

**DAKOTA COUNTY
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

August 11, 2020

11:00 AM or following Physical Development Committee of the Whole

View Live Broadcast

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Government/BoardMeetings/CSCCommittee/Pages/default.aspx>

If you wish to speak to an agenda item or an item not on the agenda, please notify the Clerk to the Board via email at CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us

Emails must be received by 7:30am Tuesday, August 11, 2020.

Instructions on how to participate will be sent to anyone interested.

1. Call To Order And Roll Call

Note: Any action taken by this Committee of the Whole constitutes a recommendation to the County Board.

2. Audience

Anyone in the audience wishing to address the Committee on an item not on the Agenda or an item on the Consent Agenda may send comments to CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us and instructions will be given to participate during the meeting. Comments are limited to five minutes.

3. Approval Of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

4. Consent Agenda

4.1 Approval Of Minutes Of Meeting Held On July 7th, 2020 3

4.2 Public Health - Approval Of Amendments To Dakota County Ordinance No. 125
Regulating Licensing And Sale, Possession And Use Of Tobacco, Tobacco Products
And Tobacco-Related Devices In Dakota County, And Scheduling Of Public Hearing To
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4.3 Public Health - Authorization To Apply For Minnesota Department Of Health Statewide
Health Improvement Partnership Grant, Accept Grant Funds, Execute Grant Agreements
And Amend 2020 Public Health Budget 21

5. Regular Agenda

5.1 Social Services - Update On Child Protection And Child Welfare Services 31

5.2 Employment And Economic Assistance - Authorization To Create And Implement A
Flexible Benefit Set To Support Families, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget And
Amend 2020 Employment And Economic Assistance Budget 33

5.3 Employment And Economic Assistance - Authorization To Implement A Youth
Employment Services Program, Execute Contract With Tree Trust For Youth
Employment Services, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget And Amend 2020
Employment And Economic Assistance Budget 37

5.4 Employment And Economic Assistance - Authorization To Provide Temporary Childcare
Assistance, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget And Amend 2020 Employment And
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Service Scanning Stations, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget And Amend 2020
Employment And Economic Assistance Budget 45

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5.6	<i>Employment And Economic Assistance</i> - Authorization To Purchase And Install Virtual Intake Sites At Northern Service Center, Libraries And Community Partner Sites, Modification Of Existing Interview Rooms For Video Conference, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget And Amend 2020 Employment And Economic Assistance Budget	49
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6.	Community Services Directors Report	
7.	Adjournment	

For more information please call 651-554-5742.

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Public Comment can be sent to CountyAdmin@co.dakota.mn.us

**DAKOTA COUNTY
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Meeting Minutes

**July 7, 2020
Video Conference**

Call To Order And Roll Call

Commissioner Mike Slavik
Commissioner Kathleen A. Gaylord
Commissioner Thomas A. Egan
Commissioner Joe Atkins
Commissioner Liz Workman
Commissioner Mary Liz Holberg
Commissioner Chris Gerlach

Also in attendance: Matt Smith, County Manager; Tom Donely, Assistant County Attorney; Marti Fischbach, Community Services Division Director; Colleen Collette, Administrative Coordinator.

Due to the local state of emergency and social distancing, Commissioners participated in this meeting via telephone, and the Community Services Committee of the Whole meeting was conducted under Minn. Stat. § 13D.021.

The meeting was called to order at 11:16 a.m. by the Chair, Mary Liz Holberg.

The audio of this meeting is available upon request.

Audience

Chair Mary Liz Holberg noted that all public comments can be sent to countyadmin@co.dakota.mn.us
As of 8:00 a.m. on July 7, 2020, none were received.

Approval Of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

On a motion by Commissioner Thomas A. Egan, seconded by Commissioner Kathleen A. Gaylord, the agenda was unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda

On a motion by Commissioner Kathleen A. Gaylord, seconded by Commissioner Liz Workman, the consent agenda was unanimously approved as follows:

4.1 Approval Of Minutes

Regular Agenda

5.1 Update On Behavioral Health Plan During COVID-19

Emily Schug, Deputy Director in Social Services presented on this item and stood for questions. This item was on the agenda for informational purposes only. No staff direction was given by Committee members.

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Community Services Directors Report

Commissioner Mary Liz Holberg, on behalf of the Committee, welcomed Marti Fischbach as the new Community Services Director. Ms. Fischbach provided an overview of her vision and direction for the Community Services division.

Ms. Fischbach then provided some updates:

- A brief list of the services that will be opening up as part of the next return to work phase starting July 13 is as follows: adding in-person appointments for additional emergent situations in Employment and Economic Assistance; Community Corrections will start limited direct testing at the Western Service Center; the New Chance program will resume at the Juvenile Service Center; Community Corrections and Social Services are expanding circumstances under which they might meet with people in-person; some of the Accord support staff are returning; Extension will have very limited staff intermittently in Farmington; Public Health is resuming immunization clinics in August (routine childhood immunizations); Social Services continues to monitor and offer input and influence on the wind-down of regulatory waivers that were issued during the peacetime emergency.
- The Open Door held another pop-up, free food distribution event at the Northern Service Center on July 6 and it was again very successful. Twenty-two thousand pounds of food was distributed to 467 households. That equates to about 1900 individuals, and of those, 1400 were new. These pop-up events at the Northern Service Center continue to be the largest for The Open Door.
- The National Association of Counties (NACo) has announced their annual awards, of which Community Service received two that will be formally acknowledged at a later Board meeting. One is for the Lyft rideshare program and the other is in partnership with the Community Development Agency to offer smoke-free affordable housing.

Adjournment

On a motion by Commissioner Kathleen A. Gaylord, seconded by Commissioner Thomas A. Egan, the meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Collette, Administrative Coordinator
Community Services Division

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Approval Of Amendments To Dakota County Ordinance No. 125 Regulating Licensing And Sale, Possession And Use Of Tobacco, Tobacco Products And Tobacco-Related Devices In Dakota County, And Scheduling Of Public Hearing To Receive Comments

Meeting Date: 8/11/2020
 Item Type: Consent-Action
 Division: Community Services
 Department: Public Health
 Contact: Brueshoff, Bonnie
 Contact Phone: (651) 554-6103
 Prepared by: Montagne, Mary

Fiscal/FTE Impact:
 None Other
 Current budget Amendment requested
 New FTE(s) requested
 Board Goal: A great place to live
 Public Engagement Level: N/A

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Approve amendments to Dakota County Ordinance No. 125 regulating the licensing and sale, possession, and use of tobacco, tobacco products and tobacco-related devices in Dakota County, and authorize scheduling of a public hearing at 9:00 a.m. on September 1, 2020, to receive comments on the proposed amendments.

SUMMARY

By Resolution No. 99-191 (March 23, 1999), Ordinance No. 125 was approved by the County Board, and by Resolution No. 18-087 (February 6, 2018), it was amended. These regulations affect establishments in unorganized areas of the County and in the cities that do not license and regulate retail sales of tobacco products (townships and the City of Inver Grove Heights). On December 20, 2019, the Federal Government passed legislation to raise the federal minimum age of sale of tobacco products from 18 to 21 years. It is now illegal for a retailer to sell any tobacco product – including cigarettes, cigars, and e-cigarettes – to anyone under the age of 21.

Staff from the County Attorney's Office, Public Health, and Public Services and Revenue Administration worked together to draft amendments to the ordinance to align with the Federal law, clarify definitions and update administrative procedures. At the March 10, 2020, General Government and Policy Committee of the Whole, the Committee approved amendments to align with the Federal law pursuant to a public hearing to be scheduled. The public hearing was delayed due to COVID-19 guidelines around public gatherings. On May 16, 2020, the State of Minnesota passed similar legislation. Staff worked together to make additional amendments to align with the new State law. The revised draft Ordinance (Attachment A) is marked up with changes as follows: previous changes in green, new recommendations in blue, and removal in red.

In order to amend the Tobacco Ordinance it is necessary for the County Board to hold a public hearing on the matter and to publish notice of its intent to amend the Ordinance at least 10 days before the hearing at which the County Board will consider the amendments.

Attachment B outlines the key amendments to the draft Ordinance.

OUTCOMES

- A reduction in youth access to tobacco products is expected to reduce youth use and related health risks.
- A reduction in criminal penalties is expected to reduce youth involvement in the criminal justice system.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the amendments to Dakota County Ordinance No. 125 prior to the scheduling of the Public Hearing. Staff further recommends authorization to schedule a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed amendments to Dakota County Ordinance 125, regulating the licensing and sale, possession and use of tobacco, tobacco-related devices in Dakota County at 9:00 a.m. on September 1, 2020, in the Boardroom of the Dakota County Administration Center, 1590 Highway 55, Hastings, Minnesota, or via telephone or other electronic means if necessary due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

None.

Supporting Documents:

Attachment A: Draft Ordinance
Attachment B: Outline of Amendments

Previous Board Action(s):

99-191; 3/23/99
18-087; 2/6/18

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Minn. Stat. § 461.12 to license retail stores that sell tobacco and tobacco-related products within towns and unincorporated areas, and in cities that choose not to license and regulate retailers, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners enacted Ordinance No. 125 by Resolution No. 99-191 (March 23, 1999), and it was amended by Resolution No. 18-807 (February 6, 2018); and

WHEREAS, the Federal law changed on December 20, 2019, to increase the legal age of sale from 18 to 21; and

WHEREAS, staff from the County Attorney's Office, Public Health and Public Services and Revenue reviewed Ordinance No. 125 and recommend amendments to align with the Federal law; and

WHEREAS, at the General Government and Policy Committee of the Whole on March 10, 2020, the Committee approved amendments to the ordinance to align with Federal law; and

WHEREAS, the State law was changed on May 16, 2020, to increase the legal age of sale from 18 to 21; and

WHEREAS, staff from the County Attorney's Office, Public Health and Public Services and Revenue reviewed Ordinance No. 125 and recommends additional amendments to align with State law; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing is required for the purpose of receiving comments and informing the public on amendments to Dakota County Ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby approves such amendments pursuant to a public hearing to be scheduled; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the scheduling of a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed amendments to Dakota County Ordinance 125, regulating the licensing and sale, possession and use of tobacco, tobacco-related devices in Dakota County at 9:00 a.m. on September 1, 2020, in the Boardroom of the Dakota County Administration Center, 1590 Highway 55, Hastings, Minnesota, or via telephone or other electronic means if necessary due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic; and

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, That Dakota County Public Services and Revenue is hereby directed to publish in the Official County newspaper notice of the public hearing and the County Board's intent to enact such amendments.

County Manager's Comments:

- Recommend Action
- Do Not Recommend Action
- Reviewed---No Recommendation
- Reviewed---Information Only
- Submitted at Commissioner Request

Reviewed by (if required):

- County Attorney's Office
- Financial Services
- Risk Management
- Employee Relations
- Information Technology
- Facilities Management



County Manager

DAKOTA COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 125

REGULATION OF TOBACCO SALES, ~~POSSESSION, AND~~ USE

SECTION 1.00 PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY

1.01 PURPOSE.

~~Dakota County~~ (“County”) The purpose of this Ordinance is to regulate the sale, ~~possession, and use~~ of tobacco products for the purpose of enforcing and furthering existing laws, to protect ~~minors~~ persons under the age of 21 against the serious health effects associated with the ~~illegal~~ use of tobacco, and to further the official public policy of the State of Minnesota in regard to preventing young people from starting to smoke as stated in Minn. Stat. §144.391. Dakota County (“County”) recognizes that the sale of commercial tobacco, tobacco-related devices, electronic delivery devices, and nicotine or lobelia delivery products to persons under the age of 21 violates state and federal law ~~many minors persons under the age of 21 illegally purchase or otherwise obtain, possess, and use tobacco products in violation of both state and federal laws~~. Smoking has been shown to be the cause of several severe health problems that subsequently place a financial burden on all levels of government.

This Ordinance is intended to serve the best interests of the County's citizens by protecting their health, safety, and general welfare.

