

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

Date: November 7, 2022

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

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

Subject: Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to execute non-professional service contracts with caterers that support the Senior Dining Program for a total cost not to exceed \$3,085,100 for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023

File Type: Action Report

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**REQUEST**

The Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), is requesting authorization to execute non-professional service contracts with caterers which provide meals to the programs that make up the Senior Dining Program, which includes Meals on Wheels, the Dine-Out program and the network of congregate and take-out meal sites.

**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 Milwaukee County Senior Meal Program began in 1972 and is administered through the local Area Agency on Aging, housed within Milwaukee County DHHS Aging and Disabilities Services (ADS).

The Senior Dining Program supports older adults who wish to age in place, but need support to access healthy, nutritious meals. These programs also address social isolation by encouraging seniors to visit centers where social programming is available and incorporating wellness checks into meal deliveries to homebound adults.

The caterers that serve the Senior Dining Program prepare meals and menus overseen by the Senior Dining Program Coordinator who is a Registered Dietitian with expertise in

older adult nutritional needs. The network of caterers that serve these programs have demonstrated ability to provide nutritious meals that appeal to Milwaukee County's older adult residents. Because of the variety of culinary backgrounds in these caterers, there is a significant amount of choice and cultural diversity that has been developed, especially within the caterers that serve the Dine-Out program.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) process for the large-scale caterers that provide the majority of meals to the Senior Dining Program was conducted in 2022. This RFP process was structured to identify two caterers which would be selected to serve two roughly equal geographic areas of Milwaukee County and the diners who eat in those areas through the Meals on Wheels Program and congregate dining sites. The two vendors that were chosen by the panel are Aramark and D&S Food Services, Inc. which are the same caterers that held the contracts previously. However, to make meal deliveries more efficient the zones of service will be switched in 2022.

The contracts for caterers that serve the Muslim Community and Health Center and Dine-Out Program do not meet the financial requirement to go through RFP process, but they are evaluated for quality by ADS staff and surveys to diners. Two new caterers have been onboarded in 2022: Krazy Kitchen and Pass da Peas.

### **Congregate Dining**

Per meal costs for each caterer:

<b>Caterer</b>	<b>Price per meal</b>	<b>Meal location</b>
Anmol LLC	\$7.25	Muslim Community and Health Center
Aramark	\$5.06	Zone 2
Sweet Fix	\$7.25	Muslim Community and Health Center
D&S Food Services, Inc.	\$5.35	Zone 1
Jimbo's Lodge Catering, LLC	\$6.25	Milwaukee Elks Lodge #46
Krazy Kitchen	\$8.01	Muslim Community and Health Center

Anmol and Sweet Fix have taken on the responsibility of delivering meals during the COVID-19 pandemic and are reimbursed at \$18 and \$10, respectively per delivery.

### **Dine-Out Project**

The Dine-Out Program was first piloted in 2021 and was one of the few new programs to launch during the COVID pandemic. This program is intended to allow diners to choose from delicious and culturally diverse options from local, minority-owned restaurants served in-situ. However, to encourage social distancing, this program has functioned as a take-out program from meal sites since its introduction in 2020. The chefs from the restaurants worked with County staff to develop meals that are tailored for the nutritional needs of senior diners while remaining true to their menus.

Initially, there were four restaurants which participated as caterers with coordination and

supervision provided by VIA CDC. In 2022, the Milwaukee Christian Center stepped into the role of meal site supervisor and to provide project coordination.

Per meal price for restaurant caterers participating in the Dine Out Program:

<b>Caterer</b>	<b>Price per meal</b>
Antigua-Latin Inspired Kitchen	\$8.00
Daddy's Soul Food & Grille Inc	\$8.00
Leva Enterprises LLC/Orenda Café	\$8.00
Pass da Peas	\$8.01

### **ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

This item is aligned to the strategic plan as it focuses on increasing the number of County contracts awarded to minority and women-owned businesses and investing “upstream” to address root causes of health disparities.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, to execute non-professional service contracts for a total cost not to exceed \$3,085,100 from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 to provide meal services to Milwaukee County’s older adult residents.

### **FISCAL EFFECT**

Funding for this service has been included in DHHS’s 2023 Budget and is supported by funding from Title III-C of the Older Americans Act. In addition to this funding, the nutrition program receives participant contributions and other revenues.

### **TERMS**

These contracts are effective starting January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

### **VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES**

[Shakita.LaGrant@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:Shakita.LaGrant@milwaukeecountywi.gov)  
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### **PREPARED BY:**

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Services

**APPROVED BY:**

*Shakita LaGrant-McClain*  
Shakita LaGrant-McClain, DHHS Director

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None

cc: County Executive David Crowley  
Sup. Liz Sumner, Chair, Finance Committee  
Sup. Shawn Rolland, Chair, Health Equity, Human Needs, and Strategic Planning  
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office  
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
Janelle M. Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager, Office of the County  
Steve Cady, Research Director, Comptroller's Office  
Lottie Maxwell-Mitchell, Fiscal & Management Analyst, DAS