

A report from the Executive Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting confirmation of the Commission on Aging's (COA) decision to close four senior meal sites located in Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (HACM) residential facilities and seeking authorization to amend the Milwaukee Christian Center's multicultural senior center and meal site contract, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County (the County) Senior Dining Program (the Program) provides healthy meals served in group settings to adults aged 60 and older, and the Program's purpose is to keep older adults healthy and independent, offer opportunities for social engagement, and facilitate their connection with other supports and services; and

WHEREAS, in June 2025, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Community Living (ACL) revoked \$22,364 in budgeted Program funds and \$22,013 in Nutrition Services Incentive Program (Nutrition Services) funds to the County, as part of the Federal Fiscal Year 2025 Older Americans Act (OAA) allocation; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Area Agency on Aging (AAA) proposed budget also reflects a total reduction of \$177,781 in anticipated Nutrition Services revenue, due to decreases in Federal OAA funding and Managed Care Organization (MCO) donations; and

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee Christian Center (MCC), which manages the multi-site Program, notified the AAA that it is facing a shortfall of \$32,141 to continue five-day-a-week meal site programming beyond September 1, 2025, in part due to a loss in philanthropic revenue to support senior services; and

WHEREAS, the AAA funds the following congregate Program sites at three of nine Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (HACM) public housing locations, which have a residential preference for older adults and adults with a disability:

- Arlington Court, 1633 North Arlington Place, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
- Convent Hill, 455 East Ogden Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
- Lapham Park, 1901 North 6th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212

along with one site for single individuals in poverty (no preference for older adults):

- College Court, 3334 West Highland Boulevard, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

; and

WHEREAS, older adult participation levels at the HACM locations never rebounded after the Coronavirus Disease pandemic, and less than 10 percent of older HACM residents participate in the Program, with each site hosting 20 senior diners or fewer per day; and

WHEREAS, unlike all other Program sites, these sites do not offer opportunities for socialization, education, or recreation, other than the meal service itself; and

WHEREAS, unlike all other Program sites, these locations do not attract any senior diners, other than the facility residents; and

WHEREAS, other Program sites are proximate to the HACM locations and can accommodate additional diners; and

WHEREAS, MCC provides supervision of all Program sites, other than the sites at the County senior centers, including its own multicultural senior center dining site; and

WHEREAS, under the terms of the contract, MCC provides a stipend to coordinators at each Program site; and

WHEREAS, the closure of the four HACM meal sites will address the loss in OAA Nutrition Services funding, allowing the AAA to continue to operate senior dining services at its other Program site locations for the remainder of 2025 and calendar year 2026; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting on August 22, 2025, the Commission on Aging (COA) approved the closure of the four HACM Program locations, with the last day of service being September 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting on August 22, 2025, the COA approved an increase of \$32,141 to the senior dining contract with MCC; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 59.52(31)(c), Wisconsin State Statutes (State Statutes), the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) must, on behalf of the COA, bring contract amendments with an aggregate value of \$300,000 or more to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) for authorization; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 53.09(10), Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances, DHHS must, on behalf of the COA, bring changes to Program locations, including closures, to the County Board for approval; and

91 WHEREAS, the Committee on Health Equity, Human Needs, and Strategic
92 Planning, at its meeting of September 4, 2025, considered File No. 25-603 for
93 informational purposes only, per Section 59.52(31)(d), State Statutes; and
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95 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of September 11, 2025,
96 made no recommendation regarding File No. 25-603, due to a tie vote on a motion to
97 recommend adoption (vote 2-2); now, therefore,
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99 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board)
100 hereby confirms the decision by the Commission on Aging to cease operating senior
101 dining services at the following four Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee sites,
102 with the last day of service being September 30, 2025:
103

- 104 • Arlington Court, 1633 North Arlington Place, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
- 105 • Convent Hill, 455 East Ogden Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
- 106 • Lapham Park, 1901 North 6th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212
- 107 • College Court, 3334 West Highland Boulevard, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208

108
109 ; and
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111 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board hereby authorizes the Director,
112 Department of Health and Human Services, or her designee, to execute a contract
113 amendment with the Milwaukee Christian Center for multicultural senior center and
114 meal site supervision, increasing the contract funding by \$32,141, from \$103,550 to
115 \$135,691, for the period January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025.
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