

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

Date: April 19, 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 amend two 2024 purchase of service contracts with Serving Older Adults (SOA) of Southeast Wisconsin for meal site supervision and programming at the five Milwaukee County-owned senior centers

File Type: Action Report

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**REQUEST**

The Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), is requesting authorization to amend the purchase of service contracts held by Serving Older Adults for supervision of both meal sites and programmatic services at the five County-owned senior centers.

**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.

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:	

## **BACKGROUND**

Serving Older Adults has served as the organization that manages both the meal site supervision and broad spectrum of socialization services at the five senior centers owned by Milwaukee County. These are key sites in the network of senior centers supported by the Area Agency on Aging in Milwaukee County.

As part of File 23-889 (2024 DHHS Adopted Budget), the County Board approved two contracts with Serving Older Adults: \$905,000 for programmatic oversight and \$100,000 for meal site supervision for the senior centers.

DHHS-Aging and Disabilities Services (ADS) is requesting to increase the socialization and programming contract by \$119,547 to continue the technical outreach programming (County Board 23-420) piloted in 2023 to the older adult residents of the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (HACM). TechConnect is an evidence-based curriculum which is available at the five county-owned senior centers and facilitated by trained staff with Serving Older Adults. Last year's pilot supported expansion of this program outside the senior center buildings and an increased connection to older adult residents of selected residential HACM sites. Increase in meal site funding will support staffing and Senior Nutrition Program outreach.

In addition, an increase of \$10,000 for meal-site oversight is being requested to keep funding for this program in line with other service providers for the Senior Nutrition Program. For 2025, the intent of the program coordinator is to release this contract at a higher funding level.

<b>Service</b>	<b>Provider</b>	<b>2024 Contract</b>	<b>2024 Proposed Amendment</b>	<b>Total Adjusted Contract</b>
Socialization and Programming	Serving Older Adults	\$905,000	\$119,547	\$1,024,547
Meal Site Oversight	Serving Older Adults	\$100,000	\$10,000	\$110,000

## **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. Additionally, this item advances goals in the Milwaukee County Strategic Plan as this contract focuses on dismantling barriers to diverse and inclusive communities (3C).

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, to amend two 2024 purchase of service contracts with Serving Older Adults for socialization and programming as well as meal site supervision.

## **FISCAL EFFECT**

Funding for these services comes from Older Americans Act- American Rescue Plan Act Title III-B and IIIC and HCBS Medicaid ARPA funds.

## **TERMS**

The term of the contract amendments would be 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  
Chair, Finance Committee  
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