

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

**DATE:** April 8, 2019

**TO:** Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Mary Jo Meyers, Director, Department of Health and Human Services  
*Prepared by: Mark Mertens, Division of Youth and Family Services Administrator*

**SUBJECT:** **Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, submitting a purchase of service contract for consideration under passive review with St. Charles Youth and Family Services**

**Issue**

The Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), is requesting passive review approval of a 2019 purchase of service contract for the Alternative Sanctions Program for the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS).

**Background**

Since 1970, DHHS has supported a social service delivery system comprised of both directly provided and purchased services using a combination of State, grant and local tax funds. Partnerships with community providers have allowed DHHS to cooperate and collaborate with various community agencies and resources. These partnerships further the opportunities for community participation, leverage resources and utilize community expertise regarding the DYFS community response to delinquency.

DYFS conforms to the DHHS Request for Proposals (RFP) process to ensure objectivity and fairness in the awarding of purchase of service contracts. DYFS relies on these objective reviews, community panels and DHHS contract administration/quality assurance to guide award recommendations. DYFS also may consider other salient factors in order to best meet the needs of children's court and youth served including the financial stability of applicants to ensure the continuity of services, the minimization of service disruption, provider alignment with emerging strategies or changing system demands, opportunities for further resource leveraging and information sharing and maximization of resources.

**Discussion**

The Department is requesting approval to purchase services with St. Charles for the Alternative Sanctions Program for the period of May 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019. The Alternative Sanction Program has combined the former Evening Report Center and Saturday Alternative Sanctions Programs into one program for 2019 due to an overlap of services in these two programs and to increase operational efficiency, resulting in a reduction in the overall contract allocation for 2019.

This program will serve youth who are pending court (formerly served by the Evening Report Center) or who are on an order of supervision (formerly served by the Saturday Alternative Sanctions Program). The Alternative Sanctions Program is designed to provide a community-based alternative to detention for youth involved in the youth justice system in Milwaukee County. The Alternative Sanctions Program will provide a timely response that holds youth accountable while providing an alternative to youth being placed in the secure detention center. This program engages youth in positive, structured evidence based programming on week days in the evening/after school and on weekends.

DYFS issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) in 2018 and based on the scores from the RFP review panel, DYFS recommended entering into a purchase of service contract for 45 slots for males and females with St. Charles. However, another proposer appealed this decision and until that appeal was resolved, DHHS could not award the contract to St. Charles. To ensure continuity in services during the appeal process, DHHS executed bridge contracts submitted under passive review in March (File 19-292) for the Evening Reporting Center and Alternative Sanctions Programs with Wisconsin Community Services (WCS) for the first six months of 2019.

The appeal has now been resolved and DYFS plans to execute a contract with St. Charles Youth and Family Services starting May 1 through December 31, 2019 for a total of \$294,000. The WCS contract will end on April 30, 2019 and total expenses incurred by WCS and reimbursed by DHHS will be \$225,394.

<b>Service</b>	<b>Provider</b>	<b>January 1-April 30, 2019 Allocation</b>	<b>May 1 - December 31, 2019 Allocation</b>	<b>Total</b>
Alternative Sanctions Program	St. Charles Youth & Family Services	\$0	\$294,000	\$294,000
Saturday Alternative Sanctions Program	Wisconsin Community Services	\$225,394	\$0	\$225,394
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$225,394</b>	<b>\$294,000</b>	<b>\$519,394</b>

**Recommendation**

This contract is being submitted for passive review only. The contract reflects a total amount of \$294,000 with St. Charles Youth and Family Services for the period of May 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

**Fiscal Impact**

The proposed purchase of service contract reflects total expenditures of \$294,000. A fiscal note form is attached.



Mary Jo Meyers, Director  
Department of Health and Human Services

- cc: County Executive Chris Abele  
Hon. Maxine A. White, Chief Judge  
Raisa Koltun, County Executive's Office  
County Supervisor James "Luigi" Schmitt  
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