1.02 AUTHORITY.

This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to the requirements of Minn. Stat. §§ 461.12 to 461.21, as they may be amended from time to time, or successor statutes, relating to the sale, ~~possession, and use~~ of tobacco, tobacco-related devices, electronic delivery devices, and nicotine or lobelia delivery products ~~tobacco products~~ in the County's unorganized territory and in the County's cities and townships that do not license and regulate retail sales of tobacco products.

SECTION 2.00 DEFINITIONS

Except as otherwise provided or clearly implied by context, all terms shall be given their commonly accepted definitions. For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning. Unless specifically defined herein, terms used in this Ordinance shall have the same definitions as provided in Minn. Stat §§ 461.12 to 416.21. For purposes of this Ordinance the words "must" and "shall" are mandatory and not permissive.

2.01 "Compliance checks" means the system that the Dakota County Sheriff's

Office uses to investigate and ensure that those authorized to sell tobacco products are following and complying with the requirements of this Ordinance. It involves the use of minors persons under the age of 21 who purchase or attempt to purchase tobacco products as authorized by this Ordinance and Minn. Stat. § 461.12, subd. 5. Compliance checks also means the use of minors persons under the age of 21 who attempt to purchase tobacco products for educational, research, and training purposes as authorized by state and federal laws. Compliance checks may also be conducted by other units of government for the purpose of enforcing appropriate federal, state, or local laws and regulations relating to tobacco products.

- 2.02 "County Board"** means the Dakota County Board of Commissioners.
- 2.03 "County Manager"** means the Dakota County Manager or designee.
- 2.04 "Electronic delivery device"** means any product containing or delivering nicotine, lobelia, or any other substance intended for human consumption that can be used by a person to simulate smoking in the delivery of nicotine or any other substance through inhalation of vapor from the product. It includes any component part of a product, whether or not marketed or sold separately. Electronic delivery device does not include any product that has been approved or certified by the United States Food and Drug Administration for sale as a tobacco-cessation product, as a tobacco-dependence product, or for other medical purposes, and is marketed and sold for such an approved purpose.

~~**2.05 "Individually packaged"** means the practice of selling any tobacco-wrapped individually for sale. Individually wrapped tobacco includes, but is not limited to, single cigarette packs, single bags or cans of loose tobacco in any form, and single cans or other packaging of snuff or chewing tobacco. Cartons or other packaging containing more than a single pack or other container as described in this definition shall not be considered individually packaged.~~

~~**2.06**~~**2.05 "Loosies"** means the common term used to refer to a single or individually packaged cigarette including a single use electronic delivery device or any other tobacco product.

~~**2.06 "Minor"** means any person who has not yet reached the age of eighteen (18) years.~~

~~**2.08**~~**2.06 "Movable place of business"** means any retail business whose physical location is not permanent, including, but not limited to, any retail business that is operated from a kiosk, other transportable structure, or motorized or non-motorized vehicle.

~~**2.09**~~**2.07 "Nicotine or lobelia delivery products"** means any product containing or delivering nicotine or lobelia intended for human

consumption, or any part of such a product, that is not tobacco or an electronic delivery device as defined in this Section, not including any product that has been approved or otherwise certified for legal sale by the United States Food and Drug Administration for tobacco use cessation, harm reduction, or for other medical purposes, and is being marketed and sold solely for that approved purpose.

2.08 "Public Health Department" means the Dakota County Public Health Department.

2.09 "Public Services and Revenue" means the Dakota County Public Services and Revenue Division.

2.10 "Retail establishment" means any place of business where tobacco products are available for sale to the general public. Retail establishments shall include, but not be limited to, grocery stores, tobacco product shops, convenience stores, gasoline service stations, bars and restaurants.

2.11 "Sale" means a transfer, exchange, or barter, in any manner or by any means, for consideration, and includes all sales made by any person. It also includes gifts or samples provided for advertising or promotional purposes, made by a person engaged in the selling of tobacco products.

2.12 "Self-service merchandising" means open displays of tobacco products in any manner where any person shall have access to the tobacco products without the assistance or intervention of the licensee or the licensee's employee. Such assistance or intervention shall involve the actual physical exchange of the tobacco products between the customer and the licensee or employee. Self-service merchandising does not include vending machines.

2.13 "Self-service method" means a method of sales of tobacco products whereby the customer does not need to make a verbal or written request to an employee of the licensed premise in order to receive the tobacco product and no physical exchange of the tobacco product occurs between the customer and the licensee, or an employee or agent of the licensee.

2.14 "Sheriff" means the Dakota County Sheriff or designee.

2.15 "Smoking" means inhaling or exhaling smoke from any lighted or heated tobacco product or inhaling or exhaling vapor from any electronic delivery device. Smoking shall include carrying or using an activated electronic delivery device or a lighted or heated tobacco product intended for inhalation.

2.16 "Tobacco" means cigarettes and any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco that is intended for human consumption, whether chewed, smoked, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means, or any component, part, or accessory of a tobacco product including but not limited to cigars; cheroots; stogies; perique; granulated, plug cut, crimp cut, ready rubbed, and other smoking tobacco; snuff; snuff flour;

cavendish; plug and twist tobacco; fine cut and other chewing tobaccos; shorts; refuse scraps, clippings, cuttings and sweepings of tobacco; and other kinds and forms of tobacco. Tobacco excludes any tobacco product that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for sale as a tobacco-cessation product, as a tobacco-dependence product, or for other medical purposes, and is being marketed and sold solely for such an approved purpose.

- 2.17 "Tobacco products"** means tobacco, tobacco-related devices, electronic delivery devices, or nicotine or lobelia delivery products as those terms are defined in this Section.
- 2.18 "Tobacco-related devices"** means cigarette papers or pipes for smoking, or other devices intentionally designed or intended to be used in a manner which enables the chewing, sniffing, smoking, or inhalation of aerosol or vapors of tobacco products. Tobacco related devices include components of tobacco related devices which may be marketed or sold separately.
- 2.19 "Vending machine"** means any mechanical, electric or electronic, self-service device which upon the insertion of money, tokens or other form of payment dispenses tobacco products and includes vending machines equipped with manual, electric, or electronic locking devices.

SECTION 3.00 LICENSES

3.01 LICENSE REQUIRED.

No person shall sell or offer to sell any tobacco products in the County without first having obtained a license to do so from the County, unless located within a town or statutory city that has retained licensing authority under Minn. Stat § 461.12, subd. 1.

3.02 LICENSE APPLICATION AND FEE.

- A. Application. An application for license to sell tobacco products must be made on a form provided by Public Services and Revenue. The application must contain the full name of the applicant, the applicant's residential and business addresses, telephone numbers, the name of the business for which the license is sought, a copy of the educational materials the applicant intends to use to educate employees, and any additional information Public Services and Revenue deems necessary. If Public Services and Revenue determines ~~that~~ an application is incomplete, the application will be returned to the applicant with notice of the deficiencies. ~~Public Services and Revenue shall forward the completed application to the Administrative Coordinator to the County Board for action at a regularly scheduled County Board meeting.~~ Public Services and Revenue may consult with Public Health and the Sheriff in deciding on approval of an application making a recommendation to the

County Board.

- B. Fee. The fee for a license under this Ordinance is set in accordance with a fee schedule adopted by the County Board. No license may be issued under this Ordinance until the appropriate license fee is paid in full.

3.03 ACTION.

The Public Services and Revenue, acting as County Board designee, may either approve or deny the license, or may delay action for such reasonable period of time as Public Services and Revenue deems ~~necessary~~ to complete an investigation of the application or the applicant. The applicant may apply for direct review by the County Board if their application is denied, Public Services and Revenue shall forward the completed application to the Administrative Coordinator to the County Board for action at a regularly scheduled County Board meeting. If the County Board, or its designee, approves the license, ~~the County Board~~ Public Services and Revenue shall issue the license to the applicant. If the County Board, or its designee, ~~denies~~ the license, written notice of the denial shall be sent to the applicant at the business address provided on the application with the reason(s) for the denial. The notice shall also inform the applicant of the right to appeal the decision, pursuant to the process set forth in Section 10, and have a hearing pursuant to Section 11.

3.04 LICENSE TERM.

All licenses shall be issued for a period of two (2) years.

3.05 LICENSE TRANSFER.

All licenses issued under this Ordinance shall be valid only on the premises for which the license was issued and only for the person to whom the license was issued.

No transfer of any license to another location or person shall be valid without the prior approval of Public Services and Revenue.

3.06 LICENSE DISPLAY.

All licenses shall be posted and displayed in plain view of the ~~general~~ public on the licensed premise.

3.07 LICENSE RENEWAL.

The renewal of a license is handled in the same manner as the original application. The request for a renewal must be made at least thirty (30) calendar days but no more than sixty (60) calendar days before the

expiration of the current license.

3.08 ISSUANCE AS A PRIVILEGE.

The issuance of a license under this Ordinance shall be considered a privilege and not a right of the applicant and shall not entitle the holder to automatic renewal of the license.

3.09 LICENSEE RESPONSIBILITY.

All licensees are responsible for the actions of their agents or employees ~~regarding~~ ~~regard to~~ the sale of tobacco products on the licensed premises. The sale of a tobacco product by an agent or employee of a licensee shall be considered a sale by the licensee. Any violation of this Ordinance shall be considered an act of the licensee for purposes of imposing an administrative penalty, license suspension, or license revocation.

3.10 LICENSE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM.

No person shall be issued a license or granted a license renewal to sell tobacco products unless the applicant or licensee has a program for instructing all agents and employees regarding the legal requirements pertaining to the sale of tobacco products. The instructional program includes, but is not limited to:

- A. Reviewing the law on the sale of tobacco products;
- B. Requiring agents and employees to request identification from every customer who is under ~~twenty-seven (27)~~ thirty (30) years of age;
- C. Explaining that the sale of tobacco products to ~~minors~~ persons under the age of 21 is illegal;
- D. Explaining what proof of age is legally acceptable; and
- E. Explaining that a sale to a ~~minor~~ person under the age of 21 can subject the applicant or licensee and their agents and employees to criminal and civil liability.

3.11 LICENSE DENIAL.

The following are grounds for denying the issuance or renewal of a license under this Ordinance. However, except as may otherwise be provided by law, the existence of any particular ground for denial does not mean that the County Board must deny the license. The following list is not exhaustive or exclusive.

- A. The applicant is a person under the age of 21.
- B. The applicant or licensee had a license to sell tobacco products revoked within the preceding twelve (12) months of the date of application.
- C. The applicant or licensee has been subject to administrative penalties under Section 8.00 within the preceding twelve (12) months of the date of application.
- D. The applicant or licensee fails to provide information required on the application or provides false or misleading information.
- E. The applicant or licensee is prohibited by federal, state, or other local law, ordinance or other regulation from holding a license.
- F. The applicant or licensee has been convicted within the past five (5) years of any violation of a federal, state or local law, ordinance provision, or other regulation relating to tobacco products.
- G. The applicant or licensee has outstanding fines, penalties, or property taxes owed to the County.
- H. The license is for a moveable place of business.
- I. The licensed premises is within 1,000 feet of any school, as measured by the shortest line between the space to be occupied by the applicant or licensee and the occupied space of the school, unless the applicant or licensee has been in the business of selling tobacco products in that location for at least one (1) year before the date this Section was enacted into law.

SECTION 4.00 MINNESOTA CLEAN INDOOR AIR ACT

All licensees shall comply with The Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act, Minn. Stat. §§ 144.411 - 144.417, as it may be amended from time to time.

SECTION 5.00 PROHIBITED SALES

It is a violation of this Ordinance for anyone to sell or offer to sell any tobacco products:

5.01 To any person under the age of 21.

A. Age verification. Licensees must verify by means of government-issued photographic identification containing the bearer's date of birth that the purchaser is at least 21 years of age. Verification is not required for a person over the age of 30. That the person appeared to be 30 years of age or older does not constitute a defense to a violation of this subsection.

A.B. Signage. Notice of the legal sales age and age verification requirement, and application of possible penalties must be posted prominently and in plain view at all times at each location where licensed products are offered for sale. The required signage must be posted in a manner that is clearly visible to anyone who is or is considering making a purchase.

