

MILWAUKEE COUNTY
Inter-Office Memorandum

DATE: November 13, 2020

TO: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Shakita LaGrant McClain, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Prepared by Marietta Luster, Administrator, Disabilities Services Division

SUBJECT: **Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting authorization to enter into 2021 Disabilities Services Division purchase of service contracts for adult and children's programs from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021**

Issue

The Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), is requesting authorization for DHHS to execute Disability Resource Center, Children's Programs and Adults with Disabilities purchase of service contracts for 2021.

Background and Rationale

Recommended contract allocations described in this report will allow DSD to provide rehabilitation, treatment and support services to adults and children with disabilities in Milwaukee County during 2021. The Disabilities Services Division (DSD) always utilizes the Family Care option prior to accessing purchase of service contracts for individuals requesting services when they are eligible for that program.

The DSD contracts will be used to purchase services that are identified as having a high priority in assisting persons with disabilities to achieve their maximum independence. Services will also be utilized to augment the long-term support system with services that are not typically funded through the managed care organizations.

The following is a detailed description of the allocations being recommended for the adult and children's purchase of service contracts in 2021. DSD continues to maintain the integrity of the existing service delivery system to ensure that a safety net for those who need community-based supports can continue to live independently and not be forced to utilize crisis or institutional-based services.

The information that follows identifies the 2021 contract recommendations and any program changes for DSD by program area.

Children's Programs

Birth to 3/Early Intervention

The Birth to 3 Program, authorized under Part C of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), supports children with developmental delays or disabilities under the age of three and their families. The program is a federal entitlement which utilizes state, federal, and local funds to enhance the development of children with developmental disabilities, minimizes the need for special education, and decreases rates of institutionalization.

Counties are responsible for administering the program based on state and federal guidelines. Specific county responsibilities include establishing a comprehensive system to identify, locate, and evaluate children who may be eligible for the program.

Milwaukee County's Birth to 3 Network

DSD contracts with four agencies to provide services to families to enhance their child's development. These services may include the following:

- Screening & Evaluation
- Related Health Services
- Family Education Development & Education Services
- Communication Services
- Occupational, Speech & Physical Therapy
- Case Management Services

Collaboration with the Healthier Wisconsin Partnership, Disability Rights Wisconsin, Head Start & Early Head Start Programs, the school system and other partners has increased awareness and access resulting in increased referrals to Birth to 3 each year. As a result, referrals to the program have risen nearly 40 percent since 2014.

For the 2021 funding year, DSD will continue to:

- Analyze contracted provider performance on federal indicators
- Develop additional performance measures to determine fidelity to primary coach to teaming practices
- Continue analysis of performance on quality outcome measures:
 - Percentage of children served in a child and family's natural environment (home)
 - Child outcome measures as outlined by U.S. Department of Education demonstrating that a child has made progress in their development by the time they exit the Birth to 3 Program.
 - Work with all Birth to 3 programs with additional training and consultation to fully implement the primary coach model.

The following providers are recommended for contracts in 2021 to serve an average of 1,250 children per month.

Service	Provider	2020 Contract	2021 Proposed	2020/2021 Variance
Birth to 3 Early Intervention	Curative Care Network	\$2,079,218	\$2,079,218	\$0
Birth to 3 Early Intervention	Milwaukee Center for Independence	\$517,241	\$517,241	\$0
Birth to 3 Early Intervention	Penfield Children’s Center	\$1,382,394	\$1,382,394	\$0
Birth to 3 Early Intervention	St. Francis Children’s Center	\$546,253	\$546,253	\$0
	Subtotal	\$4,525,106	\$4,525,106	\$0

Adult Programs

Family Care entitlement provides for immediate enrollment for eligible individuals with disabilities under age 60 who are seeking long-term support services in Milwaukee County. The funding recommended for allocation to the following agencies is only for individuals who are not financially and/or functionally eligible for Family Care or for services that the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) typically do not fund. DSD has seen a gradual reduction in the number of individuals served in its contracts since the division reached entitlement status. This was a predicted trend.

Employment Options

Broadscope Disability Services is recommended to continue providing services under a contract in 2021. This service was bid out under a RFP process in 2019 and performance-based measures were established for this service. DSD has made employment for young adults with disabilities transitioning from high a high priority the last couple of years. This is consistent with new rules being implemented by the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Service	Provider	2020 Contract	2021 Proposed	2020/2021 Variance
Employment	Broadscope Disability Services	\$172,235	\$172,235	\$0

Supported Living Options

One agency is recommended for contracts in 2021 for Supported Living Option (SLO) services. The SLO agency currently provide daily living skills training and community living assistance to individuals

with disabilities. These services provide a critical support to certain individuals with significant disabilities who live independently in the community. The agency recommended for the 2021 contract is as follows:

Service	Provider	2020 Contract	2021 Proposed	2020/2021 Variance
Supported Living Options	Broadscope	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0
	Subtotal	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0

Other Support Services

Interim Disability Assistance Program (IDAP)

The Interim Disability Assistance Program provides financial assistance to individuals with disabilities while their Supplemental Security Income (SSI) application is pending with the Social Security Administration. For 2021, DSD is recommending a contract with Community Advocates to assist individuals applying for or currently receiving IDAP.

Service	Provider	2020 Contract	2021 Proposed	2020/2021 Variance
IDAP	Community Advocates, Inc.	\$91,120	\$91,120	\$0

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorize the Director, DHHS, or her designee, to enter into 2021 purchase of service contracts with community-based provider agencies per the narrative above and in the amounts specified in the accompanying resolution.

Fiscal Effect

A total of \$4,838,461 is included in the DHHS 2021 Budget for these contracts. A fiscal note form is attached.



Shakita LaGrant McClain, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive David Crowley
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Sup. Supreme Moore-Omokunde, Chair, Health & Human Needs Committee
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