

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE

Inter-Office Communication

DATE: January 18, 2019

TO: Sup. 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 communications services contract for consideration under passive review by the Division of Youth and Family Services**

Issue

Per Wis. Stat. § 59.52(31), contracts in excess of \$100,000 but less than \$300,000 require County Board passive review. In accordance with this statute, the Director of Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is submitting a 2019 professional services contract with Kane Communications Group for passive review.

Background

Act 185 was passed by the Wisconsin State Legislature in March of 2018 and paves the way for the development of local alternatives to Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake. Act 185 directs the closure of Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake for use as youth correctional facilities by January 1, 2021 and authorizes County-operated Secured Residential Care Centers for Children and Youth (SRCCCY).

Under the Act, the State Building Commission can authorize up to a total of \$40 million to counties for the planning and construction of these facilities. Eligible construction costs include new construction as well as the renovation of an existing structure. To qualify for the funds, counties must submit grant applications to the Juvenile Corrections Grant Committee in the Department of Corrections by March 31, 2019.

Discussion

In December, the Milwaukee County DHHS Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) solicited proposals from qualified communications firms to develop and implement communications strategies related to Wisconsin Act 185.

The purpose of the communications services described in the Request for Proposals (RFP) is to increase awareness and understanding, build excitement and acceptance, generate stakeholder and community involvement and drive positive outcomes for the SRCCCY initiative. The services will also link the SRCCCY initiative to Milwaukee County's existing DYFS reforms, Project Rise, and build upon the foundation that the County has created through its community-based, best-practices approach to youth justice.

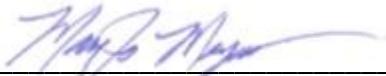
Services will be provided during the pre-grant application/pre-construction phase, with the possibility of extending the contract through the construction or post construction transition phases.

Recommendation

This contract is being submitted for passive review only. The contract reflects a total amount of \$199,950 with Kane Communications Group for the period of February 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

Fiscal Impact

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, Chair
County Supervisor Supreme Moore-Omokunde
Teig Whaley-Smith, Director, DAS
Joseph Lamers, Director-Office of Performance, Strategy & Budget
Steve Cady, Research Director, Comptroller's Office
Lisa Wozny, Fiscal & Management Analyst, DAS
Lottie Maxwell-Mitchell, Research & Policy Analyst – Comptroller's Office