5.02 By the means of a vending machine, ~~unless minors are at all times prohibited from entering the licensed premises.~~

5.03 By means of self-service merchandising and self-service methods. All tobacco products shall be stored behind a counter. This prohibition does not apply to retail stores which derive at least ninety (90) percent of their revenue from tobacco products, and where the retailer ensures that no ~~minor~~ person under the age of 21 is present, or permitted to enter, at any time.

5.04 By means of a movable place of business.

5.05 By means of loosies.

5.06 Containing opium, morphine, jimson weed, bella donna, strychnos, cocaine, marijuana, or other deleterious, hallucinogenic, toxic, or controlled substances except nicotine and other substances found naturally in tobacco or added as part of an otherwise lawful manufacturing process.

5.07 In the form of any liquid, whether or not such liquid contains nicotine, ~~that is~~ intended for human consumption and used in an electronic delivery device ~~that is~~ not contained in child- resistant packaging, as defined in Minn. Stat § 461.20, as it may be amended from time to time. All licensees must ensure ~~that~~ any such liquid is sold in child- resistant packaging.

5.08 In any circumstance when no license was issued, when a license was denied, when a license was not renewed, when a license was suspended, or when a license was revoked, regardless of whether the applicant or licensee requested a hearing under Section 11.00.

5.09 By any other means, to any other person, in any other manner or form prohibited by federal, state, or other local law, ordinance provision, or other regulation.

SECTION 6.00 COMPLIANCE CHECKS AND INSPECTIONS

All licensed premises shall be open to inspection by local law enforcement, the Sheriff or other County officials during regular business hours. From time to time, but at least once per year, a Sheriff's deputy shall conduct unannounced compliance checks to ensure compliance with this Ordinance. In accordance with state law, the County will conduct a compliance check that involves participation of a person who is at least 17 years of age, but under the age of 21 to enter the licensed premises to attempt to purchase tobacco products. ~~Such compliance checks shall utilize person minors over the age of fifteen (15) years but less than eighteen (18) twenty one (21) years, with the written consent of their parents or guardians, to enter a licensed premise to attempt to purchase tobacco products.~~ Minors Persons used for compliance checks who are under the age of 18 years must have the written consent of their parents or guardians, persons used for the purpose of compliance checks must be supervised by designated law enforcement officers or other designated County personnel.

~~Minors Persons under the age of 21 used for compliance checks shall not be guilty of the unlawful purchase or attempted purchase, or the unlawful possession of tobacco products when such items are obtained as a part of the compliance check.~~ No minor person under the age of 21 used in compliance checks shall attempt to use a false identification misrepresenting the person minor's age, and all persons minors lawfully engaged in a compliance check shall answer all questions about the person minor's age asked by the licensee or his or her agent or employee and shall produce any identification, if any exists, for which he or she is asked. Nothing in this Section prohibits other compliance checks authorized by state or federal laws for educational, research, or training purposes, or required for the enforcement of a particular state or federal law.

~~SECTION 7.00 — OTHER ILLEGAL ACTS~~

~~Unless otherwise provided, the following acts shall be a violation of this Ordinance:~~

~~7.01 — ILLEGAL SALES.~~

~~It is a violation of this Ordinance for any person to sell or otherwise provide any tobacco products to any person under the age of 21 minor. It is also a violation for any person 21 years of age and older to coerce or attempt to coerce a person under the age of 21 to illegally purchase or attempt to purchase any tobacco product.~~

~~7.02 — ILLEGAL POSSESSION.~~

~~It is a violation of this Ordinance for any minor person under the age of 21 to have in his or her possession any tobacco product. This Subdivision does not apply to minors persons under the age of 21 lawfully involved in a compliance check or to a licensee's agents or employees under the age of~~

~~eighteen (18) twenty one (21) years while stocking tobacco products in the licensed premises.~~

~~7.03~~ **ILLEGAL PROCUREMENT.**

~~It is a violation of this Ordinance for any minor person under the age of 21 to purchase or attempt to purchase or otherwise obtain any tobacco products, and it is a violation of this Ordinance for any person to purchase or otherwise obtain such items on behalf of a minor person under the age of 21. It is a further violation of this Ordinance for any person to coerce or attempt to coerce a minor person under the age of 21 to illegally purchase or otherwise obtain or use any tobacco products. This subdivision does not apply to minors persons under the age of 21 lawfully involved in a compliance check under Section 6.00.~~

~~7.04~~ **USE OF FALSE IDENTIFICATION.**

~~It is a violation of this Ordinance for any minor person under the age of 21 to attempt to disguise his or her true age by the use of a false form of identification, whether the identification is that of another person or one on which the age of the person has been modified or tampered with to represent an age older than the actual age of the person.~~

SECTION 78.00 ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES

7.01 LICENSEES.

- A. Any licensee found to have violated the terms of this Ordinance or whose employee has violated the terms of this ordinance shall be charged:
1. An administrative fine of \$75300 for the first violation of this Ordinance;
 2. An administrative fine of \$6200 and a one-day suspension of the license for a second violation at the same location within a thirty-six (36) twenty-four (24) month period after the first violation;
 3. An administrative fine of \$1,000250 and a seven (7) day suspension for a third violation at the same location within a thirty-six (36) twenty-four (24) month period after the first violation and may be revoked; and
 4. Revocation of the license for a fourth violation at the same location within a thirty-six (36) twenty-

~~four (24)~~ month period after the first violation.

- B. If the administrative ~~finer penalties~~ authorized to be imposed by Minn. Stat. § 461.12, as it may be amended from time to time, differ from those established in this Section, then the ~~statutory higher~~ administrative ~~finer penalty will~~ prevail.
- C. If a license is mistakenly issued to an applicant or renewed for a licensee, the license will be administratively revoked upon the discovery that the applicant or licensee was ineligible for the license under Section 3.00.

7.02 OTHER INDIVIDUALS.

Other Individuals age 21 and older found to be in violation of the terms of this Ordinance ~~will~~may be charged an administrative fine of \$50.

SECTION ~~89~~.00 MISDEMEANOR PROSECUTION

Nothing in this Ordinance shall prohibit the county from seeking of a misdemeanor for an alleged ~~any~~ second violation of this Ordinance by a person 21 years of age or older within five years of a previous violation~~on violation~~ under the Ordinance, or from enforcing any other applicable state or federal law or regulation in addition to or instead of any administrative penalty under this Ordinance.

SECTION ~~910~~.00 CITATION AND NOTICE

Upon discovery of a violation or upon license denial, the alleged violator or applicant must be issued, either personally or by mail, a written citation or notice of license denial. The citation or notice of license denial must provide notice that a hearing must be requested by the alleged violator or applicant and received by Public Services and Revenue within ten (10) business days of issuance of the citation or notice of license denial, and that failure to request the hearing within the ten (10) business days forfeits the right to a hearing. The citation or notice of license denial must provide information on how and where to request a hearing, including an address and contact information for Public Services and Revenue. A citation must also inform the alleged violator of the violation and the administrative penalty under Section 78.00 of this Ordinance.

SECTION ~~101~~.00 HEARINGS

11.01 10.01 DEFAULT.

Failure to request a hearing within the ten (10) business days will terminate the alleged violator or applicant's right to a hearing on the violation or license denial, and the violation and administrative penalty imposed under Section 8.00 of this Ordinance or license denial will be conclusive.

11.02 10.02 SCHEDULING.

Public Services and Revenue shall set the time and place for the hearing. Written notice of the hearing time and place will be mailed or personally delivered to the alleged violator or applicant at least ten (10) business days prior to the hearing.

11.03 10.03 HEARING OFFICER.

The County Manager shall appoint a hearing officer. The hearing officer may be an impartial employee of the County or an impartial person retained by the County to conduct the hearing.

11.04 10.04 DECISION.

The hearing officer shall issue a written decision within ten (10) business days after the hearing. If the hearing officer determines that a violation of this Ordinance did occur or that the license denial is upheld, that decision, along with the hearing officer's reasons and the administrative penalty to be imposed under Section 8.00 of this Ordinance, if any, shall be recorded in writing, a copy of which shall be provided to the violator or applicant. If the hearing officer finds that no violation occurred, finds other grounds for not imposing any administrative penalty, or overturns the license denial, such findings shall be recorded and a copy provided to the acquitted violator or applicant.

11.05 10.05 APPEAL.

Any appeal of the hearing officer's decision must be filed in the Dakota County District Court.

SECTION 112.00 CONTINUED VIOLATIONS

Each violation shall constitute a separate offense, and every day in which a violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION 123.00 EXCEPTIONS AND DEFENSES

Nothing in this Ordinance shall prevent a person from providing tobacco products to a ~~minor~~ person under the age of 21 as part of a lawfully recognized religious, spiritual, or cultural ceremony. It shall be an affirmative defense to the violation

of this Ordinance for a person to have reasonably and in good faith relied upon proof of age as described by state law.

SECTION 134.00 SEVERABILITY

If any section or subsection of this Ordinance is adjudged unconstitutional, invalid, or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, that finding shall not invalidate or otherwise affect the validity and enforceability of other sections or subsections of this Ordinance.

SECTION 145.00 REMEDIES CUMULATIVE

No remedy set forth in this Ordinance is intended to be exclusive, but each such remedy is cumulative and in addition to other remedies now or hereafter existing at law or in equity. No delay in the exercise of any remedy for violation of this Ordinance shall later impair or waive any such right or power of the County.

SECTION 156.00 EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance becomes effective on the date of its publication, or upon the publication of a summary of the ordinance as provided by Minn. Stat. § 412.191, which meets the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 331A.01, subd. 10.

SECTION 167.00 REPEALER

Dakota County Ordinance No. 125, which was enacted through Resolution ~~99-19118-087~~ on ~~March 29, 1999~~, February 27, 2018 by the Dakota County Board of Commissioners, is hereby repealed and this enacted in its stead.

ATTEST:

COUNTY OF DAKOTA, STATE OF MINNESOTA

Amendments to the draft Ordinance include:

- Previously approved changes regarding removal of the definition and references to the term ‘minor’ and replacing it with “person(s) under the age of 21” throughout the ordinance, as well as changes to the SECTION 3.00 LICENSES.
- Removal of language relating to Possession, Use and Purchase (PUP) by persons under the age of 21 throughout the Ordinance. Stricken language in SECTION 1.01 PURPOSE and 1.02 AUTHORITY focuses the Ordinance on Tobacco Sales.
- Updates to SECTION 5.01 A and B regarding age verification and signage to meet the requirements of recently enacted MN state law.
- Modifications to SECTION 6.00 COMPLIANCE CHECKS AND INSPECTIONS to increase age of compliance check participants and remove additional PUP language.
- Removal of SECTION 7.00 OTHER ILLEGAL PROHIBITED ACTS and subsections 7.01, 7.02, 7.03, and 7.04 which all relate to PUP through Sales, Procurement and Use of False Identification. Removal is recommended for clarity and consistency throughout the Ordinance, and compliance with state law.
- Changes to SECTION 8.00 ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES to bring the County Ordinance into compliance with state law regarding the fine schedule for tobacco retailers who violate County, State and/or Federal laws.

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Apply For Minnesota Department of Health Statewide Health Improvement Partnership Grant, Accept Grant Funds, Execute Grant Agreements And Amend 2020 Public Health Budget

Meeting Date: 8/11/2020	Fiscal/FTE Impact:
Item Type: Consent-Action	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Division: Community Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Current budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment requested
Department: Public Health	<input type="checkbox"/> New FTE(s) requested
Contact: Brueshoff, Bonnie	Board Goal: A great place to live
Contact Phone: (651) 554-6103	Public Engagement Level: N/A
Prepared by: Montagne, Mary	

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize application to Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) for Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP 2021) grant, acceptance of funds, execution of grant agreements, and amendment to the 2020 Public Health budget.

SUMMARY

In 2008, SHIP was signed into law as an integral public health component of the Minnesota Health Reform Initiative. The statewide focus was to implement policy, systems, and environmental changes aimed at reducing obesity and tobacco use to reduce the statewide burden of chronic disease and decrease health care costs. Dakota County received \$2,700,000 for the period of July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011, from MDH. The County then received \$1,868,058 for the period of November 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015. The County once again received \$3,914,140 for the period of November 1, 2015 to October 31, 2020. By Resolution No. 19-613 (July 23, 2019), the County Board authorized acceptance of the County's SHIP 4, Year 5 award and funding in the amount of \$782,859 for the period of November 1, 2019 through October 31, 2020, and an additional amount of \$10,000 for the period of June 1, 2019 through October 31, 2020, awarded for a special project.

