

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE  
Inter-office Memorandum

**DATE:** November 21, 2014

**TO:** Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services  
*Prepared by James Mathy, Administrator, Housing Division*

**SUBJECT:** Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to enter into 2015 purchase of service contracts for the Housing Division

**Issue**

Section 46.09 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances requires County Board approval for the purchase of human services from nongovernmental vendors. Per Section 46.09, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to enter into 2015 purchase of service (POS) contracts with community agencies for the Housing Division. Approval of the recommended contract allocations will allow the Housing Division to provide a broad range of emergency shelter and supportive housing services.

**Discussion**

Proposed 2015 Total Contract Allocation: \$3,347,516

The information that follows describes, by program area, the various services to be purchased, the amount of the agency's 2014 contract and the 2015 recommended contract amount:

*Emergency Shelter Care*

Seven contracts for emergency shelter care and related services are recommended for continuation. Traditionally, County funding has been provided to support the agency's general emergency shelter operations. Together these contracts assist agencies in providing emergency shelter to over 300 persons every night. They are as follows:

- The Cathedral Center

2014 Award:	\$217,997
2015 Recommended:	\$217,997

The Cathedral Center offers shelter to 65 women and families, as well as comprehensive medical services to assist residents in reaching the goal of independence.

- Community Advocates

2014 Award:                 \$26,777  
2015 Recommended:       \$26,777

Community Advocates meets the basic needs of 24 women and their children for food, shelter and clothing, models and teaches violence-free behaviors and options for managing conflict, encourages healthy bodies and minds and prepares women and children for their return to the community.

- Community Advocates – Family Support Center

2014 Award:                 \$79,378  
2015 Recommended:       \$79,378

The Community Advocates Family Support Center Emergency Shelter Program serves 450 homeless individuals and families annually. The Center also serves as an emergency shelter for families who have become homeless for reasons such as a domestic violence crisis, evictions or over-crowding. Community Advocates took over the Family Support Center from the Social Development Commission in 2011.

- Sojourner Family Peace Center

2014 Award:                 \$96,968  
2015 Recommended:       \$96,968

Funding is used to support operations of the Sojourner Truth House (STH). The mission is to provide shelter, safety, support, education and advocacy to break the cycle of violence. The Peace Center operates a 37-bed shelter with services for battered women and their children, along with a 24-hour Domestic Violence Hotline.

- Salvation Army

2014 Award:                 \$154,080  
2015 Recommended:       \$154,080

The Salvation Army operates a 24-hour emergency shelter for 120 single adults and families with children. All residents receive housing, meals, healthcare and case management services in an effort to end their homelessness and prevent future homelessness. Residents and case management work together to resolve conflicts, secure income, and secure appropriate permanent housing in the community.

- Hope House

2014 Award:                 \$33,186  
2015 Recommended:       \$33,186

Hope House is an emergency and transitional housing facility providing a safe, temporary refuge for 11 people needing a place to sleep. Hope House has evolved into a complete provider of services for homeless and low-income individuals. In addition to residential services, Hope House provides community outreach to individuals needing healthcare, food distribution, financial assistance and educational opportunities for adults and children.

- Guest House

2014 Award:                 \$83,134  
2015 Recommended:       \$83,134

The Guest House provides shelter for 70-80 adult men per evening. It is the largest publicly funded emergency shelter in Milwaukee. Guest House also focuses on education, training, case management and treatment aspects associated with eradicating homelessness.

*Peer Support Program-Supported Apartments*

- Our Space

2014 Award:                 \$ 97,154  
2015 Recommended:       \$ 97,154

This funding reflects the cost of peer specialists at the Supported Apartment Program. This program assists consumers in living independently, offering them the individual supports to promote independence and move them forward in their personal journey of recovery. There are currently 38 individuals in the Supported Apartment Program. These funds provide a peer support presence and involvement with the residents of the apartments.

*Supported Apartment Program*

- Transitional Living Services (TLS)

2014 Award:                 \$264,345  
2015 Recommended:       \$264,345

TLS operates supported apartments at three different locations in the County. Main Street Apartments provides housing for 16 individuals, Oklahoma Apartments has a capacity of 12 individuals and Fardale Apartments serves 38 individuals. These apartments provide the needed support for individuals to live semi-independently. Individuals residing in supported apartments typically have impairment in several areas of daily functioning. The supported apart-

ments are considered transitional so the client and their treatment team will identify criteria that align with discharge goals that are contained in their service plan.

