

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: July 18, 2016

TO: Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Prepared by Mark Mertens, Administrator – DCSD

SUBJECT: **Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to assume aftercare supervision services from the State of Wisconsin Department of Corrections for juveniles released from State correctional facilities**

Issue

Per Wisconsin State Statutes 938.57(4), counties may provide aftercare supervision for juveniles who are released from juvenile correctional facilities or secured residential care centers. If a county department intends to assume aftercare supervision services, the county must submit a letter to the State Department of Corrections before July 1 of the year preceding the year in which the change will take effect.

The DHHS Delinquency and Court Services Division (DCSD) is seeking approval from the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors to assume the operation of aftercare supervision from the State of Wisconsin.

Background

The Aftercare Supervision Program is designed to transition and reintegrate formerly incarcerated juveniles back into the community. Aftercare Supervision services encompass monitoring, counseling, treatment services, training and mentoring as well as residential care.

Discussion

Currently, these services are provided by the State DOC and Milwaukee County is invoiced monthly for the cost. The scope of the program would not include Milwaukee County youth considered part of the Serious Juvenile Offender (SJO) program. These youth are the financial responsibility of the State.

As described in previous reports to the County Board, it is the intent of DCSD to assume responsibility for the operation of aftercare supervision from the State as of July 1, 2017. In June, DCSD submitted a letter to the DOC indicating its intent to take over the operation of aftercare supervision services. By assuming aftercare for all non-SJO youth, Milwaukee County can better

manage the appropriate placement of youth back into the community and more effectively utilize community-based treatment programs to address the continued needs of aftercare youth.

The takeover of aftercare supervision services is included in the DHHS 2017 Requested Budget and is assumed to be cost neutral. The cost of the Aftercare Supervision Program has averaged about \$2.7 million over the last four years. It is assumed that the necessary staff and services will be incorporated into this existing budget.

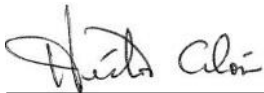
An additional six Human Service Worker (HSW) positions and one HSW Supervisor position are included in the 2017 DHHS Budget at a cost of \$336,596 effective May 1, 2017. These positions would be responsible for providing the supervision, monitoring and case management of youth and families. In addition, DCSD will execute contracts with providers for monitoring, counseling and residential care services. These contracts will be submitted to the County Board for approval prior to July 1, 2017.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, DHHS, or his designee, to assume the operation of aftercare supervision services from the State of Wisconsin Department of Corrections beginning on July 1, 2017.

Fiscal Impact

A fiscal note form is attached.



Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
Raisa Koltun, County Executive's Office
Kelly Bablitch, County Board
County Supervisor Peggy Romo-West, Chair, Finance Committee
County Supervisor Supreme Moore-Omokunde, County Board
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