File No. 13-850

(ITEM ) From the District Attorney, requesting authorization to execute a contract in the amount of \$340,496 with Sojourner Family Peace Center to implement a Federal Domestic Violence Grant for the approximate period of January 1, 2014, to December 31, 2016, by recommending adoption of the following:

## **A RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the District Attorney's Office has requested permission from the County Board of Supervisors, pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes § 59.52(31)(c) and Section 56.30(4)(b) of the County Code of General Ordinances, to enter into a three-year contract of \$340,496 with the Sojourner Family Peace Center (Sojourner) from approximately January 1, 2014, to December 31, 2016, to carry out a new Federal Domestic Violence Grant; and

WHEREAS, from 2006 until June 30, 2013, the United States Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), provided grant funding, under the Grants to Encourage Arrests and Enforcement of Protection Orders (GTEA) program, to Milwaukee County and its community partner Sojourner to promote victim safety and enhance prosecution in domestic violence cases; and

WHEREAS, the GTEA grant from OVW was providing funding for three prosecutors in the District Attorney's Domestic Violence Unit and four Sojourner victim advocates when the project ended on June 30, 2013; and

WHEREAS, in September 2013, OVW made a new GTEA grant award of \$900,000 to Milwaukee County, in collaboration with Sojourner, the County's non-profit, non-governmental victim service provider, to promote victim safety and enhance the prosecution of domestic violence cases; and

WHEREAS, the grant provides three years of funding for two prosecutors in the District Attorney's Domestic Violence Unit and for two Sojourner victim advocates, at a budgeted cost of \$340,496 for salaries and fringe benefits, to provide services in Milwaukee Police district stations to victims of domestic violence; and

 WHEREAS, the District Attorney's Office, Sojourner, and the Milwaukee Police Department participate in the Community Domestic Abuse Advocacy Program (CDAAP), which was established in 2007, with the goals of assisting victims of domestic violence through confidential advocacy and support, enhancing the prosecution of domestic violence cases by increasing victims' cooperation with the criminal justice system, and reducing domestic violence crimes and homicides in neighborhoods where the Milwaukee Police Department receives the most domestic violence-related calls for service; and

 WHEREAS, the Federal grant requires no local match, and the contractual payments to Sojourner will have no tax levy effect because the payments will be offset entirely by Federal revenue; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorney's Office will submit a fund transfer early next year to provide budgetary authority for 2014 project expenses and offsetting revenue, and 2015 to 2016 project expenses and revenue will be included in the District Attorney's budget submissions; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Judiciary, Safety and General Services, at its meeting of December 5, 2013, recommended adoption of the District Attorney's Office's request (vote 7-0); and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, Personnel and Audit, at its meeting of December 12, 2013, also recommended adoption of the District Attorney's Office's request (vote 9-0); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the District Attorney's Office, pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes § 59.52(31)(c) and Section 56.30(4)(b) of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances, to enter into a three-year contract of \$340,496 with the Sojourner Family Peace Center (Sojourner) from approximately January 1, 2014, to December 31, 2016, to implement a new Federal Domestic Violence Grant and reimburse Sojourner for the salaries and fringe benefits of the two Sojourner project victim advocates.

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