Applications for the next grant are due to MDH by August 31, 2020. On July 1, 2020, the County received an award letter from MDH for \$782,859 for the period of November 1, 2020 to October 31, 2021 (Attachment A). It stated that "While SHIP grants are on a five-year basis, only the first year of funding has been determined at this time. Funding is also contingent on legislative approval each biennium. The MDH reserves the right to change funding amounts based on the total appropriated to SHIP each biennium." In addition to the new SHIP grant, MDH has extended the current five-year grant (scheduled to end October 31, 2020) through June 30, 2021, due to implementation delays caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic. The no-cost extension will allow continued use of SHIP 4, Year 5 funds for grant work through June 30, 2021. The goals of the new grant remain the same with the addition of mental health and well-being. By the end of August 2020, MDH plans to send a new five-year grant agreement and a no-cost grant amendment extending the current grant through June 30, 2021.

MDH requires grantees to work on several strategies in the areas of schools, worksites, communities and health care. The proposed strategies (Attachment B) and proposed budget (Attachment C) outline the contractual services and budget that are viewed as essential to SHIP's successful implementation.

OUTCOMES

- Outcomes as related to SHIP 4 will be reported to the County Board in August 2021 since SHIP 4 has been extended due to COVID-19 to June 30, 2021.
- Anticipated outcomes and evaluation plan for the period of November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021, are outlined in Attachment D.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to apply for the MDH SHIP 2021 grant, accept SHIP 2021 funds, execute the grant agreements and amendment to the 2020 Public Health budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

There is a \$0 net County cost anticipated as a result of this action. The grant award is \$782,859 for the period of November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021. By amending the 2020 Public Health budget in the amount of \$32,000, there will be sufficient funds for the first two months of the new grant period. The balance of \$750,859 will be included in the 2021 County Manager's Recommended Budget. Any unspent SHIP 2021 grant funds in 2020 will be carried over at the end of the year and must be spent by October 31, 2021, unless carry forward is allowed.

Supporting Documents:

Attachment A: Award Letter
 Attachment B: Proposed Strategies and Work Plan
 Attachment C: Proposed Budget
 Attachment D: Anticipated Outcomes and Evaluation Plan

Previous Board Action(s):

19-613, 7/23/19

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 19-613 (July 23, 2019), the County Board authorized acceptance of Dakota County's Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP 4, Year 5) award and funding from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) in the amount of \$782,859 for the period of November 1, 2019 through October 31, 2020, and an additional amount of \$10,000 for the period of June 1, 2019 through October 31, 2020, awarded for a special project; and

WHEREAS, MDH has requested applications, due August 31, 2020, for the next round of SHIP funding for the time period of November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021, for the first year of an anticipated five-year agreement; and

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2020, MDH notified the County of an award for \$782,859 for the time period of November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021, for the first year of an anticipated five-year agreement; and

WHEREAS, MDH also has extended the current five-year grant (scheduled to end October 31, 2020) through June 30, 2021, due to implementation delays caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends the County Board authorizes staff to apply for funding for SHIP 2021 in the amount of \$782,859 for the period of November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends the County Board authorizes acceptance of the County's SHIP 2021 award and funding in the amount of \$782,859 for the period of November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends the County Board authorizes execution of the five-year grant agreement for the period of November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends the County Board authorizes execution of a no-cost grant amendment extending the current grant through June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends amending the 2020 Public Health budget to reflect the funding that begins November 1, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes staff to submit an application for funding for SHIP 2021 in the amount of \$782,859 for the period of November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to accept the award of \$782,859 for the period of November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to execute a five-year grant agreement and accept future funding for the period of November 1, 2020 through October 31, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to execute a no-cost grant amendment extending the current grant through June 30, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That unless the grant program requirements change, the Community Services Director is hereby authorized to amend the grant to alter the grant term, accept additional grant funds and continue grant-funded FTE's (if relevant), consistent with County contracting policies, and inclusion of grant funds in future yearly recommended and adopted budgets, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby amends the 2020 Public Health budget as follows:

Revenue
SHIP 2020 Grant \$32,000
Total Revenue **\$32,000**

Expense
SHIP 2020 Grant \$32,000
Total Expense **\$32,000**

<p>County Manager's Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Action<input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Recommend Action<input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed---No Recommendation<input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed---Information Only<input type="checkbox"/> Submitted at Commissioner Request  _____ County Manager	<p>Reviewed by (if required):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Attorney's Office<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Financial Services<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk Management<input type="checkbox"/> Employee Relations<input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology<input type="checkbox"/> Facilities Management
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Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of All Minnesotans

July 1, 2020

Bonnie Brueshoff
 CHS Administrator
 Dakota County Community Health Board
 1 Mendota Rd. W., Suite 410
 West St. Paul, MN 55118

Dear Ms. Brueshoff:

We are pleased to inform you that the Dakota County Community Health Board has been approved for funding by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) for the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) Grant. The annual budget and work plan must be approved by MDH by November 1, 2020, and is incorporated into the grant project agreement by reference.

While SHIP grants are on a five-year basis, only the first year of funding has been determined at this time. Funding is also contingent on legislative approval each biennium. MDH reserves the right to change funding amounts based on the total appropriated to SHIP each biennium. Please see the funding period and award below:

BUDGET PERIOD	AWARD
Year 1: November 1, 2020-October 31, 2021	\$782,859
Years 2-5: A revised funding formula will be developed in conjunction with the SHIP Planning Funding, Scope of Work and Requirements Workgroup, to be put into effect November 2021 and be in place for the final 4 years of the new SHIP grants.	

In addition to your new SHIP grant, we have received permission from Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) to extend your current five-year grant (scheduled to end October 31, 2020) through June 30, 2021. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, many grantees have experienced a slowing of their grant work. This no-cost extension will allow your agency to continue using SHIP Year 5 funds for grant work through June 30, 2021.

If you do not wish to have your current grant extended, please contact your SHIP community specialist, otherwise you may expect both a new five-year grant agreement and a no-cost grant amendment extending your current grant through June 30, 2021.

We look forward to working with you on our mutual goals of supporting community-driven solutions to expand opportunities for active living, healthy eating and commercial tobacco-free living.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kris Igo'.

Kris Igo, Division Director
 Office of Statewide Health Improvement Initiatives (OSHI)
 P.O. Box 64882
 St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0882
www.health.state.mn.us

cc: Mary Montagne
 Marguerite Zauner

Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP)

Current Strategies and Work Plan

November 1, 2020 - October 31, 2021

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) requires grant applicants to work on several strategies to bring about policy, systems and environmental changes aimed at reducing obesity and commercial tobacco use. The Legislature made an addition to the SHIP grant requirements in 2019 to include focused work to promote community mental health and well-being. The COVID-19 pandemic has also surfaced new and unexpected priorities across all communities, with even greater impacts in specific populations. Dakota County will continue work on the core strategies and implement new, responsive strategies, building upon past success and partnerships in the community. Funding estimates for each strategy are for one year and do not include staff hired by the county.

Please note: The current cycle, SHIP 4Y5, that was due to end October 31, 2020 has been extended through June 30, 2021 due to COVID-19 per MDH. The following detail is for the **new cycle** only (November 1, 2020-October 31, 2021).

WORKSITES

The goal of the worksite wellness strategy is to **improve employee health by implementing changes that support healthy eating, breastfeeding support, physical activity, mental health and well-being** and a reduction in use and exposure to commercial tobacco. Due to the overlapping work plans and excellent performance, the current consultant will be contracted in 2021 to assist up to 15 worksites to implement sustainable changes. The estimated contract budget is \$25,000. The worksites budget also includes approximately \$25,800 to be equally divided among the estimated 15 partner worksites.

Anticipated outcomes: Up to 15 worksites will be make sustainable changes that support healthy eating, breastfeeding support, physical activity, mental health and well-being, and/or reduce commercial tobacco use and exposure.

COMMERCIAL TOBACCO

The main goals of the commercial tobacco strategy are to **implement and support voluntary smoke-free multi-unit housing policies**, and to **build knowledge among retailers regarding new T-21/point-of-sale (POS) practices**. Primary emphasis is on outreach for housing occupied by low-income and senior populations. New features to this work include engagement with city partners interested in advanced smoke-free housing policies; and an assessment of T-21 implementation to educate vendors about best practices at the point-of-sale. A supplemental goal includes connecting residents to cessation services.

An RFP is in process to select a technical assistance provider to lead this work, to provide information on best practices and options for cities to consider, and to develop a process for assessing and supporting retailers with point-of-sale best practices. The contract total is estimated to be \$40,000.

Anticipated outcomes: Up to 6 new smoke-free policies will be adopted, city partners will be engaged to assess readiness for and interest in working on advanced policies, and commercial tobacco vendors will be informed and supported in point-of-sale best practices.

SCHOOLS

Core strategies for our Schools work will include **youth tobacco/vaping prevention, promotion of mental health and well-being, including opportunities for physical activity (e.g. Safe Routes to**

School). Staff will work to tailor support to school districts during this unprecedented time of COVID-19 and uncertainty of what the school environment will be like. Small grants will be awarded to districts to support their priority health and wellness goals for a total amount of approximately \$42,000.

Anticipated outcomes: Schools will make sustainable changes to support prevention of youth vaping, promotion of mental health and well-being, and increasing opportunities for physical activity.

CHILD CARE

The goal of this strategy is for **child care providers to implement policies and practices that support healthy eating (including breastfeeding support), quality physical activity and mental health and well-being** in child care settings. The budget for contracts for trainers and consultants is approximately \$5,000. The work plan is focused on supporting the Latino Family, Friends, and Neighbors (FFN) Child Care Provider Network.

Anticipated outcomes: Child care providers will make changes to support healthy eating, physical activity and/or mental health and well-being.

ACTIVE LIVING

This strategy aims to **implement policies, practices, and planning that create active and healthier communities by increasing opportunities for non-motorized transportation** (walking and biking). The budget includes \$20,000 for a grant writer to help cities and the County with construction proposals. An RFP will be issued to select a grant writer to support this work. The budget also includes \$75,000 for small planning grants to improve access for all to physical activity such as walking and biking.

Anticipated outcomes: Progress will be made to increase non-motorized transportation (walking and biking) through plans and grant awards.

HEALTHY COMMUNITY FOOD

This goal of this strategy is to help **build capacity of both food shelves and farmers' markets** as important community-based sources of healthy, fresh food. The estimated budget is \$21,000 and will be used to provide mini-grants to the food shelves and technical assistance and materials to farmers' markets to maintain safe operations (during the pandemic) and to promote healthy food to customers.

Anticipated outcomes: Mini-grants will be awarded to food shelves, and local farmers' markets will receive technical assistance to maintain safe operations and implement healthy food promotions.

HEALTH CARE

No new projects are proposed for SHIP. During the 8-month overlap of the current SHIP's work with the new cycle, we plan to complete existing strategies for evidence-based fall prevention programming and the "Food Rx" pilot project in partnership with Children's West St. Paul clinic to address food insecurity.

COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

This new, evolving and COVID-19 responsive strategy will include focused **community engagement work with identified priority populations who face greater health disparities and to promote well-being at the community level.** We plan to deepen partnerships with Latinx, East African and Black community members to co-create community well-being goals. Additionally, community well-being and mental health promotion activities will be incorporated throughout the other strategy areas: schools, child care and worksites. Budget: \$31,015. *Anticipated outcomes:* to be determined.

SHIP 2021 Budget Summary**11/1/2020 – 10/31/2021**

Expenses	Total
Salary and Benefits*	\$395,425
Contractual	\$304,949
Travel	\$1,000
Supplies	\$2,985
Other	\$6,500
Indirect Costs	\$72,000
Total Costs	\$782,859

*County staff positions contingent upon funding include the following:

3 FTE Health Promotion Specialists (108)

1 FTE Senior Program Assistant (105)

.03 FTE WIC Coordinator (109)

.6 FTE Planner 1 (106) in Physical Development

.1 FTE Contract Specialist (108)

See page two for contract details.

