

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

DATE: January 12, 2023

TO: Shawn Rolland, Co-Chair, Ricardo Diaz, Co-Chair,  
Milwaukee County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Task Force

FROM: Community Support Area Subgroup – Mental & Behavioral Health

SUBJECT: ARPA Community Support Strategy Recommendation

**REQUEST**

Requesting recommendation of the Mental & Behavioral Health subgroup projects for \$609,355 within the Community Support Expenditure Category for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding consideration.

**POLICY**

Milwaukee County Board file 21-555: “A resolution to create a Task Force to review and recommend funding allocations to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors for monies received by the County in the Federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021”

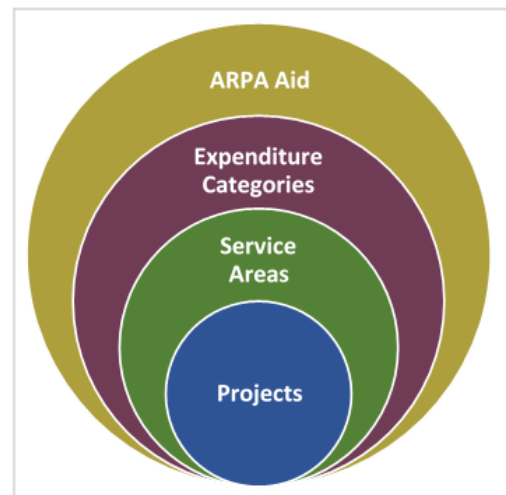
**BACKGROUND**

Milwaukee County received \$183 million between 2021-24 in federal ARPA aid. Approximately \$40,415,339 has been allotted for Community Support projects.

The Community Support Service Area subgroups were established to generate project-level allocation recommendations to respond to economic harms to workers, families, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector in Milwaukee County.

The Mental & Behavioral Health subgroup was formed with subject matter experts following the Community Support Service Area Subgroup Charter. Membership includes the following individuals:

**Diagram A: Illustration of Terms**



Name	Role & Title	Organization
Regina Whiyee	Lead Facilitator, Administrative Coordinator	Milwaukee County, CYFS
Lauren Hubbard	Lead Facilitator, Director of Community Crisis Services	Milwaukee County, BHS
Benjamin Porter	Partner, Program Officer	Greater Milwaukee Foundation
Kenneth Ginlack	Partner, Executive Director	Serenity Inns, Inc.
Kenyatta Sinclair	Partner, Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer	Greater Milwaukee Foundation
Shalonda LeFlore	Partner, Clinical Director	St. Charles Youth & Family Services

In November 2022 the subgroup reviewed the Access to Mental Health Care and Mental Health Clinic for Youth and Youth Adults projects received from external sources to support Milwaukee County’s recovery in this service area. The subgroup followed the criteria set by the ARPA Task Force on September 2, 2021, to recommend these projects as high priority projects.

**PRIORITIZED PROJECTS**

The high-ranking project in this service area is listed below for recommendation. Please also note the attached project proposals (Attachment A & B), the criteria scoring rubric (Attachment C), and the Service Area subgroup review summary (Attachment D) provides further detail.

Project Name	Description	Budget
Access to Mental Health Care	City on a Hill (COAH) proposes to improve the care for the top ranked need in Milwaukee County – mental health. To close gaps in mental health access, this project will leverage the engagement of COAH’s collaborative network of partners to better respond to the need for mental and behavioral health provider access. COAH will add additional capacity through a unique partnership leveraging a tech-enabled kiosk approach with Nurse Disrupted and Anesis Therapy that will provide culturally responsive behavioral health services through their client facing kiosks at the COAH campus This funding will be used to hire dedicated health professionals to provide a greater level of care to these patients, will improve the care provided in the clinic setting and accelerate the healing process.	\$408,831
Mental Health Clinic for Youth and Youth Adults	Walker’s Point Youth and Family Center will maintain current mental health services and to expand programming into community outreach. Walker’s Point Youth & Family Center would implement two new positions. A bilingual licensed professional counselor (LPC) would be embedded into the youth development programming offered through Milwaukee Christian Center in the 53215 zip code and other program partners. The other LPC position would create LGBTQIA+ programming to work with current residents and pilot outreach programs.	\$200,524

**RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the recommendation for the Mental & Behavioral Health projects to receive \$600,355 within the Community Support Expenditure Category.

**PREPARED BY:**

Bess Earl, Office of Strategy, Budget & Performance, Senior Grants Analyst

**ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Describe how the item aligns to the objectives in the strategic plan:

2A: Determine what, where, and how we deliver services to advance health equity

2C: Apply a racial equity lens to all decisions

3A: Invest “upstream” to address root causes of health disparities

3C: Dismantle barriers to diverse and inclusive communities

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A: Access to Mental Health Care Project Proposal

Attachment B: Mental Health Clinic for Youth & Young Adults Project Proposal

Attachment C: ARPA Proposal Review Criteria – Community Support Programs

Attachment D: Service Area Subgroup Review Summary for Mental & Behavioral Health Projects