

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Behavioral Health Division Administration
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: February 7, 2012

TO: Supervisor Lee Holloway, Chairman – Milwaukee County Board

FROM: Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Prepared by Paula Lucey, Administrator, Behavioral Health Division

SUBJECT: Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, Requesting Authorization to Extend the 2012 Purchase of Service Contract with Our Space for the Behavioral Health Division

Policy Issue

Section 46.09 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances requires County Board approval for the purchase of human services from nongovernmental vendors. Per Section 46.09, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to extend the 2012 purchase of service (POS) contract with Our Space for the Behavioral Health Division (BHD). At the December Board meeting, the duration of the Our Space purchase of service contract was changed to a four-month time frame pending audit results.

Discussion

Shortly before the December meeting of the Health and Human Needs Committee, it was brought to the attention of BHD administration that there were some issues with the Our Space contract. BHD met with Our Space and the individuals who brought the concerns forward and all parties agreed with a BHD developed plan to conduct an audit of the Peer Support component of the Our Space contract. To ensure that these valuable services were maintained for BHD clients while the concerns were reviewed, BHD recommended, and the Board approved, a four-month contract for Our Space from January 1 – April 30, 2012 for a total of \$116,054.

The Our Space contract is made up of two service areas:

- **Consumer Support:** This service area includes the Drop In Center, which is a psycho-social center where consumers gather for social and recreational opportunities, and the Price is Right, which is a thrift store where mental health consumers can go to get clothing and house wares for free; and
- **Peer Support** for the Crisis Services area and for the Office of Consumer Affairs at BHD.

The audit mentioned above does not apply to Consumer Support Services. It is only focused on the Peer Support component of this contract. Therefore BHD is requesting to extend the Consumer

Support portion of the Our Space contract through December 31, 2012. The total 2012 amount for the Consumer Support service area is \$212,962. The original December Board Report approved \$70,987 for this service and BHD is now requesting the remaining amount \$141,975 be approved.

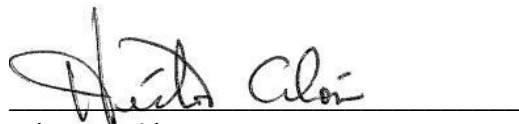
BHD has been working with the Department of Audit and is in the middle of the investigation into the Peer Support component of the Our Space contract. Due to the lack of an April County Board cycle in 2012, BHD is now requesting a two-month extension for a total of \$22,533 for Peer Support so that the audit can be completed and BHD can return to the Board with final results and recommendations.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, DHHS, or his designee, to extend the 2012 purchase of service contracts with Our Space for Consumer Support services by \$141,975, to a total of \$212,962 for the time period of May 1 – December 31, 2012. It is also recommended that the Our Space contract for Peer Support be increased by \$22,533, to a total of \$67,600 for the time period of May 1 – June 30, 2012. Approval of the recommended contract allocations, as specified in the attached resolution, will allow for BHD to continue to provide needed client services and complete the audit of the Peer Support program.

Fiscal Effect

The amounts recommended in these contracts have been included in BHD's 2012 Budget. A fiscal note form is attached.



Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

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