

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
**Behavioral Health Division Administration**  
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

**DATE:** September 27, 2012

**TO:** Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services  
*Prepared by Paula Lucey, Administrator, Behavioral Health Division*

**SUBJECT:** **Report, from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, Requesting Authorization to Amend a 2010 Professional Services Contract with University of Wisconsin – Population Health Institute for the Behavioral Health Division**

**Issue**

Section 56.30 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances requires County Board approval for Professional Services Contracts of \$50,000 or greater. Per Section 56.30, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to amend and increase the 2010 professional services contract of the University of Wisconsin – Population Health Institute and to retroactively establish this contract from October 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.

**Discussion**

BHD was awarded a federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant for treatment for homeless services in 2009. This grant and resulting program, known as Milwaukee Welcomes You to Income, Sobriety, and Housing (Mi-WISH), has completed implementation and provision of services for the first three of five years of grant funding. Utilizing a true wraparound approach, the program is able to provide key services to individuals who are homeless and living with a substance use disorder or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. A team of individuals from multiple systems provides a wide array of services, including care coordination, substance abuse treatment, access to mental health treatment (if needed), benefits acquisition, supported employment and housing.

With well over 100 individuals having now been served in this unique model of service delivery, the outcomes are quite promising. Year 3 of the grant ended as of September 30, 2012. As the program moves into Years 4 and 5 of the grant, it is imperative that the evaluation component required of the grant has an intensified focus on process improvement and outcome evaluation so that the program can move toward sustainability for the future. It is recommended that the evaluation services be contracted to the University of Wisconsin – Population Health Institute, as they are an established evaluation provider known to the BHD Community Services Branch and have an earned reputation for delivery of such specialized evaluation services.

The evaluation component is fully funded and budgeted within the grant. The contract for evaluation services with the provider for the first three years of the grant ended on September 30, 2012. As evaluation is a required component of the grant, it is being requested that this contract be approved retroactively to the beginning Year 4 of the grant on October 1, 2012. This would ensure that there is no disruption in the evaluation services of this program.

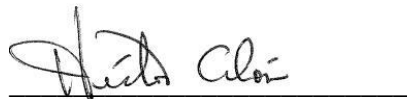
**Fiscal Effect**

The revenue received through the SAMHSA grant will cover the full cost of the evaluation services. As the contract for evaluation services with the previous provider ended as of 9/30/12, there will be no overlap of services with the new evaluation provider. There is no tax levy effect. A fiscal note form is attached.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, DHHS, or his designee, to increase the University of Wisconsin – Population Health Institute professional services contract by \$15,775 to \$75,978 retroactively for the time period of October 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,



Héctor Colón, Director  
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele  
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