# COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

**DATE**: September 29, 2012

TO: Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman - Milwaukee County Board of

**Supervisors** 

**FROM**: Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services

Prepared by B. Thomas Wanta, Administrator/ Chief Intake Officer – DCSD

SUBJECT: Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services,

requesting authorization to accept grant revenue totaling \$725,358 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, to support improvement of the service delivery system of the Delinquency and Court Services Division, and to enter into a Professional Services Contract with Georgetown University, Center for Juvenile Justice

Reform as a condition of the grant award

### <u>Issue</u>

Section 56.06 of the Milwaukee County Ordinances requires County Board approval to accept grant revenue and Section 56.30 of the Milwaukee County Ordinances requires County Board approval for professional service contracts when the amount of the agreement exceeds \$50,000, as well as when no Request for Proposals is done when the amount of the agreement is \$100,000 or more. Therefore, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is requesting authorization to accept grant revenue from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), to support improvement of the service delivery system of the Delinquency and Court Services Division (DCSD), and to enter into a professional services contract with Georgetown University, Center for Juvenile Justice Reform (CJJR), for \$249,000 for training and technical assistance as a condition of the grant award.

#### Discussion

Earlier this year, DCSD applied for a Juvenile Justice Reform and Reinvestment Demonstration Program grant from OJJDP. On September 28, 2012, DHHS received notification from OJJDP that DCSD was selected as one of up to three jurisdictions to serve as a demonstration site for this highly competitive grant. The grant amount awarded totals \$725,358 for the time period of October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2015. There is no local funding match requirement associated with this grant revenue.

The purpose of the Juvenile Justice Reform and Reinvestment Demonstration Program is to implement and evaluate a systematic protocol of evidence-based and cost-measurement tools with the goal of better juvenile justice outcomes and cost-savings at the local level. This grant opportunity will afford DCSD the tools and expertise to assess the relative effectiveness of services provided to juvenile justice youth in order to improve services, ensure that youth are appropriately matched with services in accordance with their risk and needs, and inform resource allocation. As a demonstration program, Milwaukee County has the potential to serve as a model for other jurisdictions. This initiative complements other juvenile justice system reform efforts in Milwaukee County, including the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative through the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

A condition of the OJJDP grant is that the awardee set aside \$249,000 of the grant to cover training and technical assistance costs provided by Georgetown University's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform. By March 1, 2013, awardees must enter into signed and executed agreements with CJJR for training and technical assistance, as required under this award. Since this is a condition of the grant, no RFP process was conducted. Additional requirements include a commitment to begin full implementation of the grant by March 1, 2013, including having staff onboard, being prepared to begin training, participating in program meetings at the local site, and actively participating in and complying with all requirements of the evaluation of the demonstration program. Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele provided a letter of support that was submitted with the grant application agreeing to these requirements.

In addition to the required training and technical assistance provided by CJJR, grant funding will support personnel costs associated with hiring a project coordinator and a quality assurance specialist. DCSD plans to work with Human Resources to create these positions and return to the Board, if necessary, at a later date. Funds are also included for an information system database analysis, additional training for staff and providers, and travel associated with with grant activity.

## **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, DHHS, or his designee, to accept grant funds in the amount of \$725,358 associated with the Juvenile Justice Reform and Reinvestment grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and to enter into a professional services contract with Georgetown University, Center for Juvenile Justice Reform in the amount of \$249,000 for the time period of January 2, 2013 through September 30, 2015.

# **Fiscal Impact**

Approval of this request has no tax levy impact. The revenue received through the OJJDP grant will cover the full cost of the training and technical assistance services provided by Georgetown University's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform. There is no local funding match requirement associated with this grant revenue. A fiscal note form is attached.

Héctor Colón, Director

Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele

Amber Moreen, County Executive's Office

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