

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
**Behavioral Health Division Administration**  
**Inter-Office Communication**

**DATE:** February 25, 2013

**TO:** Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman – Milwaukee County Board

**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 establish Purchase of Services Contracts with four Neighborhood Centers: Silver Springs, Northcott, UMOS, and The Urban League to administer the *Celebrating Families* selective preventative intervention within the Behavioral Health Division**

**Issue**

Section 46.09 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances requires County Board approval for the purchase of human services from nongovernmental vendors. No contract or contract adjustment shall take effect until approved by resolution of the County Board. Per Section 46.09, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to enter into purchase of service contracts with the following neighborhood centers in Milwaukee: Silver Springs, Northcott, UMOS, and The Urban League.

**Discussion**

Over the past year the Community Services Branch of BHD has been increasing their partnership opportunities with the State Department of Children and Families and the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (BMCW). One of the most recent partnership initiatives has been the Fatherhood Project. The Fatherhood Project is a workforce preparation initiative that also places special emphasis on the role of fathers within the family structure. There is a great need for strengthening family functioning and dynamics in a family impacted by substance use in the household. Therefore the use of the *Celebrating Families!*<sup>™</sup> model is recommended to achieve this need. The model is developed for children of alcoholics/addicts and their parents, many of whom have learning difficulties or cognitive deficits. *Celebrating Families!*<sup>™</sup> is based on recent research about brain chemistry, including skills, education, risk and resiliency factors, and asset development. Emphasis is also placed on the importance of community service and individual spirituality. The Community Services Branch will ensure that the *Celebrating Families!*<sup>™</sup> selective preventative intervention program is available at four neighborhood centers that are participating in the Fatherhood Project and are partners with BMCW. Those neighborhood centers are: Silver Springs, Northcott, UMOS, and The Urban League. The *Celebrating Families!*<sup>™</sup> curriculum is an evidence based cognitive behavioral, support group model written for families in which one or both parents have a serious problem with alcohol or other drugs

and in where there is a high risk for domestic violence, child abuse, or neglect. The program would be delivered at the neighborhood centers and made available for families participating in the Fatherhood Project and/or BMCW.

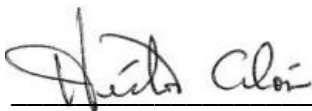
**Fiscal Effect**

Total funds for these four purchase of service contracts will be allocated from funding received from BMCW for substance abuse prevention and treatment activities. BMCW has listed the vendors for this initiative in the contract issued to BHD (See Attachment). BHD will administer these contracts for quality compliance and outcome reporting. The funding is federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAPTBG) and has no tax levy impact. 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 execute purchase of services contracts with Silver Springs, Northcott, UMOS, and The Urban League neighborhood centers for the period of April 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 in the amount of \$50,000 for each agency for a total amount of \$200,000.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Héctor Colón, Director  
Department of Health and Human Services

- cc: County Executive Chris Abele  
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