

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: April 21, 2023

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 (DHHS), requesting approval of a waiver to the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances (MCCGO) Section 9.05(3)(a) to allow a former Milwaukee County employee to work with a contracted provider for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Children, Youth and Family Services (CYFS)

File Type: Action Report

POLICY

The Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting that a waiver of Section 9.05(3)(a) of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances be approved for a requested contracted provider with Children, Youth and Family Services (CYFS).

Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances	9.05(3)(a)
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BACKGROUND

The MCCGO Section 9.05(3)(a) states that “No former county public official or employee, for twelve (12) months following the date on which he/she ceases to be a county public official or employee, shall, for compensation, on behalf of any person other than a governmental entity, provide any contractual services to the county. The county board committee on finance may waive the contractual services prohibition provision of this section, first effective for county public officials or employees that separate service after April 1, 2016, upon the petition of the administrator seeking services with the former public official or employee that the need is critical to county operations.”

CYFS has a 2023 purchase of service contract with the Medical College of Wisconsin for the implementation of the Credible Messenger Program. A current Medical College of Wisconsin employee, Ms. Verlynette Lewis, was previously an Administrative Coordinator for the CYFS up until August 2022. As part of her responsibilities at CYFS, she oversaw the Credible Messenger Program from the start of the program until she left Milwaukee County. Ms. Lewis left her position within the County to accept the position of Director of 414Life at the

Comprehensive Injury Center at the Medical College of Wisconsin in August 2022. This position at the Medical College of Wisconsin is instrumental in the design, implementation and support of the Credible Messenger Program in collaboration with DHHS and plays a crucial role in the DHHS continuum of care. This Director position within the MCW is vital to the success of the Credible Messenger Program for MCW and DHHS.

FISCAL EFFECT

There is no fiscal impact for this action.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, DHHS, or her designee, to authorize Ms. Verlynette Lewis as an approved provider for the DHHS CYFS.

TERMS

N/A

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Shakita LaGrant-McClain, DHHS Director
Kelly Pethke, CYFS Administrator
Clare O'Brien, DHHS Budget & Policy Director

PREPARED BY:

Kelly Pethke, CYFS Administrator

APPROVED BY:

Shakita LaGrant-McClain
Shakita LaGrant-McClain, DHHS Director

ATTACHMENTS:

None

cc: County Executive David Crowley
Hon. Carl Ashley, Chief Judge
Sup. Liz Sumner, Chair, Finance Committee
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, Office of Strategy, Budget & Performance