

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: March 17, 2023

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: Shakita LaGrant-McClain, Director, Department of Health and Human Services

Subject: Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to amend a 2023 purchase of service contract with Serving Older Adults of Southeast Wisconsin for programming at the five Milwaukee County-owned senior centers by \$100,000, from \$892,867 to \$992,867

File Type: Action Report

REQUEST

The Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to amend the 2023 purchase of service contract with Serving Older Adults of Southeast Wisconsin for programming at the five Milwaukee County-owned senior centers by \$100,000, from \$892,867 to \$992,867.

POLICY

Per Wisconsin Statutes, the Director of DHHS is requesting authorization to execute this purchase of service contract.

Wisconsin State Statutes:	59.52(31)
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BACKGROUND

The 2022-24 Milwaukee County Aging Plan approved by the Commission on Aging incorporates a goal to provide “technology education and support as a required component of socialization programming.”¹ Supporting technology access for older adult residents has become increasingly important during the pandemic. Reaching older adults to promote internet access and addressing concerns with technological devices can be best achieved using the Milwaukee County Senior Centers as the programmatic hubs.

Serving Older Adults has navigated safe practices and changing policies throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Serving Older Adults staff has completed the AARP’s Older Adults

¹ 2022-24 Aging Plan (2021). Milwaukee County Commission on Aging. Milwaukee County DHHS Aging and Disabilities Services. <https://county.milwaukee.gov/files/county/department-on-aging/PDF/MCAreaAgingPlanFinal.pdf>

Technology Services training program and has existing relationships with older adults throughout the County, expertise within its staff, and capacity to expand this programming with additional financial support.

TechConnect can assist participants in several ways. Older adults can get help with devices they own or check out an iPad from the centers for several weeks. Course choices from the Senior Planet catalog that are offered through TechConnect are informed by input from participants so that they meet the actual needs of current and future participants. The goal of this program expansion is to partner with older residents at selected residential complexes within the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee, including the provision of additional mobile devices, training residents, and a requirement for residents to utilize these devices to participate in virtual wellness or other Area Agency on Aging programming. Residents who receive a device in this program will be required to participate in older adults programming or advocacy efforts online, for example Commission on Aging meetings or OAA Evidence Based Practice Programs.

The original 2023 contract with Serving Older Adults was approved under File 22-1110, which was passed by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors on December 15, 2022.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item is aligned to the goals in the Milwaukee County Strategic Plan as this contract focuses on dismantling barriers to diverse and inclusive communities (3C).

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, or her designee, to amend the 2023 purchase of service contract with Serving Older Adults for programming at the five Milwaukee County-owned senior centers by \$100,000, from \$892,867 to \$992,867.

FISCAL EFFECT

This program is supported by federal funding from the Older Americans Act Title IIIB allocation within the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 with match funding authorized under File 22-905. Please see attached fiscal note.

TERMS

This contract is effective starting January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

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PREPARED BY:

Carrie Koss Vallejo, Program and Planning Coordinator, DHHS Aging and Disabilities Services

APPROVED BY:

Shakita LaGrant-McClain
Shakita LaGrant-McClain, DHHS Director

ATTACHMENTS:

None

cc: County Executive David Crowley
Sup. Liz Sumner, Chair, Finance Committee
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County
Steve Cady, Research Director, Comptroller's Office
Lottie Maxwell-Mitchell, Sr Budget and Management Analyst, Strategy, Budget & Performance