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3 Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting
4 approval to award \$609,355 in ARPA funding to Milwaukee County’s Mental Health
5 Board for community mental health services, by recommending adoption of the
6 following:

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8 **A RESOLUTION**
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10 WHEREAS, the Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 was signed
11 into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, in an effort to support individuals,
12 families, businesses, and governments impacted by the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-
13 19) pandemic; and

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15 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County (the County) will receive \$183.7 million in ARPA
16 funding, through the ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund; and

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18 WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors adopted File No.
19 21-555: “A resolution to create a Task Force (ARPA Task Force) to review and
20 recommend funding allocations to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors for
21 monies received by the County in the Federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021”; and

22
23 WHEREAS, of the County’s \$183.7 million of ARPA aid, approximately
24 \$40,415,339 has been allotted for Community Support projects, to generate project-
25 level allocation recommendations to respond to economic harms to workers, families,
26 small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector in the County; and

27
28 WHEREAS, the County has seen a recent, serious uptick in mental health issues
29 in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, and disparities in access to care and additional
30 challenges faced by a large population living in poverty and segregation have led to
31 dramatic increases in suicide and mental health crisis, particularly in communities of
32 color; and

33
34 WHEREAS, in November 2022, the Community Support Subgroup
35 recommended that the Access to Mental Health Care Project (Access Project) receive
36 \$408,831, and the Mental Health Clinic for Youth and Young Adults Project receive
37 \$200,524 in Community Support funding based on criteria set forth by the ARPA Task
38 Force; and

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40 WHEREAS, the Access Project would close gaps in mental health access, and
41 add capacity by hiring health professionals to provide a greater level of care, and
42 improve the care administered in the clinic setting to accelerate the healing process;
43 and
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45 WHEREAS, the Mental Health Clinic for Youth and Young Adults Project would
46 provide young people with additional mental health services that may negate a future
47 need for a shelter stay, or more acute mental health care needs as well as create
48 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual+ programming; and
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50 WHEREAS, the ARPA Task Force recommended the Access to Mental Health
51 Care and the Mental Health Clinic for Youth and Young Adults projects for funding on
52 January 19, 2023 (vote 5-0); and
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54 WHEREAS, 2013 Wisconsin Act 203 requires the Milwaukee County Mental
55 Health Board to determine and authorize mental health programs and services, which
56 would include the Access to Mental Health Care (\$408,831) and the Mental Health
57 Clinic for Youth and Young Adults (\$200,524) projects; and
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59 WHEREAS, the Committee on Health Equity, Human Needs, and Strategic
60 Planning, at its meeting of March 8, 2023, recommended adoption of File No. 23-335
61 (vote 5-0); and
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63 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of March 16, 2023,
64 recommended adoption of File No. 23-335 (vote 5-0); now, therefore,
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66 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board)
67 hereby awards the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board (MHB) \$609,355 of
68 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, to allocate
69 for grant eligible mental health program and services that are contained in the
70 Behavioral Health Services Division, Department of Health and Human Services; and
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72 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, subject to the approval of the MHB, the County
73 Board authorizes the administrating department, Department of Administrative Services
74 (DAS), the Office of Corporation Counsel, Risk Management Division, DAS, the Office
75 of Economic Inclusion, DAS, Office of the Comptroller, Office of Strategy, Budget, and
76 Performance, and County Executive, to prepare, review, approve, and execute all
77 contracts and other documents, and take all actions as required for the purpose of
78 administering the above-referenced programs funded by the ARPA grant allocation
79 framework.
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