



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

January 30, 2026

Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

**RE: Authorization to Accept Funding for Youth Justice Alternatives and
Diversion Programs**

Dear Honorable Members:

The Erie County Probation Department has been awarded \$824,648 from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice for Youth Justice Alternatives and Diversion Programs. This proposed resolution authorizes the Erie County Probation Department to accept funding from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for the Youth Justice Alternatives and Diversion Programs.

Should your honorable body require further information, I encourage you to contact the Erie County Probation Department. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Mark C. Poloncarz
Erie County Executive

Enclosure

cc: Richard B. Robillard, Commissioner of Probation

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Erie County Probation Department
Re: Authorization to Accept Funding for Youth Justice Alternatives and Diversion Programs
Date: January 30, 2026

SUMMARY

This proposed resolution authorizes the Erie County Probation Department to accept funding from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) for Youth Justice Alternatives and Diversion Programs. Funds have been awarded to Erie County Probation in an amount up to \$824,648.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Fringes on OT will need to be funded via county share for which there are sufficient funds in the 2026 county share grants and will be included in the ensuing years budget requests.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Erie County Probation Department has received this award to improve youth justice alternatives and diversion programs and services. This funding is intended to establish or expand programs and services for justice-system involved youth that effectively intervene in their lives to reduce criminal behavior and provide structured opportunities to promote positive development. These opportunities may include but are not limited to personal and professional skill-building, support to navigate and connect to education or employment, mentorship, trauma-informed therapies and other resources that help young people avoid further involvement in the justice system and help change their thinking and behavior.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Erie County Probation Department provides court-ordered monitoring, supervision, and services to adjudicated justice system involved youth and their families. Additionally, the department provides intervention services to youth during the pre-dispositional stages of Family Court proceedings and pending matters in the Youth Part of Erie Supreme Court. The department continually looks to implement new evidence-based programming and to increase usage of effective services. Social Services will be issuing shortly a RFP for these services.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

These important services could not be provided

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Erie County Probation Department will work with the Division of Budget and Management to setup this new grant.

**RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

RE: Authorization to Accept Funding for Youth Justice Alternatives and Diversion Programs

WHEREAS, the Erie County Probation Department is committed to providing the resources necessary to support youth justice alternatives and diversion programs; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (NYSDCJS) has awarded the Erie County Probation Department funds in the amount of \$824,648 to be used over a four-year period for Youth Justice Alternatives and Diversion Programs; and

WHEREAS, fringes on OT will need to be funded via county share for which there are sufficient funds in the 2026 county share grants and will be included in the ensuing years budget requests; and

WHEREAS, Social Services will be issuing and RPF for these services as well as a resolution will be submitted to reflect this new ID billing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to accept \$824,648 from New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services and be made available as a multi-year grant to Department of Probation in Fund 281, Funds Center 1261030 as follows:

Department of Probation
Youth Justice Alternatives and Diversion Programs
126YJADP2529
10/1/25 - 10/31/29

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
409000	State Aid Revenues	\$824,648
4799000	County Share Contributions	<u>\$ 44,364</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$869,012</u>

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
501000	Overtime	\$192,888
502000	Fringe Benefits	44,364
510000	Local Mileage Reimbursement	25,000
510200	Training and Education	20,000
516020	Professional Service, Contracts & Fees	6,984
516030	Maintenance Contracts	179,776
912000	ID Department of Social Services	<u>\$400,000</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$869,012</u>

and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given for the Division of Budget and Management to adjust grant appropriations and revenues including those required to comply with the grantor funding changes provided there are no changes to authorized personnel levels or county share amounts; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to amend contracts as necessary to implement any no-cost extension that may be permitted by the grantor; 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; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the County Executive's Office, Division of Budget and Management, Comptroller's Office, Department of Law and Department of Probation.