

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: February 16, 2024

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

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

Subject: A report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to increase the overall 2024 non-professional services contract with D&S Food Services, Inc. by \$1,039,398, for a total of \$2,388,258 and amend per-meal prices from \$5.51 to \$5.89 for the Senior Nutrition Program

File Type: Action Report

REQUEST

The Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), is requesting authorization to amend non-professional service contracts with D & S Food Services, Inc. for the Senior Nutrition Program.

POLICY.

Title III of the federal Older Americans Act (42 U.S.C. § 3021 et al.) provides for grants to state agencies and area agencies on aging to develop greater capacity and foster the development and implementation of comprehensive and coordinated systems to serve older adults. The passage of federal ARPA legislation in March 2021 included additional Older Americans Act funding to flow through state agencies to area agencies on aging, such as the Milwaukee County Area Agency on Aging. These funds are being allocated to Milwaukee County through a contract with the State Department of Health Services.

The contract received has a term of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022. On February 3, 2022, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors passed File 22-144 which authorized DHHS to enter into this contract with the State of Wisconsin and to accept \$2,051,430 in Older Americans Act funds as provided through the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) (Public Law No: 117-2).

Wis. Stat. §46.80 covers services for older adults in the State of Wisconsin. Milwaukee County Ordinance Ch. 53 relates to responsibilities for the Commission on Aging and Ch. 56 covers County Board approval of federal and state funding requiring a match.

Wisconsin State Statutes:	Wis. Stat. §46.80, §59.60(9)(a)
Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances:	Ch. 53, Ch. 56.06
Specific Adopted Budget:	
Specific Adopted Budget Amendment:	
Specific Adopted Capital Project:	

BACKGROUND

The Milwaukee County Senior Meal Program began in 1972 and is administered through Milwaukee County DHHS Aging and Disabilities Services (ADS). The nutrition program is funded with federal Older Americans Act funds, participant contributions, and other revenues. The purpose of the program is to sustain the independence and well-being of seniors by preventing costly health problems related to nutrition and social isolation.

Nutrition is part of a comprehensive network of aging services provided by ADS for an growing population of older adults. The intent of the nutrition program is to reduce hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, promote socialization, and promote the health and well-being of older adults through access to nutrition and nutrition related disease prevention and health promotion services.

Aramark Correctional Services and D & S Food Services Inc for the Senior Nutrition Program have prepared meals for the Senior Meal Program and were recommended after a competitive RFP (RFP-2022-009 Meal Preparation and Delivery for Senior Dining Program) in October 2023 as the primary caterers for the Senior Meal Program. The RFP process sought to find two caterers that would each prepare meals for one Zone of Milwaukee County.

However, Aramark Correctional Services has declined to renew its contract for the Senior Nutrition Program and has worked with DHHS staff involved in the oversight of this program, and leadership to provide meals through March 31, 2024 to provide time to onboard a new caterer to support that zone. D&S Food Services Inc has committed to taking on catering service for both zones through 2024 so that meal services can continue without interruption to the Senior Nutrition Program.

ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item is aligned to Milwaukee County's strategic plan (Create Intentional Inclusion strategic area), the DHHS strategic plan, and the 2022-2024 Area Plan that was approved by the County Board of Supervisors in February 2022 through File 22-126 and which addresses senior nutrition as a focus area.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, to amend the 2024 per meal price with D&S Food Services, Inc., from \$5.51 to \$5.89, effective April 1, 2024. It is also recommended that D&S Food Services be awarded an additional \$1,039,398, for a total of \$2,388,258, to support services in both Zones of the Senior Nutrition Programs effective January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

FISCAL EFFECT

Funding for this service has been included in DHHS Aging and Disabilities Services 2024 Budget and was reviewed and approved by the County Board in December 2023. No change to overall catering budget is requested from the total amount approved in File 23-963.

TERMS

This contract is effective from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

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PREPARED BY:

Carrie Koss Vallejo, Program and Planning Coordinator, DHHS Aging and Disabilities Services

APPROVED BY:


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, Sr Budget and Management Analyst, DAS