SHIP 2021 Proposed Contract Budget

The following summarizes the proposed budget for contracts. Final budget amounts will be determined upon contract execution.

Contracts/Strategy	Budget	Deliverables
Tobacco consultant	\$40,000	At least 10 new voluntary smoke-free buildings
Evaluation consultant	\$20,000	Complete evaluation services
Worksite consultant	\$25,000	Assist up to 15 worksites to make sustainable changes (healthy eating, physical activity, tobacco reduction, and/or well-being)
Worksite Organizations	\$25,800	Up to 15 worksites make sustainable changes (healthy eating, physical activity, tobacco reduction, and/or well-being)
Child Care Consultants	\$5,000	Improved healthy food access and practices at child care sites
Schools	\$42,134	Schools make sustainable changes in well-being, vaping reduction, and/or physical activity
Active Living Grant Writer	\$20,000	Grant proposals for construction
Projects	\$75,000	Grants to improve active living in cities and county
Community Food Projects with food shelves and farmers' markets	\$21,000	Sustainable changes to increase access to healthy food
Well-being and cultural outreach/engagement with underserved populations (i.e., Latino, African American, and East African) integrated in Community Services Division work	\$31,015	Outreach, assessment, engagement and connecting people to resources
Total Contracts	\$304,949	

Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP '21-'25 Year 1)

Evaluation Plan and Outcomes

11/1//2020-10/31/2021

Background and Plan

The SHIP '21-'25 evaluation plan for year 1 (otherwise known as the “transition” year) will build on previous work and lessons learned and will strive to meet the Dakota County and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and stakeholder expectations. MDH expectations include reach (number served) of all strategies; capturing details of activities and the types of persons reached by interventions and PSE (policy, system, environmental change) strategy implementation. A Quality Assurance Team that includes staff from Office of Planning and Analysis, Public Health, and ACET, Inc., the evaluation consultant group, meets occasionally to review and guide evaluation.

Per MDH grant requirements, the following guiding questions are currently being used, and are proposed for the evaluation for the transition year of SHIP 2021:

- (1) To what extent are the intended strategies being delivered to the intended persons?
- (2) To what extent are outcomes achieved?
- (3) To what extent have additional funds been leveraged and strategies sustained?
- (4) To what extent have SHIP staff been assigned to/involved in COVID-19 response?
(Newly added question in May 2020; SHIP funds can be used for this purpose.)

The above evaluation questions will be used to address the County's Outcomes Based Accountability. We also monitor trend data (e.g. nutrition, physical activity, commercial tobacco use, mental health indicators) through the Dakota County Community Health Assessment, the Adult Health Behavior Survey (conducted in 2014 and repeated in 2019), and the Minnesota Student Survey (conducted in 2016 and repeated in spring 2019). Results are available.

Contract: The County plans to extend the contract term date of our current evaluation vendor through June 2021 to align with the MDH's 8-month extension of the current SHIP cycle (due to COVID-19) to complete the current work plan. Additionally, an RFP will be issued for SHIP '21-'25 year 1 specific work. The selected vendor will be tasked to support the SHIP team with all SHIP required evaluation planning and services. The contract for the anticipated new vendor for SHIP '21-'25 year 1 will be approximately \$20,000.

Anticipated and Current Outcomes

Anticipated outcomes for SHIP '21-'25 year 1 are detailed in Attachment B.

Preliminary current and anticipated outcomes for **SHIP 4 Year 5 (11/1/19-6/30/21)** follow. Similar measures will be used, and full outcomes will be reported in August of 2021.

How Much Did We Do?

- From November 1, 2019 through July 20, 2020, SHIP has leveraged \$542,463 in additional funds through partnerships with cities, schools and community food initiatives in SHIP 4Y5.
- Partnered with 11 worksites to address physical activity, nutrition, breastfeeding and/or commercial tobacco use.
- Funded 18 schools across seven districts making changes to improve nutrition, physical activity, and implement youth commercial tobacco/vaping prevention strategies.
- Funded three city-led and one county-led initiatives to improve walking and biking to connect residents to homes, jobs, shopping, and transit.

- Assisted two food shelves through mini-grant funds to build capacity to source, store and distribute healthy food options
- Supported 9 Farmers' Markets across the County to prepare for new COVID-19 safety and operations protocol.
- Engaged 39 Dakota County property owners and managers at an educational workshop held in March 2020.
- 4 culturally-specific, virtual events have been held this calendar year with the Latino Family, Friend and Neighbor Child Care Provider Network to provide learning opportunities related to COVID-19 and mental health and well-being.
- Fiesta en la Nieve, an event co-planned with the Latinx community, Dakota County Parks and Outdoor Latino-MN was held March 1st to promote physical activity and well-being. It was attended by a total of 126 people including 74 youth and 52 adults.
- A bi-lingual SHIP staff person has successfully contributed to the County's Public Health COVID-19 Response by taking on a position within the Department Operations Center to create and implement a Communications and Engagement Plan for Diverse Populations. Since its inception, multiple culturally-specific and tailored messages and resources (in Spanish and Somali) have been created and shared publicly. Additionally, virtual 'pop-up' community outreach meetings and food shelf deliveries have been co-organized to reach our Latinx population, to provide timely pandemic support.

How Well Did We Do It?

- Worksites and schools have made some progress towards original goals around improving nutrition, physical activity and incorporating tobacco prevention/cessation supports, while other activities are temporarily paused or have been adapted (e.g. virtual trainings or technical assistance) during this time.
- A 'deep dive' evaluation of a physical activity and well-being school intervention 'Moving and Learning' is expected by July 2021.
- Sustainability checklists, a tool to measure sustainably after the grant, are in all school, worksite, food shelf, and healthcare partner contracts. Full results expected in August 2021.

Is Anyone Better Off?

- To date, leveraged \$455,863 in additional funds with the grant writer through partnerships with cities on active living for construction of trails and bridges in South St. Paul and Waterford Township) that will allow people, including students, to more safely bicycle and walk to destinations. The grant writer also successfully secured Safe Routes to School funding for 5 schools districts in this cycle, including South St. Paul, Lakeville, Inver Grove Heights, Eagan and Burnsville that will help students more safely bicycle and walk to school.
- In the 2018-2019 SHIP cycle, Dakota County Public Health helped school and worksite partners to sustain their project activities with 95% of respondents (n=43) reporting they met at least 6 of 7 criteria to sustain change. The goal is 100% of partners meeting the criteria to sustain change. An updated calculation of this measure is expected by August 2021.
- Since November 1, 2019, 13 additional multi-unit housing properties went smoke-free or expanded their smoke-free policy, protecting an estimated 3,623 residents from secondhand smoke. An estimated 50% of multi-unit housing properties are now smoke-free. The goal is 100% of multi-unit housing properties going smoke-free.

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Update On Child Protection And Child Welfare Services

Meeting Date: 8/11/2020	Fiscal/FTE Impact:
Item Type: Regular-Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Division: Community Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Current budget <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment requested
Department: Social Services	<input type="checkbox"/> New FTE(s) requested
Contact: Henspeter, Evan	Board Goal: A great place to live
Contact Phone: (651) 554-6344	Public Engagement Level: N/A
Prepared by: Tuttle, Suzanne	

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Receive an update on Dakota County's child protection and child welfare services, including recent trends in services and what is expected in the future.

SUMMARY

Dakota County's child protection system responds to allegations of maltreatment and supports families to safely care for their children. Counties and tribes have several responsibilities regarding reports of suspected child maltreatment and exploitation, which are found in Minn. Stat. §626.556. In 2019, Dakota County Social Services screened 5,045 reports of child maltreatment, with 1,929 reports meeting criteria for a follow-up assessment. Dakota County's Children and Family Services provides a range of services to protect children from maltreatment and promote family well-being, including Child Protection Assessment and Case Management, Parent Support Outreach for screened out maltreatment reports, Truancy, and Children's Mental Health Assessment and Case Management. In total, Dakota County served 4,790 children through these programs in 2019.

Minnesota's child welfare system has undergone several changes in recent years with the goal of protecting children while keeping families safely together. Recent reforms include implementation of standard screening criteria for child protection reports across the state, updated requirements for response time to allegations of abuse, and increased focus on community partnerships to prevent maltreatment and support families prior to entering the child protection system. Looking forward, the Family First Prevention Services Act is new federal legislation intended to support children to remain safely in their homes by identifying and providing resources to meet families' needs earlier in a case.

Staff will provide an update on Dakota County Child Protection and Child Welfare Services, trends, impacts of COVID-19 on services, and anticipated future challenges and opportunities.

RECOMMENDATION

Information only; no action requested.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

None.

Supporting Documents:

Previous Board Action(s):

RESOLUTION

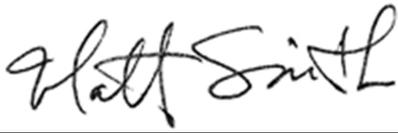
Information only; no action requested.

County Manager's Comments:

- Recommend Action
- Do Not Recommend Action
- Reviewed---No Recommendation
- Reviewed---Information Only
- Submitted at Commissioner Request

Reviewed by (if required):

- County Attorney's Office
- Financial Services
- Risk Management
- Employee Relations
- Information Technology
- Facilities Management



County Manager

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Create And Implement A Flexible Benefit Set To Support Families, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget And Amend 2020 Employment And Economic Assistance Budget

Meeting Date: 8/11/2020	Fiscal/FTE Impact:
Item Type: Regular-Action	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Division: Community Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Current budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment requested
Department: Employment and Economic Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> New FTE(s) requested
Contact: Fischbach, Marti	Board Goal: A great place to live
Contact Phone: (651) 554-5618	Public Engagement Level: N/A
Prepared by: Bixby, Linda	

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize creation and implementation of a Flexible Benefit Set (FBS) to support families, amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amendment to the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget.

SUMMARY

The Community Services Division has been working with families in a pilot initiative, Pathways to Prosperity and Wellbeing, using bold new approaches in working with families receiving public assistance to reduce poverty and create clear pathways toward prosperity and wellbeing. COVID-19 and the ensuing pandemic-related recession has disproportionately impacted low-income workers and has exacerbated their poverty conditions. Staff experiences show that families participating in the Pathways pilot are experiencing economic hardship related to COVID-19, and the current public benefit system is inadequate and inflexible to address the consequences. To mitigate these situational impacts, staff is proposing providing supplemental and flexible benefit supports to these families.

The benefit proposed is based on food, cash, and housing assistance that a family could be eligible for per month for three months. Families would be supported by a Financial Worker, Social Worker, and Financial Empowerment Specialist who will work with them to determine their needs and address the specific hardship impact COVID-19 has had on the financial stability of the family. The use of these funds would be combined with staff supports to increase financial stability, financial knowledge, and the ability to manage family finances through planning, education, and counseling. Eligible expenses include but are not limited to shelter costs (rent, mortgage, association fees, utilities, late fees, etc.), food, healthcare costs not covered by insurance, Medical Assistance of MinnesotaCare, and work-related expenses (transportation, uniforms, tools, etc.).

Staff is in the process of exploring a potential third-party Financial Management Service (FMS) to administer approved funds to families and/or pursuing any necessary contracts if determined to be applicable.

OUTCOMES

How much? Assist up to 20 families per month. The amount of money issued per family will vary based on circumstances and pandemic hardship impact.

How well? Stand up a program that can accommodate the circumstances of eligible Dakota County families experiencing hardship in a short period of time. The lessons learned will be leveraged for continued program design targeting Pathways families.

