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A report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services requesting approval of \$262,500 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the Mentoring Mindsets project, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 was signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, in efforts to support individuals, families, businesses, and governments impacted by the Coronavirus Disease pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County (the County) will receive \$183.7 million in ARPA funding, through the ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors adopted File No. 21-555: “A resolution to create a Task Force (ARPA Task Force) to review and recommend funding allocations to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors for monies received by the County in the Federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021;” and

WHEREAS, of the County’s \$183.7 million of ARPA aid, approximately \$7,347,848, has been recommended by the ARPA Task Force for Fund Administration, to coordinate use of ARPA funds for programmatic and fiscal accountability, reporting, and alignment with other funding; and

WHEREAS, in December 2022, the Community Support Subgroup recommended the Mentoring Mindsets Project (the Project) receive \$262,500 in Community Support funding based on criteria set forth by the ARPA Task Force; and

WHEREAS, currently, nearly one in three young people is without a positive mentor in their lives, and strong adult relationships are a critical element to young people’s success; and

WHEREAS, mentoring, at its core, demonstrates to young people that there is someone who cares about them, assures them they are not alone in dealing with day-to-day challenges, and makes them feel like they matter; and

WHEREAS, research confirms that quality mentoring relationships have powerful positive effects on young people in a variety of personal, academic, and professional situations, and data states that young people that have a positive mentor in their life are:

- 55 percent more likely to enroll in college
- 52 percent less likely than their peers to skip a day of school
- 78 percent more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities
- 90 percent more interested in becoming a mentor
- 46 percent less likely than their peers to use illegal drugs

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; and

WHEREAS, the Project would provide \$250,000 in ARPA funds to MENTOR Greater Milwaukee (MGM), to implement a community mentoring project involving workshops and trainings around the importance of youth mentoring, and \$12,500 for staff support from Children, Youth, and Family Services, DHHS; and

WHEREAS, MGM will conduct pre and post-testing for all participants receiving training modules, as well as participant surveys, and MGM will use evaluations at the end of all program sessions to determine overall success and desired outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the ARPA Task Force recommended the Project for funding on March 9, 2023 (vote 6-0); and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Health Equity, Human Needs, and Strategic Planning, at its meeting of April 6, 2023, recommended adoption of File No. 23-424 (vote 3-0); and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of April 13, 2023, recommended adoption of File No. 23-424 (vote 7-0); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) authorizes the Mentoring Mindsets Project (the Project) supported by American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) revenue in the amount of \$262,500, to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board hereby authorizes the Office of Strategy, Budget, and Performance (OSBP), and the Office of the Comptroller (the Comptroller), to process an administrative appropriation transfer of \$262,500, to direct funds to DHHS for the Project, beginning March 27, 2023, and continuing while ARPA funds remain available for use; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board authorizes the administrating department, the Department of Administrative Services (DAS), Office of Corporation Counsel, Risk Management Division, DAS, Office of Economic Inclusion, DAS, Comptroller, OSBP, and County Executive, to prepare, review, approve, and execute all contracts and other documents, and take all actions as required for the purpose of administering the above-referenced program funded by the ARPA grant allocation framework.

srb
04/13/2023
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