

Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to execute a fee-for-service agreement with Wisconsin Community Services for the Bakari Center Program, by recommending adoption of the following:

A REVISED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, per Section 59.52(31), Wisconsin State Statutes, the Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), is requesting authorization to execute a Fee-for-Service Agreement with Wisconsin Community Services (WCS), to allow placements of youth who are court-ordered to a residential treatment center as a community-based alternative to a correctional placement, or a step-down placement from corrections and the Milwaukee County Accountability Program (MCAP); and

WHEREAS, since 2018, the Children, Youth, and Family Services Division (CYFS)-DHHS, operated the Bakari Residential Care Center (RCC) through a contract with WCS, and in partnership with Behavioral Health Services Wraparound Milwaukee; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, the average daily population for kids enrolled in the program was generally less than seven youth; and

WHEREAS, due to the low enrollment and budgetary constraints, DHHS eliminated funding for this program in the 2023 Adopted Budget, and ended its provider contracts, including a Purchase of Service contract with WCS, as of December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, after CYFS-DHHS made the decision to no longer operate the program, WCS began planning to manage the Bakari RCC on its own, and recently received approval from the State of Wisconsin Department of Children and Families to operate the Bakari RCC as a Qualified Residential Treatment Program at a daily rate of \$702; and

WHEREAS, to maintain sufficient options for out-of-home care placements, and increase flexibility in procuring services only as needed, CYFS-DHHS is proposing to purchase beds on a fee-for-service basis with WCS; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of January 26, 2023, recommended adoption of File No. 23-244 (vote 7-0); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, or her designee, is hereby authorized to enter into a Fee-For-Service contract not-to-exceed \$640,594, for the period of January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023, with Wisconsin Community Services.

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