



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

July 3, 2026

Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street – Fourth Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

**RE: Authorization to Accept New York State Association of County Health
Officials (NYSACHO) Immunization Action Plan (IAP) Grant Award**

Dear Honorable Members:

The Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) is seeking authorization to accept an Immunization Action Plan (IAP) grant of \$20,000 provided by the New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO), for the purpose of closing childhood vaccination gaps in Western New York through a multi-county study to develop targeted childhood vaccination education strategies.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, please contact Commissioner of Health Gale Burstein. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

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

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/et
Enclosure

cc: Dr. Gale Burstein, Commissioner of Health

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Health
Re: Authorization to Accept New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO) Immunization Action Plan (IAP) mini-grant
Date: July 3, 2026

SUMMARY

The Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) is seeking authorization to accept a an Immunization Action Plan (IAP) grant of \$20,000 provided by the New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO), for the purpose of closing childhood vaccination gaps in Western New York through a multi-county study to develop targeted childhood vaccination education strategies. The joint project represents a multi-sector collaboration among four local health departments (Erie, Niagara, Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua), their trusted community partners, University at Buffalo (UB) School of Management faculty, and WNY Media House. Each health department brings established relationships with community-based organizations that serve families in priority ZIP codes, ensuring that recruitment and engagement efforts are grounded in trust and local relevance. UB faculty contribute expertise in research design, qualitative analysis, and consumer decision-making, strengthening the methodological rigor of the project and the translation of findings into effective communication strategies. WNY Media House contributes expertise in community-informed messaging development and marketing campaign development.

ECDOH seeks authorization to contract with Research Foundation for State University of New York for \$12,800 and WNY Media House for \$7,200 for marketing and media.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The award provides resources to support public health of communities in the area, including addressing vaccination gaps through community-informed, locally tailored strategies based on direct input from parents and caregivers in under-vaccinated areas.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Erie County would leave funding unclaimed and would not be able to provide additional resources to support this joint collaboration.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

ECDOH will work with Budget and Management to execute all parts of the resolution.

**RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

Re: Authorization to Accept New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO) Immunization Action Plan (IAP) Grant Award

WHEREAS, the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) regularly seeks opportunities to collaborate with other local health departments on projects that affect the public health of communities in the area. This project focuses on closing childhood vaccination gaps in Western New York through a multi-county study to develop targeted childhood vaccination education strategies; and

WHEREAS, ECDOH has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$20,000 from New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO); and

WHEREAS, ECDOH seeks authorization to contract with Research Foundation for State University of New York for \$12,800 and WNY Media House for \$7,200; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this resolution is to authorize the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to accept New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO)'s grant award to fund a multi-county study to develop targeted childhood vaccination education strategies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to accept New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO)'s grant award for childhood vaccination education strategies in the amount of \$20,000 and amend the Department of Health's Health Division (Fund 110, Funds Center 12700) 2026 Adopted General Fund Budget as follows:

Department of Health
Fund 110, Funds Center 12700

REVENUES

409000 State Aid Revenue
TOTAL

CHANGE

\$20,000
\$20,000

APPROPRIATIONS

516020 Professional Services, Contracts & Fees
517764 Research Foundation of SUNY
TOTAL

CHANGE

\$ 7,200
\$12,800
\$20,000

and be it further

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature authorizes the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to enter into contract with the Research Foundation for State University of New York for \$12,800 waiving Erie County Code Section 26.08; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature authorizes the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to enter into contract with WNY Media House for \$7,2000; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given for the Division of Budget and Management to implement any technical adjustments necessary to effectuate this resolution; 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, Department of Law, Department of Health and Division of Budget and Management.