

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

DATE: June 24, 2011

TO: Supervisor Lee Holloway, Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Geri Lyday, Interim Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Prepared by: Eric Meaux, Administrator, Delinquency and Court Services Division

SUBJECT: **Report from the Interim Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to increase the 2011 Purchase of Service contract with Running Rebels Community Organization in the amount of \$25,000 from \$1,250,944 to \$1,275,944 for the Delinquency and Court Services Division**

Policy Issue

Section 46.09 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances requires County Board approval for the purchase of human services from nongovernmental vendors. No contract or contract adjustment shall take effect until approved by resolution of the County Board. Per Section 46.09, the Interim Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to increase the 2011 purchase-of-service (POS) contract with Running Rebels Community Organization.

Background

Targeted Monitoring Program

DCSD has an existing purchase of service contract with Running Rebels Community Organization (RRCO) to provide monitoring and support services in the amount of \$1,250,944 to serve 105 youth per day. The Targeted Monitoring Program provides additional supervision and support services to youth involved with gun possession or deemed to be serious chronic offenders. This service allows youth to remain in the community as a responsible alternative to a traditional correctional placement and is intended to hold youth accountable to the courts and minimize a youth's risk for re-offense. The firearm component of the program received recognition from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in 2009 being recognized as Program of the Year through its use of Juvenile Accountability Block Grant funds. According to DCSD review, for calendar year 2010, 73% of the youth involved in TMP successfully completed this component of their community supervision.

Discussion

This request proposes to address two issues: 1) episodic capacity concerns and 2) juveniles involved in burglaries.

Increased Need for Targeted Monitoring Program

The Targeted Monitoring Program services currently in place has experienced a wait list during ten of the past 12 months. While overall referrals for youth in possession of a gun have remained relatively stable, the County has experienced an increase in the number of youth referred for the offense of Burglary (Felony). This has likely, in part, contributed to the increased utilization of more intensive services. For those youth delayed due to capacity, the average wait was two to three weeks. While juveniles on the wait list may be referred to in-home monitoring during the waiting period, to ensure some level of additional monitoring, a delay in actual program start is problematic because it delays engagement of the juvenile in the intensive programming during the initial critical post-disposition period.

Enhanced Monitoring for Burglary Offenders

As mentioned above, the County has experienced an increase in the number of youth referred for Burglary. In 2010, Burglary was both the most common overall offense type and the most common offense for first offenders. This initiative would pilot a two-prong strategy to the issue of juvenile burglary: 1) a balanced response involving offender (competency development), community (public safety), and victim (accountability) and 2) improved monitoring and community engagement.

DCSD began collaborative efforts with the District Attorney's Office and Safe and Sound, Inc. in 2010 in an effort to further apply Restorative Justice practice and principles within the Milwaukee juvenile system. These efforts, which included brainstorming assistance of a national consultant, resulted in a project plan to target youth referred for burglary given the identifiable subpopulation and community impact. Restorative justice circles create a safe environment where offenders, victims, youth, and trained community members meet to discuss a criminal offense, the harm caused by the crime and its effects on the community. The goal is to work towards repairing the harm caused by the crime in addition to furthering the youth's competency. Beginning in the later half of 2011, Safe and Sound, Inc., with the assistance of Office of Justice Assistance grant funds, will train adult and juvenile community members, to facilitate and/or participate in restorative justice circles for this project.

Running Rebels Community Organization, as a Safe and Sound partner, is in a position to provide enhanced monitoring of select juveniles with burglary offenses. The Targeted Monitoring Program and support services will complement the restorative justice circles. In collaboration, DCSD and RRCO will develop a modified version of the Targeted Monitoring Program based on the needs of youth referred for burglary.

DCSD has requested the assistance of the Milwaukee Police Department in mapping juvenile Burglary offenses by incident location, juvenile residence, and arrest location. A mapping of

juvenile residence is attached for reference. This work has confirmed that a significant portion of the youth and offenses are within the MPD Districts 5 and 7, which makes RRCO a logical geographical fit.

Lastly, these efforts have been discussed and supported by the Juvenile Justice Standing Committee of the Milwaukee County Community Justice Council and the Disproportionate Minority Contact Advisory Committee.

DCSD is requesting an increase in the amount of \$25,000 for Running Rebels Community Organization, from \$1,250,944 to \$1,275,944. The additional \$25,000 is for the last four months of 2011 and will provide for additional supervision and support services for an estimated 24 youth. The 2012 budget anticipates support for this initiative.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Interim Director, DHHS, or her designee, to increase the purchase of service contract with Running Rebels Community Organization by \$25,000, from \$1,250,944 to \$1,275,944, from 9/1/2011 – 12/31/2011, as detailed in the attached resolution.

Fiscal Effect

All increases are completely offset by unencumbered purchase of service funds available within the DCSD budget. Therefore, there is no tax levy effect. A fiscal note form is attached.



Geri Lyday, Interim Director
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
Terry Cooley, County Board
Patrick Farley, Administrator - DAS
CJ Pahl, Interim Assistant Fiscal and Budget Administrator
Antoinette Thomas-Bailey, Fiscal & Management Analyst, DAS
Jennifer Collins, Analyst, County Board Staff
Jodi Mapp, Committee Clerk, County Board Staff