Is anyone better off? Participating families Integrated Services Assessment Tool (ISAT) scores, which are tied to the wellness and social determinants of health domains, credit scores pre- and post-program, and family experience responses will be used to determine if the families are better off.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to implement and administer a Flexible Benefit Set program in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

This funding has no associated County cost. Authorization is requested to amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget, transferring \$150,000 for client supports plus \$50,000 for administrative costs of CARES Act funding for the financial assistance program. No new County FTEs will be added, and the program will be administered by existing Community Services staff. This program will end immediately in the event sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

Supporting Documents:

Previous Board Action(s):

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Community Services Division has been working with families in a pilot initiative, Pathways to Prosperity and Wellbeing, which has been discussed with the Dakota County Board of Commissioners several times and is using bold new approaches in working with families receiving public assistance to reduce poverty and create clear pathways toward prosperity and wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Dakota County Flexible Benefit Set Program would serve families engaged in the Pathways to Prosperity and Wellbeing initiative that have been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the COVID-19 peacetime emergency; and

WHEREAS, the program would provide up to \$150,000 in payments to Dakota County families; and

WHEREAS, the program will be administered and implemented by the Employment and Economic Assistance Department; and

WHEREAS, the program would require up to \$50,000 in administrative costs for existing staffing costs and third-party payer issuance fees; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorization to implement and administer a Flexible Benefit Set program in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget; and

WHEREAS, there is an immediate and serious need for this service that cannot be met with other procurement methods and that the services that may be contracted for are limited to those necessary to meet the emergency facing families; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has determined the Flexible Benefit Set Program costs are necessary and a reasonable response to the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore eligible for use of CARES Act funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to implement the Flexible Benefit Set Program in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Expenses	<u>(\$200,000)</u>
Total Expense	(\$200,000)

Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>(\$200,000)</u>
Total Revenue	(\$200,000)

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Employment and Economic Support budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Non-Profit Financial Assistance	<u>\$200,000</u>
Total Expense	\$200,000

Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>\$200,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$200,000

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

County Manager's Comments:

- Recommend Action
- Do Not Recommend Action
- Reviewed---No Recommendation
- Reviewed---Information Only
- Submitted at Commissioner Request

Reviewed by (if required):

- County Attorney's Office
- Financial Services
- Risk Management
- Employee Relations
- Information Technology
- Facilities Management



County Manager

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Implement A Youth Employment Services Program, Execute Contract With Tree Trust For Youth Employment Services, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget And Amend 2020 Employment And Economic Assistance Budget

Meeting Date: 8/11/2020	Fiscal/FTE Impact:
Item Type: Regular-Action	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Division: Community Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Current budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment requested
Department: Employment and Economic Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> New FTE(s) requested
Contact: Fischbach, Marti	Board Goal: A successful place for business and jobs
Contact Phone: (651) 554-5618	Public Engagement Level: N/A
Prepared by: Higgins, Amber	

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize implementation of a Youth Employment Services program, execution of a contract with Tree Trust for youth employment services, amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amendment to the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget.

SUMMARY

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in severe economic and social impacts for individuals and families, including youth. Between March 16, 2020 and July 13, 2020, 67,327 Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims were filed in Dakota County, representing 27.7 percent of Dakota County's 2019 annual labor force. Of those, youth ages 16-24 accounted for 10,524 Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims, 15.6 percent of the total.

Research shows a predictor of future success in the workforce is early exposure to work experience. COVID-19 social distancing guidelines, worksite availability, and provider and site staffing have limited the number of youth employment opportunities this summer. Youth employment and career development will play a critical role in ensuring future business needs are met.

In anticipation of upcoming needs for youth employment due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Dakota County Employment and Economic Assistance proposes providing additional educational and job opportunities through a contract with Tree Trust for employment of youth impacted by COVID-19. This contract will utilize CARES Act funding in a not to exceed contract amount of \$80,000 for the period beginning upon the date of execution of the contract through December 1, 2020. In addition, staff requests authorization to amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget.

OUTCOMES

CARES Act funding will provide paid work experience for up to twenty youth ages 14-24. Participants will work at various jobsites within Dakota County. The program will also connect youth with businesses for activities such as in-person or virtual site visits, career exploration, and entrepreneurial learning. Participants will earn a wage of ten dollars an hour for work at jobsites and with businesses. In addition, they will earn twenty dollar stipends for each supplementary community project kit and learning session activity completed.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to implement the youth employment services program in an amount not to exceed \$80,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, execute a contract with Tree Trust for youth employment services in a not to exceed contract amount of \$80,000 for the period beginning upon the date of execution of the contract through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

This funding has no associated County cost. Authorization is requested to amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget, transferring \$80,000 of CARES Act funding. This program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue these services, and the contract shall contain a provision that allows the county to immediately terminate the contract in the event that the funds from county, state, or federal sources are not appropriated at a level sufficient to allow payment of the amounts due.

Supporting Documents:

Previous Board Action(s):

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in severe economic and social impacts for individuals and families, including youth; and

WHEREAS, between March 16, 2020 and July 13, 2020, 67,327 Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims were filed in Dakota County, representing 27.7 percent of Dakota County's 2019 annual labor force of which youth ages 16-24 accounted for 10,524 UI claims, 15.6 percent of the total; and

WHEREAS, research shows a predictor of future success in the workforce is early exposure to work experience; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 social distancing guidelines, worksite availability, and provider and site staffing have limited the number of youth employment opportunities this summer; and

WHEREAS, youth employment and career development will play a critical role in ensuring future business needs are met; and

WHEREAS, in anticipation of upcoming needs for youth employment due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Dakota County Employment and Economic Assistance proposes providing additional educational and job opportunities through a contract with Tree Trust for employment of youth impacted by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorization to implement the youth employment services program in an amount not to exceed \$80,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, execute a contract with Tree Trust for youth employment services in a not to exceed contract amount of \$80,000 for the period beginning upon the date of execution of the contract through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget; and

WHEREAS, there is an immediate and serious need for this service that cannot be met with other procurement methods, and the services that will be contracted for are limited to those necessary to meet the emergency facing youth in our communities; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has determined that the youth employment services program costs are necessary and a reasonable response to the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore eligible for use of CARES Act funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to implement the youth employment services program in an amount not to exceed \$80,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to execute a contract with Tree Trust for youth employment services in a not to exceed contract amount of \$80,000 for the time period beginning upon the date of execution of the contract through December 1, 2020, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Community Services Director is hereby authorized to amend said contract, within the amount budgeted, to alter the number and types of clients served, types of services provided, and service expectations and rates, consistent with County contracting policies, subject to the approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the contract shall contain a provision that allows the County to immediately terminate the contract in the event that the funds from county, state, or federal sources are not appropriated at a level sufficient to allow payment of the amounts due; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Grant Expenses	<u>(\$80,000)</u>
Total Expense	<u>(\$80,000)</u>

Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>(\$80,000)</u>
Total Revenue	(\$80,000)

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget as follows:

Expense	
Youth Employment Services	<u>\$80,000</u>
Total Expense	\$80,000

Revenue	
Youth Employment Services	<u>\$80,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$80,000

and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue these services.

<p>County Manager's Comments:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Action</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Recommend Action</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed---No Recommendation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed---Information Only</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Submitted at Commissioner Request</p>  <p>_____ County Manager</p>	<p>Reviewed by (if required):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Attorney's Office</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Financial Services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk Management</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Employee Relations</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Facilities Management</p>
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DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Provide Temporary Childcare Assistance, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget And Amend 2020 Employment And Economic Assistance Budget

Meeting Date: 8/11/2020	Fiscal/FTE Impact:
Item Type: Regular-Action	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Division: Community Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Current budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment requested
Department: Employment and Economic Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> New FTE(s) requested
Contact: Fischbach, Marti	Board Goal: A great place to live
Contact Phone: (651) 554-5618	Public Engagement Level: N/A
Prepared by: Miller, Tiffinie	

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize provision of temporary childcare assistance, amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amendment to the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance (E&EA) budget.

SUMMARY

The Basic Sliding Fee (BSF) program is a child care assistance program for low-income families that has consistently been underfunded, creating an ongoing waitlist.

Prior to COVID-19, families reported they could not find or retain employment due to the high expense of and lack of access to child care assistance. This is an even larger challenge currently due to COVID-19. This proposed interim program would fill a needed gap, get families back to work sooner and provide seamless supports to employment and stability.

The E&EA strategy is to fully utilize all child care subsidy programs and the CARES Act funding to provide child care assistance for families until they can be removed from the waitlist queue for the BSF program. The purpose of the Temporary CARES Child Care Program is to provide assistance to eligible Dakota County families for child care expenses.

CARES Act funding will be used to cover expenses in the following areas:

- Families currently on the BSF waitlist that were impacted by COVID-19
- Families that have past due child care bills that impact their current ability to obtain or retain child care

OUTCOMES:

How much? All Dakota County families on the waitlist, but not to exceed the maximum amount of \$1,000,000

How well? Temporary Child Care Assistance was authorized for waitlist families to cover costs of child care

Better off? Families are able to get back to work sooner and able to maintain employment due to access to safe, reliable and affordable child care

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to implement the Temporary Child Care Assistance Program for payment of child care expenses in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 E&EA budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

This funding has no associated County cost. Authorization is requested to amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 E&EA budget, transferring \$1,000,000 of CARES Act funding for the Temporary CARES Child Care Assistance Program. This program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

Supporting Documents:

Previous Board Action(s):

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Basic Sliding Fee (BSF) program is a child care assistance program for low-income families that has consistently been under-funded creating an ongoing waitlist; and

WHEREAS, prior to COVID-19, families reported they could not find or retain employment due to high expense of and lack of access to child care assistance; and

WHEREAS, this is an even larger challenge currently due to COVID-19, and this proposed interim program would fill a needed gap, get families back to work sooner and provide seamless supports to employment and stability; and

WHEREAS, the Employment and Economic Assistance strategy is to fully utilize all child care subsidy programs and the CARES Act funding to provide child care assistance for families until they can be removed from the waitlist queue for the BSF program; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Temporary CARES Child Care Program is to provide assistance to eligible Dakota County families for child care expenses; and

WHEREAS, CARES Act funding will be used to cover expenses in the following areas: families currently on the BSF waitlist that were impacted by COVID-19, and families that have past due child care bills that impact their current ability to obtain or retain child care; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorization to implement the Temporary Child Care Assistance Program for payment of child care expenses in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has determined that the Temporary Child Care Assistance Program costs are necessary and a reasonable response to the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore eligible for the use of CARES Act funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to implement the Temporary Child Care Assistance Program in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Expense	<u>(\$1,000,000)</u>
Total Expense	(\$1,000,000)
Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>(\$1,000,000)</u>
Total Revenue	(\$1,000,000)

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Temporary Child Care Assistance	<u>\$1,000,000</u>
Total Expense	\$1,000,000
Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>\$1,000,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$1,000,000

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

County Manager's Comments:

- Recommend Action
- Do Not Recommend Action
- Reviewed---No Recommendation
- Reviewed---Information Only
- Submitted at Commissioner Request

Reviewed by (if required):

- County Attorney's Office
- Financial Services
- Risk Management
- Employee Relations
- Information Technology
- Facilities Management



County Manager

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Purchase And Install Self-Service Scanning Stations, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget And Amend 2020 Employment And Economic Assistance Budget

Meeting Date: 8/11/2020	Fiscal/FTE Impact:
Item Type: Regular-Action	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Other
Division: Community Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Current budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment requested
Department: Employment and Economic Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> New FTE(s) requested
Contact: Fischbach, Marti	Board Goal: A great place to live
Contact Phone: (651) 554-5618	Public Engagement Level: N/A
Prepared by: Miller, Tiffinie	

PURPOSE AND ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize purchase and installation of self-service scanning stations throughout various Dakota County locations, amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amendment to the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance (E&EA) budget.

SUMMARY

Child Support and Public Assistance applications and ongoing program eligibility require numerous verifications and documents be received by E&EA timely. This can be a challenge for customers and takes a great deal of administrative time on both the part of the customer and Dakota County. In February 2020, E&EA installed two self-scan stations at the Northern Service Center (NSC) to reduce administrative time and provide support for customers. From February 2020 through March 2020, 264 documents were received in via a self-scan station. The volume was anticipated to increase each month before COVID-19 restrictions caused Dakota County to close NSC as a site.

