Dear County Partners, Program and Agency Directors:

OCFS deeply appreciates the work and commitment of you and your staff during this unprecedented response to the Coronavirus -- it is remarkable thanks to your steady leadership.

Thank you for joining our call today. As discussed, we recognize that there are likely to be new, unanticipated costs associated with your county’s/agency’s operations in caring for the runaway and homeless youth in our communities. Both the Federal Government and the Governor have declared states of emergency. We believe that additional federal resources may become available and we want to be fully prepared to provide costs associated with the pandemic. If you haven’t begun to do so already, I strongly urge you to maintain an accurate and separate accounting of all expenses related to this COVID-19 emergency.

We will share additional guidance and instruction as it becomes available.

OCFS program and finance staff are available if you need further assistance. Please feel free to reach out to me or the OCFS Budget Director Bryan Bagstad at Bryan.Bagstad2@ocfs.ny.gov with questions and concerns.

Thank you.

Madeline Hehir, MSW
Director, Bureau of Health & Well-Being
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