

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
**Department of Health & Human Services**  
**INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

**DATE:** February 28, 2011

**TO:** Lee Holloway, Chairman - Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Geri Lyday, Interim Director, Department of Health and Human Services  
*Prepared by: James Mathy, Special Needs Housing Manager - Housing Division*

**SUBJECT: FROM THE INTERIM DIRECTOR, DHHS, REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION TO TERMINATE THE 2011 PURCHASE OF SERVICE CONTRACT WITH SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND ENTER INTO A 2011 PURCHASE OF SERVICE CONTRACT WITH COMMUNITY ADVOCATES FOR EMERGENCY SHELTER CARE**

**Policy 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. Due to recent changes for the 2011 Emergency Shelter Care purchase of service contracts (POS), the Interim Director of the Department of Health and Human Services is requesting authorization to terminate the 2011 Housing Division purchase of service contract with Social Development Commission (SDC) and enter into a 2011 POS contract with Community Advocates.

**Background**

For the past several years, Milwaukee County has maintained a purchase of service contract with SDC to provide Emergency Shelter Care services through their Family Support Center. In December 2010, the Health and Human Needs Committee authorized DHHS to enter into a 2011 POS contract with SDC. In the 2011 Housing Division Emergency Shelter Care contract allocation, SDC received an allocation of \$52,994.

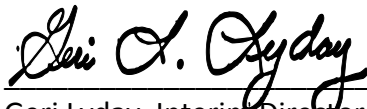
**Discussion**

In late December, the Housing Division received written notification that SDC had signed an agreement transferring their Family Support Center programs to the Milwaukee Women’s Center, a subsidiary of Community Advocates, as of January 1, 2011. SDC had contacted Community Advocates in November of 2010 in an effort to transfer the Center activities. SDC made this decision based on Community Advocates’ long-standing history with homeless programs. Also, because they believed Community Advocates was better able to serve the population because they run programs that can provide mental health and AODA outpatient services. Community Advocates also operates several residential programs in the community and are able to provide rent assistance to the population served with their Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program. It was necessary for SDC to find a provider immediately to avoid the disruption of services for the homeless families receiving assistance.

Under the direction of Community Advocates, the emergency shelter care services and service volumes will remain the same. Last year, the Family Support Center served 180 families (188 adults and 355 children for a total of 543 individuals.) Many of the current SDC employees will continue with the program and the program will remain at the same location. Other funding sources have been made aware of the change from SDC to Community Advocates including the Wisconsin Department of Commerce, City of Milwaukee, and United Way.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the County Board of Supervisors authorize the Interim Director, DHHS, or designee, to terminate the 2011 Housing Division purchase of service contract with Social Development Commission and enter into a new 2011 purchase of service contract with Community Advocates in an amount not to exceed \$52,994 to reflect the organization's assumption of the SDC purchase of service contract for the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 in order to maintain continuity of care for individuals receiving



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Geri Lyday, Interim Director  
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: Marvin Pratt, Interim County Executive  
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