E&EA staff is proposing purchasing and installing eight additional self-service scanning stations, aiding in the collection of Public Assistance applications and supporting materials needed from Dakota County customers. These stations would be installed in publicly accessible county buildings and partnering organizations spread throughout Dakota County. The stations do not require onsite staffing and will allow for easy and secure documentation scanning, allowing caseworkers to process eligibility more efficiently. The stations also will help minimize face-to-face contact and allow for additional socially distant access for Dakota County residents to provide required documentation and materials to their Public Assistance application and ongoing case management, thus minimizing the potential spread of COVID-19. Installation and implementation will be modeled after the current set-up with minimal changes. The scanned documents directly pertain to Child Support, Medical Assistance and other health care programs, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/Food Support), cash programs for families and single adults, and Emergency Assistance benefits for housing or utilities. E&EA staff believes these stations provide maximum accessibility for the clients they support.

OUTCOMES:

How much? Eight additional self-scanning stations throughout Dakota County

How well? Dakota County E&EA customers have access to a service location closer to their home to quickly and efficiently self-scan all needed verification and documentation for their Child Support and Public Assistance case

Better off? Dakota County E&EA customers receive benefits and case updates quicker and with less administrative time

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to purchase and install eight self-service scanning stations at various Dakota County locations in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 E&EA budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

This funding has no associated County cost. Authorization is requested to amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 E&EA budget transferring \$25,000 of CARES Act funding for the Self-Service Scanning Station program. No new County FTEs will be added, and the program will be administered by existing E&EA staff. This program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

Supporting Documents:

Previous Board Action(s):

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Child Support and Public Assistance applications and ongoing program eligibility requires numerous verifications and documents be received by Employment and Economic Assistance (E&EA) timely; and

WHEREAS, this can be a challenge for customers and takes a great deal of administrative time on both the part of the customer and Dakota County; and

WHEREAS, in February 2020, E&EA installed two self-scan stations at the Northern Service Center (NSC) to reduce administrative time and provide support for customers; and

WHEREAS, from February 2020 through March 2020, 264 documents were received in via a self-scan station, and the volume was anticipated to increase each month before COVID-19 restrictions caused Dakota County to close NSC as a site; and

WHEREAS, E&EA staff is proposing purchasing and installing eight additional self-service scanning stations, aiding in the collection of Public Assistance applications and supporting materials needed from Dakota County customers; and

WHEREAS, these stations would be installed in publicly accessible county buildings and partnering organizations spread throughout Dakota County; and

WHEREAS, these stations do not require onsite staffing, and will allow for easy and secure documentation scanning, allowing caseworkers to process eligibility more efficiently; and

WHEREAS, the stations will help minimize face-to-face contact, thus minimizing the potential spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, installation and implementation will be modeled after the current set-up with minimal changes; and

WHEREAS, the scanned documents directly pertain to Child Support, Medical Assistance and other health care programs, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/Food Support), cash programs for families and single adults, and Emergency Assistance benefits for housing or utilities; and

WHEREAS, E&EA staff believes these stations provide maximum accessibility for the clients they support; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorization to purchase and install eight self-service scanning stations at various Dakota County locations in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has determined that the purchase and installation costs of eight self-service scanning stations are necessary and reasonable response to the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore eligible for use of CARES Act funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to purchase and install eight self-service scanning stations at various Dakota County locations in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Expenses	(\$25,000)
Total Expense	(\$25,000)

Revenue

CARES Act	<u>(\$25,000)</u>
Total Revenue	<u>(\$25,000)</u>

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Self-Scanning Station Program	<u>\$25,000</u>
Total Expense	<u>\$25,000</u>

Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>\$25,000</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$25,000</u>

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

<p>County Manager's Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Action <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Recommend Action <input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed---No Recommendation <input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed---Information Only <input type="checkbox"/> Submitted at Commissioner Request <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> <p>County Manager</p>	<p>Reviewed by (if required):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Attorney's Office <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Financial Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk Management <input type="checkbox"/> Employee Relations <input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology <input type="checkbox"/> Facilities Management
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DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Purchase And Install Virtual Intake Sites At Northern Service Center, Libraries And Community Partner Sites, Modification Of Existing Interview Rooms For Video Conference, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget And Amend 2020 Employment And Economic Assistance Budget

Meeting Date: 8/11/2020
 Item Type: Regular-Action
 Division: Community Services
 Department: Employment and Economic Assistance
 Contact: Fischbach, Marti
 Contact Phone: (651) 554-5618
 Prepared by: Miller, Tiffinie

Fiscal/FTE Impact:
 None Other
 Current budget Amendment requested
 New FTE(s) requested
 Board Goal: A great place to live
 Public Engagement Level: N/A

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize the purchase and installation of virtual intake and video conference interview equipment at the Northern Service Center (NSC) conference rooms and at some Dakota County Libraries and community partner sites, amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amendment to the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget.

SUMMARY

Prior to COVID-19, administering Public Assistance programs required a high volume of in-person services at the NSC and at community partner sites, specifically, Hastings Family Service, Neighbors in South St. Paul, and 360 Communities in Burnsville and Rosemount. In January 2020, there were 323 in-person intake appointments at the NSC and 67 in-person appointments at a community partner site. In April 2020, in-person services completely stopped at the NSC and at community partner sites for the safety of customers and staff due COVID-19 as well as due to State and Federal waivers enacted with the Peacetime Emergency.

Staff is proposing the ability to provide virtual Public Assistance intake appointments at the NSC, current community partner sites, and within some Dakota County Libraries in order to determine eligibility for Medical Assistance and/or other health care programs, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/Food Support), cash programs for families and single adults, and Emergency Assistance benefits for housing or utilities.

By setting up computers at each location, staff can virtually meet with clients via Skype or Zoom to complete Public Assistance interviews and answer questions from customers. This requires additional equipment and layout modifications to allow for virtual intake and reconfiguring existing in-person, face to face rooms in favor of video conference interview rooms. Once sites are modified and the equipment is in place, customers would have access to services closer to their home, and it will allow for a socially distant intake process especially for customers that would not otherwise have the means or technologies needed to participate in intake digitally, by phone or through the mail.

Virtual service is an acceptable way of conducting business under federal and state guidelines. During this time, it provides broader, safer access to Public Assistance programs, allowing staff and customers to do business more efficiently, safely, and within their own community.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to purchase and install virtual intake and video conferencing equipment at the NSC and some of the Dakota County Libraries and community partner sites in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

This funding has no associated County cost. Authorization is requested to amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget, transferring \$50,000 of CARES Act funding to purchase and install virtual intake and video conferencing equipment. This initiative will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state or federal sources are no longer available to continue this effort.

Supporting Documents:**Previous Board Action(s):****RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, prior to COVID-19, administering Public Assistance programs required a high volume of in-person services at the Dakota County Northern Service Center (NSC) and at community partner sites, specifically, Hastings Family Service, Neighbors in South St. Paul, and 360 Communities in Burnsville and Rosemount; and

WHEREAS, in January 2020, there were 323 in-person intake appointments at the NSC and 67 in-person appointments at a community partner site; and

WHEREAS, in April 2020, in-person services completely stopped at the NSC and at community partner sites for the safety of customers and staff due to COVID-19 as well as due to State and Federal waivers enacted with the Peacetime Emergency; and

WHEREAS, we are proposing the ability to provide virtual Public Assistance Intake appointments at the NSC, current community partner sites and within some Dakota County Libraries in order to determine eligibility for Medical Assistance and/or other health care programs, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/Food Support), cash programs for families and single adults, and Emergency Assistance benefits for housing or utilities; and

WHEREAS, by setting up computers at each location, we can virtually meet with clients, via Skype or Zoom, to complete Public Assistance interviews and answer questions from customers; and

WHEREAS, this requires additional equipment and layout modifications to allow for virtual intake; reconfiguring existing in-person, face to face rooms in favor of video conference interview rooms; and

WHEREAS, once sites are modified and equipment is in place, customers would have access to services closer to their home, and it will allow for a socially distant intake process especially for customers that would not otherwise have the means or technologies needed to participate in intake digitally, by phone or through the mail; and

WHEREAS, virtual service is an acceptable way of conducting business under federal and state guidelines; and

WHEREAS, during this time, it provides a broader, safer access to Public Assistance programs, allowing staff and customers to do business more efficiently, safely and within their own community; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorization to purchase and install virtual intake and video conferencing equipment at the NSC and some of the Dakota County Libraries and community partner sites in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has determined that Public Assistance virtual intake and video conference interview equipment costs are a necessary and reasonable response to the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore eligible for the use of CARES Act funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to proceed with the purchase and installation of virtual intake and video conferencing equipment at the Northern Service Center and some of the Dakota County Libraries and community partner sites in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Expense	<u>(\$50,000)</u>
Total Expense	<u>(\$50,000)</u>
Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>(\$50,000)</u>
Total Revenue	<u>(\$50,000)</u>

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Employment and Economic Assistance budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Conference Interview Equipment	<u>\$50,000</u>
Total Expense	\$50,000
Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>\$50,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$50,000

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this initiative will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state or federal sources are no longer available to continue this initiative.

<p>County Manager's Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Action <input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Recommend Action <input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed---No Recommendation <input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed---Information Only <input type="checkbox"/> Submitted at Commissioner Request <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p>County Manager</p>	<p>Reviewed by (if required):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Attorney's Office <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Financial Services <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk Management <input type="checkbox"/> Employee Relations <input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology <input type="checkbox"/> Facilities Management
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DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Expand Transportation Assistance, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget And Amend 2020 Social Services Budget

Meeting Date: 8/11/2020
 Item Type: Regular-Action
 Division: Community Services
 Department: Social Services
 Contact: Henspeter, Evan
 Contact Phone: (651) 554-6344
 Prepared by: Kastler, Madeline

Fiscal/FTE Impact:
 None Other
 Current budget Amendment requested
 New FTE(s) requested
 Board Goal: A successful place for business and jobs
 Public Engagement Level: N/A

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize expansion of transportation assistance, amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amendment to the 2020 Social Services budget.

SUMMARY

Dakota County Community Services is committed to creating transportation options for persons with disabilities, older adults, and people who are served through the County's programs. This is evidenced through the GoDakota initiative, which includes such projects as the rideshare pilot and DakotaLink.

Between March 16, 2020 and July 6, 2020, more than 66,000 Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims were filed in Dakota County, representing 27.2 percent of Dakota County's 2019 annual labor force. Job layoffs and furloughs due to COVID-19 have created significant economic hardship for many individuals and families. Due to unemployment, underemployment, and other financial instability impacts of COVID-19, many Dakota County residents who did not have transportation needs previously may be in a position today of requiring assistance.

Dakota County Community Services proposes a Transportation Assistance Program using an estimated \$245,000 in Dakota County CARES funds. The Transportation Assistance Program will include funds for a variety of transportation options, including funds for rideshare rides through Lyft codes, funds for public transportation rides through Go-To cards, funds for rides with DARTS, and funds for food distribution through DARTS. See Attachment A for details.

