August 18, 2021

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

Subject: Acceptance of a Grant from Health Research, Inc. for the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Reopening Schools Program

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body accept a grant from Health Research, Inc. in the amount of $15,913,290 for the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Reopening Schools Program for the period of July 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022.

The purpose of this grant is to enable local health departments to empower schools/districts in Monroe County to establish COVID-19 screening testing programs to support and maintain in person learning for K-12 level students (including public, private, BOCES, and charter schools). Program objectives include conducting a needs assessment for school testing and types of assistance needed (staffing, supplies, equipment, etc.). This is the first year the County will receive this grant.

The specific legislative actions required are:

1. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to accept a $15,913,290 grant from, and to execute a contract and any amendments thereto with, Health Research, Inc. for the Epidemiology and Laboratory Reopening Schools Program for the period of July 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022.

2. Amend the 2021 operating budget of the Department of Public Health by appropriating the sum of $15,913,290 into general fund 9300, funds center 5801090000, Public Health Preparedness.

3. Authorize the County Executive to appropriate any subsequent years of the grant award in accordance with the grant terms, to reappropriate any unencumbered balances during the grant period according to the grantor requirements, and to make any necessary funding modifications within grant guidelines to meet contractual commitments.
4. Should funding of this program be modified or terminated for any reason, the County Executive is hereby authorized to terminate or modify the program and, where applicable, to terminate or abolish some or all positions funded under such program. Any termination or abolition of positions shall be in accordance with New York State Civil Service Law and, when applicable, the terms of any labor agreement affecting such positions.

This action is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(26) ("routine or continuing agency administration and management, not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment") and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

This grant is 100% funded by Health Research, Inc. No additional net County support is required in the current Monroe County budget.

I recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Sincerely,

Adam J. Bello
Monroe County Executive

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