

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE

Inter-Office Communication

DATE: March 17, 2017

TO: Sup. Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Prepared by: Mark Mertens, Delinquency and Court Services Administrator

SUBJECT: **Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to increase a 2017 purchase of service contract for the boy's shelter program with St. Charles within the Delinquency and Court Services Division (DCSD)**

Issue

The Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), is requesting authorization to increase the 2017 purchase of service contract with St. Charles for the boy's shelter program.

Background

Shelter care provides short-term, non-secure, 24-hour supervised care and residential programming to youth. The program primarily serves youth pending court for alleged delinquency as an alternative to secure detention placement. Other youth involved in the juvenile justice court matters may be placed in shelter care at the discretion of either DCSD or the Children's Court.

In December 2016, the County Board authorized a four-month purchase of service contract for \$425,340 with St. Charles for January 1, 2017 through April 30, 2017 in order to operate the boy's shelter program for up to 12 beds (File No. 16-689). The intent was to implement a short-term contract with St. Charles while working with Wisconsin Community Services (WCS), which was awarded the 2017 shelter contract for boys and girls in February (File No. 17-84), to establish its shelter programming.

Over the past few months, DCSD and WCS have been working diligently to develop comprehensive shelter programming as well as gather community input. DCSD has tentatively scheduled additional community meetings for April 18 (girls' shelter) and April 25 (boys' shelter). Further, WCS is in the process of applying for the required State licensing for both the boys' and girls' facilities. As a result, this has increased the time frame for the opening of the WCS shelters. WCS anticipates opening the shelters in late June.

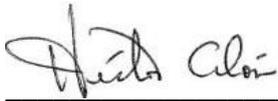
Approval to extend the St. Charles shelter programming will ensure that there are community-based placement options for boys while pending court and that youth are not held in detention due to a lack of placement options.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, or his designee, to increase the purchase of service contract with St. Charles for shelter care by \$425,340, from \$425,340 to a not-to-exceed amount of \$850,680, for the time period of May 1 through no later than August 31, 2017.

Fiscal Impact

A fiscal note form is attached.



Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

- cc: County Executive Chris Abele
Hon. Maxine A. White, Chief Judge
Raisa Koltun, County Executive's Office
Kelly Bablitch, County Board
Lisa Wozny, Budget Analyst – DAS
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