A report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting an emergency American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) allocation of \$1.5 million for the creation of an emergency flexible housing subsidy pool, by recommending adoption of the following:

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Housing Division (Housing), Department of Health and Human Needs (DHHS), announced Milwaukee County's (the County) Plan to End Chronic Homelessness by 2018, through the Housing First Strategy (Adopted File No. 16-335) which was expanded in 2017 (Adopted File No. 17-489) with the objective of ending cycles of homelessness, which can help mitigate reliance upon other social services; and

WHEREAS, from 2016 to 2017, Housing, DHHS quantified the fiscal impact of permanent housing intervention by comparing emergency services utilization for 85 Housing First residents, 12 months prior to and 12 months within, the Housing First Program; the results were a significant reduction in County program utilization amounting to more than \$700,000 in cost savings; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the County declared racism a public health crisis (Adopted File No. 19-397), acknowledging longstanding inequitable access to safe and stable housing, as homelessness and housing stability disproportionately affect African-American residents, who comprise 70 percent of the County's homeless population while being only 24.6 percent of the County's overall population; and

WHEREAS, Housing, DHHS, has identified individuals ineligible to access current emergency Federal rental assistance funds, because these individuals are experiencing literal homelessness; and

WHEREAS, to address this community need, DHHS submitted a request for \$1,500,000 to create an emergency flexible housing subsidy pool to the County's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Task Force; and

WHEREAS, the ARPA Task Force approved the allocation of \$1,500,000 in funding at its September 2, 2021, meeting; and

WHEREAS, Housing, DHHS, plans to partner with United Way to form a public/private partnership to allow for potential sustainability of the flexible subsidy pool; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of September 17, 2021, recommended adoption of File No. 21-861 (vote 7-0); now, therefore,

 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board) authorizes the emergency allocation of \$1,500,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to the Housing Division (Housing), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), for an emergency flexible housing subsidy and related services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board authorizes the Office of Performance, Strategy, and Budget (OPSB), Department of Administrative Services (DAS), working in conjunction with the Office of the Comptroller (Comptroller), to execute an appropriation transfer in the amount of \$300,000 from Milwaukee County's (the County) allocation of \$183,417,734 from ARPA funding to Housing, DHHS, to support the emergency flexible housing subsidy for the remainder of 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Board authorizes OPSB-DAS, working in conjunction with the Comptroller, to execute an appropriation transfer of \$1,200,000 after January 1, 2022, for the 2022 Adopted Budget from the County's allocation of \$183,417,734 from ARPA funding, to Housing, DHHS, for a total of \$1,500,000 to support the emergency flexible housing subsidy for 2022.

srb

09/17/2021

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