

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: March 4, 2022

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: Shakita LaGrant-McClain, Director, Department of Health and Human Services

Subject: A report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting approval of a contract amendment for the Level II In-Home Monitoring Program within Children, Youth and Family Services (CYFS)

File Type: Action File

REQUEST

The Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to amend a purchase of service contract with the Level II In-Home Monitoring Program provider, St. Charles Youth and Family Services.

POLICY

Per Wisconsin Statutes, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services is requesting authorization to execute these purchase of service contracts.

Wisconsin State Statutes:		59.52(31)
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BACKGROUND

The Level II In-Home Monitoring Program with optional Global Positioning System (GPS) serves youth pending court for alleged delinquency as an alternative to secure detention as well as post dispositional youth in need of short-term intensive monitoring through GPS. The Level II program provides intensive in-home monitoring services to youth and their families to support parental home supervision to avoid additional offenses and to appear for their court hearings. Youth can be court ordered into this program or referred by CYFS and remain until the time of disposition or discontinuation of services is deemed appropriate by the court or CYFS.

The program is based on the premise that youth who remain connected with their families, schools, peers, employers, and with other community resources are less likely to have further contact with the youth justice system. This is accomplished through a structured supervision plan, program support and counseling, advocacy, and the availability of 24-hour crisis intervention. The use of GPS is also an option for youth who need additional monitoring and

supervision. Last December, the County Board approved a contract with St. Charles Youth & Family Services in an amount of \$1,575,400 (File No. 21-1023) to support 145 slots for this program.

The proposed amendment would increase the existing contract by \$361,074 for an additional 15 slots as well as costs associated with training, quality assurance and increased personnel costs. These increased slots are needed to address the high census level currently being experienced in the detention center at the Vel Phillips Youth and Family Justice Center. As of February 21, the census reached an unprecedented peak of 141 compared to an average census of 89 over the last 10 years. An expansion of the existing contract for Level II monitoring is expected to help ease the number of youth being held in detention.

Service	Provider	2022 Allocation	Adjustment	Total Adjusted Contract
Level II In-Home Monitoring	St. Charles Youth & Family Services	\$1,575,400	\$361,074	\$1,936,474

To support the cost of this contract increase, DHHS submitted a request to the county’s ARPA subgroup responsible for the COVID-19 Mitigation expenditure category. Expanding the number of Level II In-Home Monitoring spots is expected to reduce the census in the detention center and thereby, potential COVID-19 exposure.

CYFS does not have funds within its 2022 budget to support this contract amendment and is currently anticipating a funding deficit due to additional youth being ordered to the State’s facilities of Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools and Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center. The 2022 Budget assumed an average daily population (ADP) of 17 and the current census at the time of this report is 28. Based on the current ADP, the annual cost is projected to be \$11.8 million which reflects a deficit of nearly \$4.6 million compared to the budget of \$7.2 million. This was reported to the County Board under File No. 22-422.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

The CYFS is recommending contracts that support the ongoing development of community-based programming for justice involved youth and their families and ensures a racial equity lens is utilized in all program and contract decisions. The CYFS programs enhance the quality of life for youth and their families in Milwaukee County. There are ongoing efforts to reform the youth justice system in Milwaukee County to build upon the community continuum of care, individualize all case planning and services for youth in the community whenever possible and break down the silos in the system across all entities. The CYFS is committed to transitioning youth out of correctional placements and back to Milwaukee by leveraging resources for the

zero-youth corrections plan to better support young people and their families.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, or her designee, to execute an amendment to increase a purchase of service contract with St. Charles Youth & Family Services by \$361,074, from \$1,575,400 to \$1,936,474, for the services identified in the accompanying resolution. The effective date of the contract would be the period of January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022.

FISCAL EFFECT

Given the urgency of addressing the census levels at the detention center, DHHS advanced this contract amendment without final approval of the revenue source. A request for ARPA COVID-19 Mitigation revenue is pending before the county's ARPA subgroup responsible for this expenditure category. DHHS anticipates a recommendation on funding prior to action taken by the County Board on this issue.

TERMS

The amendment to the purchase of service contract would be effective January 1, 2022 and end December 31, 2022.

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Shakita LaGrant-McClain, DHHS Director
Kelly Pethke, Interim CYFS Administrator
Clare O'Brien, DHHS Budget & Policy Director

PREPARED BY:

Clare O'Brien, DHHS Budget & Policy Director

APPROVED BY:

Shakita LaGrant-McClain
Shakita LaGrant-McClain, DHHS Director

ATTACHMENTS:

None

cc: County Executive David Crowley
Hon. Mary E. Triggiano, Chief Judge
Sup. Jason Haas, Chair, Finance Committee
Sup. Felesia Martin, Chair, Health Equity, Human Needs, & Strategic Planning Committee
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Steve Cady, Research Director, Comptroller's Office
Pam Matthews, Fiscal & Management Analyst, DAS
Lottie Maxwell-Mitchell, Research & Policy Analyst, Comptroller's Office