*Permanent Supportive Housing Development Support Services*

- Transitional Living Services (TLS) – United House

2014 Award:                 \$110,000  
2015 Recommended:       \$110,000

Transitional Living Services is being recommended for funding for the 24-unit supportive housing development known as United House, located at 2500 W. Center St. Cardinal Capital is the developer of United House and manages the property. These funds will allow TLS to provide housing support services on-site.

- Our Space –Highland Commons

2014 Award:                 \$140,000  
2015 Recommended:       \$140,000

Our Space provides on-site housing support services at Highland Commons, a 50 unit permanent supportive housing development in West Allis.

- Our Space, Inc.

2014 Award:                 \$ 266,529  
2015 Recommended:       \$ 266,529

Our Space provides on-site housing supportive services at Empowerment Village-National, Empowerment Village-Lincoln, and Farwell Studios. These three permanent supportive housing developments consist of 84 units.

- Guest House, Inc.

2014 Award:                 \$ 49,000  
2015 Recommended:       \$ 49,000

Guest House, Inc. provides on-site housing support services at Prairie Apartments, a joint supportive housing development with Heartland Housing, which opened in 2009. This housing development consists of 24 units.

- Mercy Housing Lakefront

2014 Award:                 \$ 97,142  
2015 Recommended:       \$ 97,142

This contract provides for on-site supportive services for Mercy Housing residents through a partnership with Hope House of Milwaukee, Mercy Housing Lakefront, and the developer and manager of the Johnston Center Residences supportive housing development. Johnston Center provides 89 units of supportive housing for those who are homeless or at risk of being homeless.

- Guest House Inc.

2014 Award:                 \$ 400,000  
2015 Recommended:       \$ 400,000

Guest House, Inc. operates a 40-unit, scattered-site permanent housing model for 40 homeless or at risk of being homeless individuals. This contract covers housing services and rental assistance.

- Milwaukee Center For Independence

2014 Award:                 \$ 570,000  
2015 Recommended:       \$ 570,000

MCFI operates a 27-unit, intensive housing model for 27 homeless or at risk of being homeless individuals. The goal of this program is to move individuals into their own independent apartment model.

- Wisconsin Community Services.

2015 Recommended:       \$ 300,000

Wisconsin Community Services is partnering with Cardinal Capital Management to provide housing support services in the harm reduction housing model created by the Housing Division. This will fund services for individuals who are chronically homeless and due to issues such as substance abuse, have not been successfully housed at other models. The goal of this development is to decrease the use of expensive public services such as detox, emergency room visits, and police time.

*Shelter Plus Care Supportive Services*

- Community Advocates

2014 Award:                 \$ 130,913  
2015 Recommended:       \$ 130,913

Guest House, Inc.

2014 Award:               \$ 130,913  
2015 Recommended:     \$ 130,913

Community Advocates and Guest House provide homeless case management services for individuals enrolled in Milwaukee County's Shelter Plus Care program. Milwaukee County receives rental assistance from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It is a HUD requirement that Milwaukee County ensures that clients receive permanent case management in Shelter Plus Care.

- Dry Hootch

2014 Award:               \$ 100,000  
2015 Recommended:     \$ 100,000

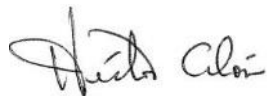
Dry Hootch provides homeless case management services for veterans enrolled in Milwaukee County's Shelter Plus Care program. Milwaukee County receives rental assistance from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It is a HUD requirement that Milwaukee County ensures that clients receive permanent case management in Shelter Plus Care. This contract also covers homeless prevention services.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, or his designee, to enter into purchase of service contracts with agencies as described above and enumerated in the resolution accompanying this Board report.

**Fiscal Effect**

The 2015 Budget includes \$3,347,516 in funding to support the 2015 purchase of service contracts for the Housing Division. A fiscal note form is attached.



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Héctor Colón, Director  
Department of Health and Human Services

cc:     County Executive Chris Abele  
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