Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to enter into purchase of service contracts for the operation of the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP), by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 46.09 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances requires approval by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) for the purchase of human services from nongovernmental vendors; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County (the County) is statutorily and contractually required to perform this critical service, which assists with heating, electric, and energy crisis costs for the residents of our County, and offers year-round, 24-hour per day access to support; and

 WHEREAS, funding to support these contracts, as well as County staff and overhead costs, is provided by the State of Wisconsin (the State) Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) contract, and is contingent upon Federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding; and

WHEREAS, the State WHEAP contract was approved under Adopted File No. 18-634, for a five-year term effective October 1, 2018, through September 30, 2019, with four additional, one-year renewals through September 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has not yet been notified of its funding amount for the 2022 season, and because the existing contracts end on September 30, 2021, DHHS is seeking approval of the contracts in the September County Board cycle for continuity of services; and

WHEREAS, for the past few years, the State Department of Administration has been utilizing a private vendor to process online applications and as a result, the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021 allocation to the County decreased by nearly \$400,000; and

WHEREAS, if the actual FFY 2022 State WHEAP contract award is less than the amount required to support the program, the agency contracts will be reduced and DHHS will inform the County Board of this change; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of September 17, 2021, recommended adoption of File No. 21-778 (vote 7-0); now, therefore,

 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) hereby authorizes the Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), or her designee, to execute contracts with the following vendors for the term of Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2022 (October 1, 2021, through September 30, 2022) and in the following not-to-exceed amounts:

Community Advocates, Inc. \$1,421,268
United Migrant Opportunity Services, Inc. \$728,877
Total: \$2,150,145

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Director, DHHS, or her designee, is hereby authorized by the County Board to amend the Community Advocates, Inc., and UMOS, Inc., contracts, due to the receipt of any addenda increasing the State of Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) contract with DHHS, from the Wisconsin Department of Administration, Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources for the operation of the WHEAP program during FFY 2022.

srb

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