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A report from the Executive Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to execute retroactive purchase of service contracts with Wisconsin Community Services (WCS), Fathers Making Progress (FMP), and UniteWI as FORGE Fatherhood grant partners, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Child Support Services (CSS), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), was selected by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) – Administration for Children and Families as lead agency for the Fatherhood-Family, Opportunity, Resilience, Grit, Engagement (FORGE Fatherhood) Project Grant (FORGE Fatherhood Grant) in 2025; and

WHEREAS, the FORGE Fatherhood Grant provides vital job training, educational, and employment services to 1,800 primarily low-income fathers over a five-year period from September 30, 2025, through September 29, 2030; and

WHEREAS, the FORGE Fatherhood Grant is 100 percent funded by HHS funds, with no required match from Milwaukee County (the County); and

WHEREAS, the contracts reflect a term effective September 30, 2025, through September 29, 2026, with the option to extend for each of the four remaining years; and

WHEREAS, the FORGE Fatherhood Grant funds services provided by Wisconsin Community Services, Fathers Making Progress, and UniteWI, for a total not-to-exceed \$527,877 each year over this period; and

WHEREAS, these services, including intake, curriculum, job training and placement, and other support, will equip fathers in the County with job skills that enable them to be more active parents, secure employment to support their families, and fulfill child support obligations; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Health Equity, Human Needs, and Strategic Planning, at its meeting of March 5, 2026, considered File No. 26-310 for informational purposes only, per Section 59.52(31)(d), Wisconsin State Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of March 12, 2026, recommended adoption of File No. 26-310 (vote 5-0); now, therefore,

42 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board)
 43 hereby authorize the Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), or
 44 her designee, to execute Purchase of Service Contracts with Wisconsin Community
 45 Services (WCS), Fathers Making Progress (FMP), and UniteWI, to facilitate the
 46 Fatherhood-Family, Opportunity, Resilience, Grit, Engagement (FORGE) Fatherhood
 47 Grant (FORGE Fatherhood Grant) in the following amounts and for the term retroactive
 48 to September 30, 2025, through September 29, 2026:
 49

Service	Provider	Contract Amount
FORGE Fatherhood	WCS	\$224,406
FORGE Fatherhood	FMP	\$185,468
FORGE Fatherhood	UniteWI	\$118,003
	Total	\$527,877

50
 51 ; and
 52

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, due to the timing on the Federal notification of
 54 funding award and timely delivery of services specified in the Grant, the County Board
 55 hereby authorizes a waiver of Section 32.25 of the Milwaukee County Code of General
 56 Ordinances that requires sealed bids and a contract to be approved prior to providing
 57 services; and
 58

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Director, DHHS, is hereby authorized by the
 60 County Board to exercise the option to extend the Purchase of Service Contracts with
 61 WCS, FMP, and UniteWI to facilitate the FORGE Fatherhood Grant, for the subsequent
 62 year periods:
 63

- 64 • September 30, 2026, through September 29, 2027
- 65 • September 30, 2027, through September 29, 2028
- 66 • September 30, 2028, through September 29, 2029
- 67 • September 30, 2029, through September 29, 2030

68
 69 ; and
 70

71 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in each year, the total not-to-exceed amount shall
 72 be \$527,877; and
 73

74 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Director, DHHS, or her designee, is hereby
 75 authorized by the County Board to amend the WCS, FMP, and/or UniteWI Professional
 76 Service Contracts due to performance or lack thereof, and ability to take on expected
 77 goals or requests by the Federal government for the operation of the FORGE
 78 Fatherhood Grant for the term of September 30, 2025, through September 29, 2030;
 79 and
 80

81 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Office of the Comptroller is hereby authorized
82 to pay the providers for services rendered before the 2026 Purchase of Service
83 Contracts were signed and executed; and
84

85 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board hereby authorizes Corporation
86 Counsel, Risk Management, Department of Administrative Services, and any other
87 Milwaukee County department that may be required to take all actions as required to
88 effectuate the the FORGE Fatherhood Grant.
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93 S:\Committees\2026\March\FINANCE Mar 12\Resolutions\26-310 FORGE Fatherhood grant partners contracts
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