

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

Date: April 19, 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 retroactive authorization to enter into a purchase of service contract with Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council for Housing Mobility Services within Housing Services

File Type: Action Report

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**REQUEST**

Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to enter into a purchase of service contract for Housing Mobility Services.

**POLICY**

Per Wisconsin Statutes, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services is requesting authorization to execute a purchase of service contract.

Wisconsin State Statutes:		59.52(31)
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**BACKGROUND**

Over 50% of families who receive Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs) through the Milwaukee County Housing Authority are residing in high-poverty neighborhoods. Research shows that families who live in high-opportunity neighborhoods have an increase in better health and financial outcomes than those who do not. To increase the percentage of these families living in high-opportunity neighborhoods, Housing Services applied for, and was awarded, funding through the five-year HUD-Housing Mobility-Related Services Grant, in partnership with Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council (MMFHC).

DHHS Housing Services is requesting to enter a contract with MMFHC to provide Housing Mobility Services to assist low-income families utilize their HCVs to move into high-opportunity neighborhoods in Milwaukee County which will reduce the number of HCV families with children living in high-poverty areas. The period of this contract for \$232,500 would be retroactively effective from April 1 through December 31, 2024.

The contract with the Milwaukee Metropolitan Fair Housing Council will cover staffing costs including administration, case management, and housing navigation services for program participants. In addition to staffing, MMFHC will provide security deposits, moving assistance, application fees, risk mitigation, and transportation expenses.

### **ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

This action item aligns with strategic plan objectives 2A (Determine what, where, and how we deliver services to advance health equity) and 3A (Invest upstream to address root causes of health disparities).

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors retroactively authorize the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, or her designee, to execute a purchase of service contract with the Milwaukee Metropolitan Fair Housing Council for the services identified at a total cost of \$232,500.

### **FISCAL EFFECT**

There is no fiscal effect as these funds are covered by the Housing Mobility Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

### **TERMS**

This contract runs from April 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024.

### **VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES**

Shakita LaGrant-McClain, DHHS Director  
James Mathy, Housing Administrator

### **PREPARED BY:**

James Mathy, Housing Administrator, Department of Health and Human Services

### **APPROVED BY:**

*Shakita LaGrant-McClain*

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

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None

cc: County Executive David Crowley  
Chair, Finance Committee  
Chair, Health Equity, Human Needs, & Strategic Planning Committee  
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office  
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
Steve Cady, Research Director, Office of the Comptroller  
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Director, County Clerk's Office  
Lottie Maxwell-Mitchell, Sr Budget and Management Analyst, DAS