

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Behavioral Health Division Administration
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: June 19, 2012

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

FROM: Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Prepared by: Paula Lucey, Administrator, Behavioral Health Division

SUBJECT: Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, Requesting Authorization to Enter into a Professional Services Contract with ZiaPartners, Inc. for 2012 for the Behavioral Health Division

Issue

Section 56.30 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances requires County Board approval for professional service contracts of \$50,000 or greater. Per Section 56.30, the Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Administrator, Behavioral Health Division (BHD), are requesting authorization for the BHD to enter into a professional service contract with ZiaPartners, Inc for the provision of technical assistance with the implementation of recommendations from the Mental Health Redesign and Implementation Task Force.

Background

In April 2011, the County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution (File No. 11-173) supporting efforts to redesign the Milwaukee County mental health system and creating a Mental Health Redesign and Implementation Task Force (“Task Force”) to provide the Board with data-driven implementation and planning initiatives based on the recommendations of various public and private entities. The Task Force commenced monthly meetings in July 2011, and subsequent reports have been presented to the Health and Human Needs Committee. The Task Force is co-chaired by Pete Carlson, Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer of Aurora Psychiatric Services, and Paula Lucey, BHD Administrator.

Over the past several years, various thoughtful and important studies, reports, and committees have made recommendations related to BHD and the mental health system. Over 120 different recommendations were contained in those reports. The first job of the Task Force was to review those recommendations and create a unified vision and direction. Five Action Teams were tasked with addressing key areas of the redesign and how to prioritize and advance select recommendations within those areas.

In January 2012, consistent with a directive from the New Behavioral Health Facility Study Committee, (File No. 11-516), an extensive presentation was made to the Health and Human Needs committee outlining the recommendations of the Task Force. Each Action Team presented the key recommendations from their area. Now that all recommendations have been made, BHD is moving toward implementation and a key component is securing technical assistance.

Discussion

Members of the Task Force participated in the development of a Request for Proposals to procure technical assistance related to the implementation of key recommendations. BHD solicited competitive proposals as detailed on the timeline below:

Milestone	Date
RFP Issued	May 23, 2012
Written Questions Due	May 29, 2012
Responses to Written Questions Posted	June 1, 2012
RFP Responses Due	June 8, 2012
Proposal Evaluation	June 18, 2012
Estimated Contract Start Date*	August 1, 2012
*Or such date mutually agreed upon by County and selected proposer.	

BHD received two proposals and a six-person panel, including consumers and advocates, reviewed and scored the proposals. The panel recommended ZiaPartners, Inc. ZiaPartners has been consulting with Milwaukee County as a part of the federal Access to Recovery Grants to assist the BHD Community Services branch. They have done work with BHD vendors in relation to creating a more welcoming approach in which clients with either or both substance abuse or mental illness could receive consistent care. This effort has been moving forward the last two years. It is anticipated that this will ensure that the efforts occurring in the Redesign and Implementation Task Force and efforts in the Community Services Branch will be synergic.

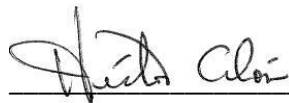
ZiaPartners is based in San Rafael, California and proposes to partner locally with Dr. Janice Wilberg, who has been a respected member of the health and human services community in Milwaukee for many years. BHD is recommending a total contract of \$242,087 with ZiaPartners from August 1, 2012 through July 31, 2013.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, DHHS, or his designee, to execute a professional service agreement with ZiaPartners, Inc for \$242,087 from August 1, 2012 through July 31, 2013 as indicated in the attached resolution.

Fiscal Effect

The total recommended amount of \$242,087 is included in BHD's 2012 Budget. A fiscal note form is attached.



Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
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