

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to enter into purchase of service contracts for the operation of the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP), by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 16.27, Wisconsin State Statutes (State Statutes), governs the operation of the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) in the State of Wisconsin (the State), and prescribes a role for counties in delivering such assistance, and Section 46.215, State Statutes, specifically addresses Milwaukee County’s (the County) role in providing energy assistance to eligible residents; and

WHEREAS, per Section 59.52(31), State Statutes, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting approval of two purchase of service contracts with community vendors to perform this critical service, which assists with heating, electric, and energy crisis costs for the residents of the County, and offers year-round, 24-hour per day access to support; and

WHEREAS, funding to support these contracts, as well as County staff and overhead costs, is provided by the WHEAP contract, and is contingent upon Federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program funding; and

WHEREAS, the WHEAP contract was approved in File No. 18-634 for a five-year term effective October 1, 2018, through September 30, 2019, with four additional, one-year renewals through September 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, for the past few years, the State Department of Administration has been utilizing a private vendor to process online applications, and as a result, the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023 preliminary allocation to the County decreased by nearly \$500,000, from \$2,993,828 in FFY 2022, to \$2,492,431, due to the shift in applications from Community Advocates, and United Migrant Opportunity Services to the private vendor; and

WHEREAS, to remain within the total amount awarded in the State contract, the contracts with the two provider agencies have been reduced by about \$350,000, compared to FFY 2022; and

WHEREAS, given the reduction in funding, service impacts will occur, such as the elimination of extended hours for customers, reduced outreach, longer call wait times due to the reduction in staffing at the call center, as well as overall job loss to our partner agency staff who are majority Black and Latino; and

46 WHEREAS, DHHS has not yet been notified of a final funding amount for the
47 2023 season, and because the existing contracts end on September 30, 2022, the
48 department is seeking approval of the contracts in the September cycle of the
49 Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) for continuity of services; and
50

51 WHEREAS, if the actual FFY 2023 WHEAP contract award is less than the
52 preliminary award, the agency contracts will be further reduced, and DHHS will inform
53 the County Board of this change; and
54

55 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of September 15, 2022,
56 recommended adoption of File No. 22-950 (vote 7-0); now, therefore,
57

58 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board)
59 hereby authorizes the Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), or
60 her designee, to execute contracts with the following vendors for the term of Federal
61 Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023 (October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023), and in the
62 following amounts:
63

Provider	2022 Contract	2023 Proposed Contract	Variance 2023/2022
Community Advocates	\$1,545,775	\$1,310,949	(\$234,826)
United Migrant Opportunity Services (UMOS)	\$811,882	\$700,015	(\$111,867)
Total	\$2,357,657	\$2,010,964	(\$346,693)

64
65 ; and
66

67 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Director, DHHS, or her designee, is hereby
68 authorized by the County Board to amend the Community Advocates, and UMOS
69 contracts due to the receipt of any addenda increasing the Wisconsin Home Energy
70 Assistance Program contract with DHHS, from the State of Wisconsin Department of
71 Administration, Division of Energy, Housing, and Community Resources, for the
72 operation of the WHEAP program during FFY 2023.
73

74
75 srb
76 09/15/2022
77 \\Fi01wpchc\comclerk\$\Committees\2022\September\FINANCE\Resolutions\22-950 DHHS - WHEAP POS
78 Contracts.docx