

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

DATE: November 13, 2020

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

FROM: Jon Janowski, Interim Executive Director, Department on Aging

SUBJECT: **Report from the Interim Executive Director, Department on Aging, requesting authorization to execute a professional service contract totaling \$74,500 with Jennifer Lefebber to coordinate and facilitate evidence-based prevention program activities for older adults in Milwaukee County**

Background

The Milwaukee County Department on Aging has contracted with Jennifer Lefebber since 2011 to coordinate and facilitate evidence-based prevention programs for older adults. Evidence-based prevention programs (EBPP's) are wellness programs that have been clinically-tested and demonstrate positive results for older adults, keeping them active, healthy and able to live independently in their homes. Through Ms. Lefebber, MCDA coordinates the following EBPP's: Healthy Living With Diabetes, Healthy Living With Chronic Pain, Living Well With Chronic Conditions, Mind Over Matter, Physical Activity for Lifelong Success, Powerful Tools for Caregivers, and Stepping On Fall Prevention Program. In addition, two of these topics are offered in Spanish: Vivir Saludable Con Diabetes (Healthy Living With Diabetes), and Tomando Control de Su Salud (Living Well with Chronic Conditions).

In response to the COVID pandemic, programming has been entirely moved to virtual workshops. Ms. Lefebber has worked to train and recruit workshop facilitators to transition to the virtual format. Ms. Lefebber continues to work towards presenting the full portfolio of EBPPs online in a safe manner. Currently, she is working with the Wisconsin Institute on Healthy Aging to pilot the virtual format of the Stepping On: Fall Prevention program.

Program Budget

The 2021 award recommendation of \$74,500 is based upon satisfactory performance by the vendor as well as sufficient funds being included in the 2021 Adopted Budget.

Racial Equity Impact

When presented in person, the EBPP workshops were hosted in diverse neighborhoods, including leveraging the geographic spread of five Senior Centers operated by Milwaukee County and through community partners representing these diverse populations. Communication and promotion of these workshops has included advertising in community newspapers with a focus on Milwaukee’s communities of color, including: the Milwaukee Community Journal, Milwaukee Courier, Milwaukee Times, Black Women, 50+ Magazine and TV Guide Red Book.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Interim Executive Director of the Department on Aging to execute a professional services contract continue to work with Jennifer Lefeber for a total of \$74,500 to provide EBPP from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

Fiscal Impact

Funding for this service has been included in Department on Aging’s 2021 Budget. This program is supported by monies from Title III-D of the Older Americans Act, intended to support healthy lifestyles and promote healthy behaviors.

A fiscal note form is attached.

If you have questions, please contact me at (414) 289-6073.



Jon Janowski, Interim Executive Director
Milwaukee County Department on Aging

cc:

- County Executive David Crowley
- Sup. Jason Haas, Chair, Finance Committee
- Sup. Supreme Moore-Omokunde, Chair, Health & Human Needs Committee
- Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive’s Office
- Julie Landry, DAS Director
- Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
- Steve Cady, Research Director, Comptroller’s Office
- Pam Matthews, Fiscal & Management Analyst, DAS

Mary Proctor Brown, Budget Manager, Department on Aging
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