

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Delinquency and Court Services Division (DHHS)
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: April 22, 2014

TO: Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors and Peggy Romo-West, Chairwoman, Health and Human Needs

FROM: Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Prepared by B. Thomas Wanta, Administrator/ Chief Intake Officer – DCSD

SUBJECT: **Informational Report from the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services regarding the 2014 Purchase of Service Contract with Wisconsin Community Services for a Community Service and Restitution Coordination program within the Delinquency and Court Services Division**

Background

Since 1970, DHHS has supported a social service delivery system comprised of both directly provided and purchased services using a combination of State, grant and local tax funds. Partnerships with community providers have allowed DHHS to cooperate and collaborate with various community agencies and resources. These partnerships further the opportunities for community participation, leverage resources and utilize community expertise regarding the DCSD community response to delinquency.

The Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) intends to enter into a purchase of service contract with Wisconsin Community Services by an amount not to exceed \$107,975 for a Community Service and Restitution Coordination program within the Delinquency and Court Services Division (DCSD) to implement juvenile justice system reform activities associated with the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) and early intervention programming.

Discussion

DCSD recently applied for and was awarded Early Intervention funds for juvenile justice programs and services aimed at youth at risk of delinquency. On December 16, 2013 DCSD received the Calendar Year 2014 Early Intervention Funding Award in the amount of \$353,975 for the time period spanning January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 to supplement the Youth and Family Aids Program funding from the State of Wisconsin Division of Juvenile Corrections, Department of Corrections. On January 1, 2014 the Division of Juvenile Corrections and the County Board of Supervisors of Milwaukee entered into an early intervention supplemental contract to the 2014 State and County Contract Covering the Administration of Community Youth and Family Aids Program.

DCSD has historically used Early Intervention Program (EIP) funding to supplement Community Intervention Program funds to continue to support the First Time Offender Program (FTJOP) and related activities. Due to the significant increase in funds available for 2014 for EIP, DCSD will initiate new alternatives to detention programs aimed at reducing the use of secure detention. These initiatives will enhance early intervention opportunities for first time offenders, along with other youth at risk of placement in secure detention, which is consistent with the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative. Milwaukee County was chosen in 2012 by the Annie E. Casey Foundation to participate in JDAI as one of three Wisconsin sites as part of a statewide roll-out through the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance to reduce the number of youth in confinement while maintaining or improving community safety. Milwaukee County formally agreed to serve as a pilot JDAI demonstration site and follow the JDAI model through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance (Wisconsin Department of Justice as of July 2013). The proposed initiatives for the early intervention funds included an evening report center for youth at risk of being placed in secure detention.

The Community Service and Restitution Coordination program is designed as a program to provide a resource for youth to complete their court ordered conditions of community service and pay back their court ordered restitution. One barrier to youth completing the conditions of their court order and Deferred Prosecution Agreement (DPA) is the lack of availability and monitoring of community service opportunities and this program addresses this need. This program also provides a community-based alternative to detention for youth served by DCSD. The program will primarily serve post dispositional youth that are the subject of a court order, along with youth on a DPA or consent decree. The Community Service and Restitution Coordination program is also designed to be an alternative to youth being placed in secure detention for sanctions or youth picked up on a warrant and are pending court. The Community Service and Restitution program will provide a timely response that holds youth accountable, provides supervision and engages the youth in positive and constructive programming.

The goals of the Community Service and Restitution Coordination program include the following:

- Provide a timely community-based alternative to placement in detention
- Provide the opportunity for youth to complete community service hours and opportunity to pay back their court ordered restitution
- Minimize risk taking and delinquent behaviors
- Provide an opportunity for youth to contribute to their communities in a positive manner and pay back their restitution to victims
- Reduce the likelihood of re-arrests while allowing the youth to continue attending school and remain at home or least restrictive setting
- Expose youth to community-based services and positive programming with the potential to lead to continuing involvement beyond their probation involvement

DCSD issued a request for proposals (RFP) in February 2014 for the operation of the Community Service and Restitution Coordination program. In addition to Section 46.09 of the County Ordinances, DCSD conforms to the DHHS RFP process to ensure objectivity and fairness

in the awarding of purchase of service contracts. Three proposals were submitted and scored by a panel of three individuals and a contract administrator. Based on the scores, DCSD plans to enter into a purchase of service contract with Wisconsin Community Services (WCS) in the amount of \$101,975 for May 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. WCS will operate this program out of one location; provide transportation to and from the program for the youth as needed, as well as other incentives.

Recommendation

This is an informational report. No action is necessary.

Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

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