

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Delinquency and Court Services Division
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: November 6, 2015

TO: Theodore Lipscomb, Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Prepared by James Mathy, Administrator, Housing Division

SUBJECT: **An informational report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, regarding receipt of grant revenue in the amount of \$50,000 from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation to support Milwaukee County's plan to end chronic homelessness**

Background

The Housing Division recently embarked upon a plan to end chronic homelessness in Milwaukee County as described in a September 2015 informational report (File No. 15-617). This plan is grounded in the "Housing First" approach recognized by the Housing and Urban Development as a best practice based on the concept that a homeless individual or household's first and primary need is to obtain stable housing. Immediate housing is the first step towards obtaining treatment and other wraparound services.

The plan entails the following components: increased outreach to chronically homeless individuals and families; creation of new permanent supportive housing units; additional permanent rental assistance resources; short-term rental assistance; redesign of the Pathways to Permanent Housing program; provision of basic human necessities; and additional staffing to carry out, manage, and evaluate the activities associated with this initiative.

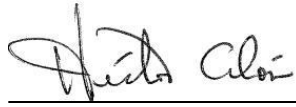
Discussion

The Housing Division of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) applied for and was awarded a grant from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation to support the overall plan to end chronic homelessness in Milwaukee County.

DHHS received notice of a grant award in the amount of \$50,000 from the Greater Milwaukee Foundation for a one-year period beginning October 1, 2015. This funding will support in part the outreach and case management components of the plan to end chronic homelessness. Using this funding, the Housing Division will contract with Community Advocates to provide expanded outreach to identify chronically homeless individuals and families to connect them to housing, case management and support services. This funding will also support a contract with

Transitional Living Services to provide case management services for individuals served through this initiative.

There is no local funding match requirement associated with this grant revenue.



Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
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Kelly Bablitch, County Board
County Supervisor Patricia Jursik, County Board
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