

County of Milwaukee
Interoffice Communication

DATE: January 15, 2019

TO: Sup. Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Sup. James Schmitt, Chair, Committee on Finance and Audit

FROM: Jon Janowski, Director of Administration, Department on Aging

RE: Informational report on former Unison contracts

Background

Per File 18-897, which the County Board of Supervisors approved on December 13, 2018, the Department on Aging is required to submit monthly reports to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors as an update on contracts formerly held by Unison.

MCDA has contracts in place with Serving Older Adults of Southeastern WI (SOA) to manage the five county-owned senior centers and the dining sites located inside of those senior centers. All senior centers and dining sites at those centers opened as normal on January 2nd and will continue to remain open on their normal schedule. All senior center programming questions can be directed to Vevette Hill, SOA's Senior Vice President, at vevettehn@servingolderadults.org or 414-704-3343. MCDA's Jill Knight can also answer questions about senior center programming activities.

Regarding other senior dining services, MCDA has a contract in place with Goodwill to manage the home-delivered meal program, and those services started on January 2nd and continue to operate as normal. With regard to the 13 remaining congregate dining sites which are not being managed by SOA, services started on January 2nd and continue to operate on their normal schedule. MCDA is temporarily contracting with PS Companies to pay dining site supervisors until a permanent managing vendor can be found. MCDA has met with prospective vendors to discuss taking on the management of these 13 sites and hopes to have a contract in place by the end of January. In short, all senior dining services (congregate meals and home-delivered meals) continue as normal. Specific senior dining questions can be directed to MCDA's Beth Monrial Zatarski, Senior Dining Program Director, and senior dining information can also be found on the MCDA website at <https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/Department-on-Aging/Senior-Centers-Dining>.

Regarding Family Caregiver Support Network (FCSN) services, MCDA has received verbal confirmation from the Alzheimer's Association that they will manage these services in 2019. MCDA is working with the Alzheimer's Association on a 2019 contract and hopes to have a contract in place by the end of January. In the interim and until a contract is signed with the Alzheimer's Association, caregivers who call MCDA's Aging Resource Center seeking respite services have their contact information taken by MCDA staff. MCDA staff also document the caregiver's need for respite. Follow-up will be provided by the Alzheimer's Association upon finalization of the contract. Caregiving resources can be found at www.wisconsincaregiver.com.

Regarding the Neighborhood Outreach Program (NOP) and neighborhood outreach services, while MCDA is no longer subsidizing these services, Unison management has indicated to us that they continue to manage these services for older adults without MCDA funding. All NOP questions can be directed to Unison's main line at 414-291-7500.

While MCDA is no longer subsidizing the services listed below, Unison management has indicated to us that they continue to provide and manage these services for older adults without MCDA funding:

- Senior employment services - Senior employment questions can be directed to Unison's main line at 414-291-7500.
- Telephone reassurance services - All telephone reassurance questions can be directed to Unison's main line at 414-291-7500.
- Outreach at senior housing sites – All questions can be directed to Unison's main line at 414-291-7500.

If you have any questions about this report please call me at 289-6073.



Jon Janowski, Director of Administration
Milwaukee County Department on Aging

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
Raisa Koltun
Kelly Bablitch
Lisa Wozny
Stephen Cady
Janelle Jensen
Jill Knight
Beth Monrial Zatarski

Attachments