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INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: November 25, 2025

TO: Marcelia Nicholson-Bovell, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Caroline Gómez-Tom, Chair, Committee on Intergovernmental Relations

FROM: Scott F. Brown, Corporation Counsel, Office of Corporation Counsel
Jennifer K. Rhodes, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Office of Corporation Counsel

SUBJECT: From Corporation Counsel, the Milwaukee County Office of Corporation Counsel,
providing an informational report regarding the status of the Social Development
Commission

BACKGROUND

In March 2025, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (“DCF”) provided notice of intent to terminate the Community Relations – Social Development Commission’s (“SDC’s”) designation as a Community Action Agency (“CAA”) under the Community Services Block Grant (“CSBG”) Act¹, which provides funds directly to Milwaukee County for critical community services.

In September 2025, DCF was informed in writing by the federal Office of Community Services (OCS) within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) that a 90-day clock for federal review started on August 19, 2025, and that DCF’s decision to terminate SDC’s CAA designation status would become final after November 17 in the absence of additional follow-up from their office.

Having not received notice, DCF confirmed with OCS that its decision became final effective November 18. On November 21, 2025, DCF issued its final notification that the SDC’s designation as a CAA had been terminated as of November 18, 2025.

To ensure the critical services funded by the federal CSBG in Milwaukee County are restored, as an interim solution, DCF will move forward with allocating FY2025 CSBG funding to another eligible Milwaukee County organization, UMOS, as soon as possible. For a long-term solution,

¹ 42 U.S.C. § 9915.

DCF will work in partnership with Milwaukee County to select and designate a new organization as a CAA under the CSBG Act.

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

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ATTACHMENTS

DCF's November 21, 2025, Final Notification of Termination of CAA Designation Status