

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
**Behavioral Health Division Administration**  
**Inter-Office Communication**

**DATE:** April 29, 2013

**TO:** Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board

**FROM:** Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services  
*Prepared by: Kathleen Eilers, Interim Administrator – Behavioral Health Division*

**SUBJECT:** **Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to retrospectively establish the effective date of the 2013 Behavioral Health Division professional services contracts with the Medical College of Wisconsin and the Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals and extend the period covered by the current contracts**

**Issue**

Section 56.30 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances requires County Board approval for professional services contracts of \$50,000 or greater. Per Section 56.30, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to retrospectively establish the effective dates of the 2013 professional services contracts with the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) and the Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals (MCWAH) for the Behavioral Health Division (BHD) and extend the period covered by the current contracts.

**Background**

BHD, pursuant to state statutes, is charged with the responsibility of providing medical services critical to the care and treatment of patients at this facility. The Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) and BHD have had a long-standing agreement granting medical residents credentials and clinical privileges at BHD under the Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals (MCWAH) affiliation agreement. BHD has had affiliation agreements in place with MCWAH since 1980. The current agreement was updated in 2009.

On March 1, 2013, BHD entered into professional services contracts with MCWAH for resident services and MCW for a Residency Director. MCWAH assigns residents/fellows in the Psychiatric Training Program at the Medical College of Wisconsin to provide a variety of services at BHD. The residents and fellows provide medical care in the hospital at BHD, with oversight and direction of attending physicians at BHD.

MCWAH employs the residents and pays each resident's annual stipend, expenses of providing fringe benefits and any other resident-related expenses that are approved by the MCWAH Board. BHD also contracts with MCW for \$59,794 for a Residency Director.

BHD brought both of these contracts forward for approval to the Board in December 2012. Due to technical issues raised by the vendors legal counsel and contracting officer related primarily to insurance, BHD entered into further contract negotiations with the vendors. BHD was unable to execute contracts agreeable to all parties involved, with all required signatures, until March 1, 2013. Based on County policies, BHD is unable to establish a retroactive contract or pay MCW or MCWAH for services rendered in January and February 2013 without Board approval. Therefore, BHD is seeking approval from the Board to fully execute this contract for the entire period of services and extend it through June 30, 2015 (originally the contract approved by the Board in December 2012 ended in on December 31, 2014). The contract extension is being requested so the contracts' terms will coincide with the MCW's school year.

Each of these contracts support functions that are critical to patient care and are necessary to maintain hospital, nursing home and crisis services licensure, services, monitoring and training. Failure to provide a continuous contract for these services may jeopardize any or all of these elements.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, or his designee, to retrospectively establish the effective date of the professional services contracts with the Medical College of Wisconsin and the Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals to include and start January 1, 2013. It is further recommended that the current contract be extended from December 31, 2014 to be effective through June 30, 2015. It is further recommended that the County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services, or his designee, to pay for services provided by MCWAH or MCW during January and February of 2013.

### **Fiscal Effect**

There is no increase in the contract amounts as a result of this action. Sufficient funds have been approved through the 2013 budget and contract allocation process. A fiscal note form is attached.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Héctor Colón, Director  
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele  
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