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(ITEM ) From the Director, Department on Aging, requesting authorization to increase the 2015 Purchase of Service Contract with Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc., by \$32,000, from \$398,501 to \$430,501, for the provision of Benefit Specialist/Legal Services, originally authorized under File No. 14-934, by recommending adoption of the following:

**A RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2014, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors adopted File No. 14-934 authorizing the Director, Department on Aging, to execute contracts to provide programs and services to older adults for the period effective January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2015; and

WHEREAS, one of the programs authorized through File No. 14-934 is the Benefit Specialist/Legal Services program awarded to Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc., and funded at \$398,501; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Benefit Specialist/Legal Services program is to assist older persons in working through the complex maze of state and federal benefit programs; and

WHEREAS, the program provides seniors, family members, and caregivers with (1) health benefit information, (2) benefits counseling, (3) assistance in determining which health insurance plans, prescription drug programs, and other benefit programs might serve them best, and (4) how to apply for such benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Department on Aging, Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc., and the Social Development Commission collaborated to receive a grant totaling \$81,500 from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and funded by the federal Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA); and

WHEREAS, the grant is to (1) provide outreach activities informing seniors about the range of Medicare and Medicaid related prescription drug programs, details of individual drug plans, funding alternatives for low-income seniors, and targeting specific low-income populations and (2) provide outreach activities aimed at preventing disease and promoting wellness; and

WHEREAS, participation by Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc., is to provide application assistance and promote health benefits in partnership with local prevention and wellness programs, with special emphasis on Spanish-speaking elders and contacts with the Hmong and African American communities; and

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WHEREAS, the MIPPA grant includes \$32,000 to fund MIPPA services provided by Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc., with those funds allocated through the Milwaukee County Department on Aging's Benefit Specialist/Legal Services program; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Health and Human Needs, at its meeting of April 15, 2015, recommended adoption of the Director's request (vote 5-0); and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, Personnel, and Audit, at its meeting of April 16, 2015, also recommended adoption of the Director's request (vote 7-0); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Director, Department on Aging, is hereby authorized to increase the Purchase of Service Contract with Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc., by \$32,000, from \$398,501 to \$430,501, to provide Benefit Specialist/Legal Services in 2015.

srb  
04/15/15  
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