" as set forth by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). The ECPD has adjusted and enhanced our practices and policies in response to the new model. On June 11, 2025, ECPD received a Grant Award Notice from DCJS to evaluate two of the components in the new model. Approval of the Grant Award will allow ECPD to partner with Niagara University to administer the evaluation. ECPD will act as a fiscal pass through to Niagara University to perform the evaluation process.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

ECPD will act as a fiscal pass through for our academic partner, Niagara University, to perform research and evaluation of two Probation GIVE Model components. There will be no cost to Erie County.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

ECPD will benefit in that we can restructure any program elements that appear less effective as well as enhance any components that seem more effective. This will allow our probation officers to streamline their efforts with offenders and will likely lead to better program outcomes. There were two researchers who responded to the DCJS Research Consortium broadcast of this research opportunity proposed by ECPD. A probation supervisor and officer interviewed and reviewed proposals from both of the applicants and Niagara University was selected.

### **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

ECPD will not be able to utilize the Grant Award from DCJS to evaluate components of the GIVE Model.

### **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

The County Executive and/or Deputy County Executive is hereby authorized to enter into contacts with DCJS and Niagara University to execute any and all appropriate documents as may be necessary for the approval of the Grant Award from DCJS in the amount of \$53,000.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:  
DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION

RE: Acceptance of Grant Award from New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services

WHEREAS, in mid-2022, the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) established the "Probation GIVE Model"; and

WHEREAS, this model was developed to prescribe consistent, evidence-based strategy for the investigation and supervision of individuals convicted of firearm offenses and sentenced to probation supervision; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Probation Department (ECPD) has adjusted and enhanced our practices by implementing new procedures and programming in response to the required "Probation GIVE Model"; and

WHEREAS, two of the core components of the "Probation GIVE Model" are Custom Notifications and Cognitive Behavioral Intervention; and

WHEREAS, the ECPD has established a partnership with DCJS and Niagara University to evaluate two of the core components; and

WHEREAS, the ECPD is seeking approval and acceptance of a Grant Award of \$53,000 to provide funding for services performed by our academic partner, Niagara University, with no additional costs to be incurred by Erie County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to enter into contract and accept \$53,000 from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) Research Consortium and be made available as a multi-year grant to the Department of Probation in Fund 281, Fund Center 1261020 as follows:

Department of Probation  
GIVE Research Award Grant  
126GIVERESEARCH2527  
6/15/25 - 9/30/27

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
409000	State Aid Revenues	<u>\$53,000</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$53,000</u>

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
516020	Professional Services	<u>\$53,000</u>

TOTAL

\$53,000

and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given for the Probation Department to act as a fiscal pass through of the Grant Award to the academic partner, Niagara University, who is performing the research and evaluation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given for the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to enter into contract with Niagara University for two Probation GIVE Model components evaluations in the amount of \$53,000, waiving the procedures in Section 26.08 of the Erie County Administrative Code; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to adjust grant appropriations and revenues in accordance with the final grantor funding levels or grantor authorized changes to award amounts, provided there are no changes to authorized personnel levels and county share amounts; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given for the Division of Budget and Management to make any technical adjustments necessary to effectuate this resolution as well as approve no-cost grant extensions without additional legislative approval; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature shall forward certified copies of this Resolution to the County Executive's Office; Comptroller's Office, Division of Budget and Management and the Erie County Probation Department.