

(ITEM) From the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to execute a State/County contract in the amount \$2,618,524 for the operation of the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program for the Federal Fiscal Year effective October 1, 2015, through September 30, 2016, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, per Section 16.27 and Section 46.215 of the Wisconsin State Statutes, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to execute a State/County contract for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2016 (October 1, 2015, through September 30, 2016) for the operation and funding of low-income energy assistance; and

WHEREAS, the State’s Energy Assistance Program is run in conjunction with counties and has the following components:

- General eligibility for the program includes households at or less than 60% of State median income (\$49,232 annually for a family of four).
- Regular Energy Assistance Benefits provides a utility supplemental payment for current season heating Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and/or non-heating electric public benefits expenses. Households may receive only one regular heating and/or one regular electric (non-heating) benefit during each heating season (October 1 - May 15). This assistance is paid out of a centrally controlled account by the State and is not maintained by Milwaukee County.
- Crisis Energy Assistance provides services to households experiencing actual energy emergencies or those at risk of an emergency. An emergency services component of this area provides benefits and services to households that are experiencing actual or imminent loss of home heating/electricity or in need of cooling assistance upon the declaration of a heat emergency. Emergency services also include furnace repair and replacement.
- Weatherization services include insulating attics, walls, and floors; insulating or replacing water heaters; and installing energy efficient lighting among other services. Basic eligibility requirements for weatherization are the same as those for the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP).

; and

WHEREAS, the State contract supports the staff and operating costs of the Energy Assistance Program as well as outside contractual services; and

47 WHEREAS, as of September 23, 2015, the State made approximately \$24.4
48 million in payments year-to-date on behalf of 53,423 households under Energy
49 Assistance for FFY 2015, and over \$3.4 million year-to-date under Crisis Energy
50 Assistance for 11,844 customers in Milwaukee County; and

51
52 WHEREAS, the total revenue to Milwaukee County included in the proposed
53 WHEAP contract is \$2,618,524, and the total contract award is \$4,000,428; and

54
55 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, Personnel, and Audit, at its meeting of
56 November 2, 2015, recommended adoption of the Directors request (vote 8-0); now,
57 therefore,

58
59 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors hereby
60 authorizes the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, or his designee, to
61 execute a Federal Fiscal Year 2016 contract for the period effective October 1, 2015,
62 through September 30, 2016, with automatic extensions every October 1 for a total
63 period of three years with the State Department of Administration covering the operation
64 of the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program in the amount of \$2,618,524 in the
65 first year, and any addenda thereto.

66
67
68 jmj
69 11/02/15
70 S:\Committees\2015\Nov\FPA\Resolutions\15-660.docx