

A report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to submit the 2025-2027 Milwaukee County Area Aging Plan to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 53, Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances (the Code), created the Commission on Aging (COA), which is the “lead county agency responsible for developing, administering and/or implementing a comprehensive, coordinated human service system for community-based services for county residents age sixty (60) years and older” in Milwaukee County (the County); and

WHEREAS, the COA is charged in Section 53, the Code, with the development and implementation of an Area Plan on Aging (the Plan), which is ascribed in the Federal Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended (OAA); and

WHEREAS, the OAA states that, at regular intervals determined by the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services Aging Unit, a Plan shall be developed by an aging advisory council, which will conduct public hearings, represent the interests of older individuals and family caregivers, and ensure that the Plan is administered, in collaboration with the COA; and

WHEREAS, the Plan shall address program and service delivery to those older adult populations in greatest social and economic need; and

WHEREAS, the Plan shall consist of a robust public input process, leading to the development of measurable goals for the three-year Plan period; and

WHEREAS, progress on these goals is monitored throughout the Plan period by the aging advisory council and reported on by aging unit staff; and

WHEREAS, to develop the 2025-2027 Plan, feedback was gathered from older adult residents, family caregivers, advocates, service providers, and other interested individuals, through four public hearings, eight focus groups, and three listening sessions, occurring between April 2024 and October 2024; and

WHEREAS, following this public input process, goals were developed in the categories of advocacy, socialization and social supports, senior centers, transportation, nutrition, evidence-based wellness and heart health, caregiver support, and local goals, which build upon the progress made from the 2022-2024 Plan; and

WHEREAS, the COA's vision statement is that "the Aging Network will improve the health and well-being for all older adult residents of Milwaukee County by acknowledging and overcoming structural racism, promoting health equity, improving communication and collaboration, and addressing all dimensions of wellness"; and

WHEREAS, the goals in the 2025-2027 Plan seek to achieve this vision, as well as the mission and vision of the County that by achieving racial equity, we will become the healthiest county in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, to achieve the goals in the 2025-2027 Plan, the support of all County government is necessary to support our older adult residents; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Health Equity, Human Needs, and Strategic Planning, at its meeting of January 23, 2025, recommended adoption of File No. 25-108 (vote 5-0); and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of January 30, 2025, recommended adoption of File No. 25-108 (vote 7-0); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, Milwaukee County (the County) is committed to providing quality, community-based programs and services that improve the lives of our older adult residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, to submit the 2025-2027 County Area Aging Plan to the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

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