

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

Date: September 3, 2024

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

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

Subject: A report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting passive review of amendments to two professional services contracts that exceed \$100,000 but are less than \$300,000 and supported by State of Wisconsin vaccine collaboration grants

File Type: Passive Review Report

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**REQUEST**

The Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), is requesting passive review of professional services contract amendments with InPower for \$100,000, from \$75,000 to \$175,000, and Health Connections Inc., for \$195,000, from \$99,999 to \$294,999.

**POLICY**

Per §59.52(31), the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services is requesting passive review authorization to execute amendments to two professional services contracts. In addition, Wis. Stat. §46.80 covers services for older adults in the State of Wisconsin and Milwaukee County Ordinance Ch. 53.09(4) provides that the Commission on Aging shall have the power to receive funds from both public and private sources and to disburse the same for programs related to older adults.

Wisconsin State Statutes:	Wis. Stat. §46.80, §59.52(31),
Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances:	Ch. 53.09(4)

**BACKGROUND**

The Milwaukee County Area Agency on Agency (AAA) received a grant from the Administration for Community Living (ACL) through USAging to encourage vaccine promotion among older adults and people with disabilities most at-risk for negative health consequences of not being adequately vaccinated for both the influenza and COVID-19 viruses.

Since July of 2023, the goal of the Aging and Disability Vaccine Collaborative (ADVC) Grant has been the promotion and distribution of vaccines in Milwaukee County. The partners in the original collaboration were Milwaukee County DHHS, the City of Milwaukee, Health Connections Inc., Inpower, and the Wauwatosa Health Department. Together under the Community Health Coordinator in the AAA, Inpower developed a communication plan designed to reach older adults of color and people with disabilities who live independently in Milwaukee County. Health Connections Inc. and the Milwaukee and Wauwatosa health departments delivered vaccines to older adults at pop-up clinics in Milwaukee County hosted by churches, Senior Nutrition Program meal sites, senior residential facilities, and local events as well as to individuals in their homes.

This effort included several supports that helped this population surmount barriers, including providing transportation to events, referring individuals to additional services, providing personal support to older adults and people with disabilities who needed assistance, and linking them to additional credible sources of information, including the ADVC Resource Hub and the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC). The vaccine campaign is focused on promoting and expanding access to vaccines for older adults and people with disabilities in an accessible, culturally relevant manner, and in multiple languages through targeted outreach in underserved or under-vaccinated communities.

Leveraging funding from the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) awarded to DHHS for this effort and the no-cost extension of the USAging grant, Inpower and Health Connections Inc. will continue to partner with Milwaukee County to reach out to older adults and people with disabilities who reside in Milwaukee County.

### **ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

This program is aligned to Milwaukee County's strategic plan and supports Strategy 2A Bridge the Gap by delivering services based on the resolution of health disparities. It will apply a health equity lens by recruiting participants from communities with limited English-speaking proficiency, under- or uninsured communities, communities with transportation limitations, and communities with other inequities in the social determinants of health. This program is also aligned with the DHHS strategy of coordinating care and managing human service needs for individuals by addressing the root causes of those needs.

### **FISCAL EFFECT**

The cost of these contracts is fully covered by a no-cost extension of the original USAging Aging and Disability Vaccination collaborative grant available through April 15, 2025, and the DHS-Bureau of Communicable Diseases (BCD) Vaccination Outreach Grant which is effective from 1/1/2024 to 6/30/2025.

**TERMS**

Amending these contracts would extend the agreements to June 30, 2025.

**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, DHHS Director

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Contract Amendments (2)  
Fiscal Note

CC: County Executive David Crowley  
Sup. Shawn Rolland, Chair, Health Equity, Human Needs, and Strategic Planning 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