OUTCOMES

How Much: Number of rides, rideshare codes provided, GoTo cards provided, food distribution provided, individuals served

How Well: Percent of people reporting their experience with the provided service was either good or excellent

Is Anyone Better Off: Percent of people responding that their transportation barriers have decreased

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to implement a Transportation Assistance Program in an amount not to exceed \$245,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Social Services budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

This funding has no associated County cost. Authorization is requested to amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Social Services budget, transferring \$245,000 of CARES Act funding for the Transportation Assistance Program. This program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

Supporting Documents:
Attachment A: CARES Transportation Proposal

Previous Board Action(s):

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Dakota County Community Services is committed to creating transportation options for persons with disabilities, older adults and people who are served through the County’s programs; and

WHEREAS, this is evidenced through the GoDakota initiative which includes such projects as the rideshare pilot and DakotaLink; and

WHEREAS, between March 16, 2020 and July 6, 2020, more than 66,000 Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims were filed in Dakota County, representing 27.2 percent of Dakota County’s 2019 annual labor force and job layoffs and furloughs due to COVID-19 have created significant economic hardship for many individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, due to unemployment, underemployment and other financial instability impacts of COVID-19, many Dakota County residents who did not have transportation needs previously may be in a position today of requiring assistance; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County Community Services proposes a Transportation Assistance Program using an amount not to exceed \$245,000 in Dakota County CARES funds and the Transportation Assistance Program will include funds for a variety of transportation options, including: funds for rideshare rides through Lyft codes; funds for public transportation rides through Go-To cards; funds for rides with DARTS; and funds for food distribution through DARTS; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorization to implement a Transportation Assistance Program in an amount not to exceed \$245,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Social Services budget; and

WHEREAS, there is an immediate and serious need for these services that cannot be met with other procurement methods, and that the services that may be contracted for are limited to those necessary to meet the emergency facing individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has determined that the Transportation Assistance Program costs are necessary and a reasonable response to the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore eligible for use of CARES Act funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to implement the Transportation Assistance Program in an amount not to exceed \$245,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Expenses	(<u>\$245,000</u>)
Total Expense	(<u>\$245,000</u>)
Revenue	
CARES Act	(<u>\$245,000</u>)
Total Revenue	(<u>\$245,000</u>)

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment the 2020 Social Services budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Transportation Assistance	<u>\$245,000</u>
Total Expense	<u>\$245,000</u>

Revenue	
CARES Act	\$245,000
Total Revenue	\$245,000

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

<p>County Manager's Comments:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommend Action</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Do Not Recommend Action</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed---No Recommendation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed---Information Only</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Submitted at Commissioner Request</p>  <hr/> <p>County Manager</p>	<p>Reviewed by (if required):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Attorney's Office</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Financial Services</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk Management</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Employee Relations</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Information Technology</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Facilities Management</p>
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CARES Act Funding Project Proposal

Category

Transportation Assistance

Spending opportunity

Provide transportation assistance to residents of Dakota County negatively impacted by COVID-19 due to unemployment, underemployment and other financial instability impacts of COVID-19.

Transportation Assistance will include funds for a variety of transportation options:

- Funds for rideshare rides through Lyft codes
- Funds for public transportation rides through Go-To cards
- Funds for rides with DARTS
- Funds for food distribution through DARTS

Lyft-

- \$500/month for 20 families in Pathways for 5 months = 50,000
- E&EA codes = 5,000
- Social service codes = 50,000

GoTo card funds-

- Metro Transit GoTo cards available for individuals to use the bus, light rail, Metro Mobility and Transit Link = 5,000

DARTS-

- SSP Loop – weekly route providing a transportation loop for individuals in South St. Paul to get to food and other required items = 10,000
- Hastings Loop – 5,000
- Food delivery (grocery and food shelf) for older adults who should not leave their homes or food shelf deliveries for people who have lost jobs or otherwise need food distribution = 60,000
- Rides for individuals – especially older adults who should not be using shared ride services with fewer transportation like Farmington and Hastings, and to supplement the volunteer driver programs that are not currently available due to COVID-19. For 100-120 rides, especially throughout Southern Dakota County = 10,000
- Accessible van to provide better one-on-one rides vs. the regular DARTS buses = 50,000

Is authority clear under the CARES Act?

The authority for these funds is 601(a) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (“CARES Act”); and 601(d) of the Social Security Act which allows funds to be used to provide emergency financial assistance to individuals and families directly impacted by a loss of income and facing economic hardship due to the COVID emergency.

Total program costs: \$245,000

Total direct assistance costs: \$245,000

Lyft: \$105,000

Metro Transit: \$5,000

DARTS: \$135,000

CARES Act Funding Project Proposal

Total administrative costs

0

Staffing plan

Staffing to support and administer these transportation resources will occur through existing staff through Dakota County's 5310 program including the Transportation Coordinator, Travel Trainer and GoDakota SPA.

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Implement Non-Profit Financial Assistance Program, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget And Amend 2020 Social Services Budget

Meeting Date: 8/11/2020
 Item Type: Regular-Action
 Division: Community Services
 Department: Social Services
 Contact: Fischbach, Marti
 Contact Phone: (651) 554-5618
 Prepared by: Henspeter, Evan

Fiscal/FTE Impact:
 None Other
 Current budget Amendment requested
 New FTE(s) requested
 Board Goal: Excellence in public service
 Public Engagement Level: N/A

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize implementation of a non-profit financial assistance program in Dakota County, amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amendment to the 2020 Social Services budget.

SUMMARY

Non-profit organizations throughout Dakota County have experienced significant financial challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. According to a recent report produced by the Minnesota Council of Non-profits, 80 percent of non-profits surveyed reported COVID-19 had significantly disrupted the work of their organizations, and half said they expect financial recovery to be difficult. For example, social distancing requirements during the pandemic have required many non-profit organizations to invest in additional technology, personal protective equipment (PPE), and other unexpected business expenses to continue serving the public.

In many cases, Dakota County Community Services relies heavily on these same non-profits to provide critical services and support to county residents in the areas of food, housing, economic assistance, transportation, and health. Distributing a portion of Dakota County's CARES Act funding allocation to non-profit organizations will help to support the financial viability of these organizations, which is critical to ensuring Dakota County remains a "Great Place to Live."

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to implement a non-profit financial assistance program in an amount not to exceed \$2,050,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amendment to the 2020 Social Services budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

This funding has no associated County cost. Authorization is requested to amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Social Services budget, transferring \$2,050,000 of CARES Act funding for the non-profit financial assistance program. This amount includes \$2,000,000 for direct non-profit assistance and \$50,000 for staffing to administer the program. This program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

Supporting Documents:

Previous Board Action(s):

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, non-profit organizations throughout Dakota County have experienced significant financial challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, according to a recent report produced by the Minnesota Council of Non-profits, 80 percent of non-profits surveyed reported COVID-19 had significantly disrupted the work of their organizations, and half said they expect financial recovery to be difficult; and

WHEREAS, social distancing requirements during the pandemic have required many non-profit organizations to invest in additional technology, personal protective equipment (PPE), and other unexpected business expenses to continue serving the public; and

WHEREAS, in many cases, Dakota County Community Services relies heavily on these same non-profits to provide critical services and support to county residents in the areas of food, housing, economic assistance, transportation and health; and

WHEREAS, distributing a portion of Dakota County’s CARES Act funding allocation to non-profit organizations will help to support the financial viability of these organizations which is critical to ensuring Dakota County remains a “Great Place to Live”; and

WHEREAS, the program would provide up to \$2,000,000 in direct assistance to Dakota County non-profits; and

WHEREAS, the program will require up to \$50,000 in costs for staff to administer the program; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorization to implement a non-profit financial assistance program in an amount not to exceed \$2,050,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Social Services budget; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has determined that the non-profit financial assistance program costs are necessary and a reasonable response to the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore eligible for use of CARES Act funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to implement a non-profit financial assistance program in an amount not to exceed \$2,050,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act	<u>(\$2,050,000)</u>
Total Expense	<u>(\$2,050,000)</u>
 Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>(\$2,050,000)</u>
Total Revenue	<u>(\$2,050,000)</u>

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Social Services budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Non-Profit Financial Assistance	<u>\$2,050,000</u>
Total Expense	<u>\$2,050,000</u>
 Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>\$2,050,000</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$2,050,000</u>

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

County Manager's Comments:

- Recommend Action
- Do Not Recommend Action
- Reviewed---No Recommendation
- Reviewed---Information Only
- Submitted at Commissioner Request

Reviewed by (if required):

- County Attorney's Office
- Financial Services
- Risk Management
- Employee Relations
- Information Technology
- Facilities Management



County Manager

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Implement Program To Provide Technology Access For Dakota County Residents, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget And Amend 2020 Social Services Budget

Meeting Date: 8/11/2020
 Item Type: Regular-Action
 Division: Community Services
 Department: Social Services
 Contact: Fischbach, Marti
 Contact Phone: (651) 554-5618
 Prepared by: Henspeter, Evan

Fiscal/FTE Impact:
 None Other
 Current budget Amendment requested
 New FTE(s) requested
 Board Goal: A great place to live
 Public Engagement Level: N/A

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize implementation of a program to provide technology access to Dakota County residents, amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amendment to the 2020 Social Services budget.

SUMMARY

Many Dakota County residents do not have regular access to a personal computer, internet, or data service. Due to COVID-19, many public services are now being delivered remotely, but there is not equitable access to technology to facilitate services and support. While schools, libraries, and community centers typically provide internet access to people without home internet, these resources have become more limited due to COVID-19 related restrictions and safety protocols. Providing reliable access to computers and internet service would assist residents in staying connected to their County services, initiating job search activities, and performing other important activities while physical distancing measures continue.

Staff recommends using CARES Act funding to provide technology grants to individuals through existing County-administered programs, including the Family Support Grant (FSG), Community Support Grant (CSG), Veterans Services, and the Financial Empowerment program. These grants would be available to Dakota County residents impacted by COVID-19 to purchase technology such as laptops, tablets, smartphones, mobile hotspots or Wi-Fi, with a focus on reaching a diverse range of community members including Veterans and people of color to ensure equitable access. Technology is now a critical conduit to family and community support to address education needs, mental health, access to basic needs, human connectivity, and health care. This program would address an important community need as the COVID-19 pandemic continues.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to implement a program to provide technology access to Dakota County residents in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Social Services budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

This funding has no associated County cost. Authorization is requested to amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Social Services budget, transferring \$150,000 of CARES Act funding to provide technology assistance to Dakota County residents. No new County FTEs will be added, and the program will be administered by existing Community Services Administration Department staff. This program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

Supporting Documents:

Previous Board Action(s):

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, many Dakota County residents do not have regular access to a personal computer, internet or data service; and

WHEREAS, due to COVID-19, many public services are now being delivered remotely, but there is not equitable access to technology to facilitate services and support; and

WHEREAS, while schools, libraries, and community centers typically provide internet access to people without home internet, these resources have become more limited due to COVID-19 related restrictions and safety protocols; and

WHEREAS, providing reliable access to computers and internet service would assist residents in staying connected to their County services, initiate job search activities, and perform other important activities while physical distancing measures continue; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends using CARES Act funding to provide technology grants to individuals through existing County-administered programs, including the Family Support Grant (FSG), Community Support Grant (CSG), Veterans Services, and the Financial Empowerment program; and

WHEREAS, these grants would be available to COVID-19 impacted Dakota County residents to purchase technology such as laptops, tablets, smartphones, mobile hotspots or Wi-Fi, with a focus on reaching a diverse range of community members including Veterans and people of color to ensure equitable access; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorization to implement a program to provide technology access to Dakota County residents in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Social Services budget; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has determined that technology access costs for Dakota County residents are necessary and a reasonable response to the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore eligible for use of CARES Act funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to implement a program to provide technology access to Dakota County residents in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Expenses	<u>(\$150,000)</u>
Total Expense	<u>(\$150,000)</u>
Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>(\$150,000)</u>
Total Revenue	<u>(\$150,000)</u>

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Social Services budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Technology Access Program	<u>\$150,000</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$150,000</u>
Revenue	
Cares Act	<u>\$150,000</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$150,000</u>

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

County Manager's Comments:

- Recommend Action
- Do Not Recommend Action
- Reviewed---No Recommendation
- Reviewed---Information Only
- Submitted at Commissioner Request

Reviewed by (if required):

- County Attorney's Office
- Financial Services
- Risk Management
- Employee Relations
- Information Technology
- Facilities Management



County Manager

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Implement Targeted Outreach And Engagement With Communities Of Color, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget and Amend 2020 Social Services Budget

Meeting Date: 8/11/2020
 Item Type: Regular-Action
 Division: Community Services
 Department: Social Services
 Contact: Fischbach, Marti
 Contact Phone: (651) 554-5618
 Prepared by: Henspeter, Evan

Fiscal/FTE Impact:
 None Other
 Current budget Amendment requested
 New FTE(s) requested
 Board Goal: Excellence in public service
 Public Engagement Level: N/A

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize targeted outreach and engagement with communities of color in Dakota County, amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amendment to the 2020 Social Services budget.

SUMMARY

Data compiled and analyzed by Dakota County Public Health demonstrates growing disparities in the impacts of COVID-19 on people living in long-term or congregate care and communities of color in Dakota County. Dakota County is addressing the needs of residents in congregate care through a partnership with Bluestone Physicians, but currently lacks effective outreach and engagement with our Latino and Black communities. To illustrate the disparities, Latino people make up seven percent of Dakota County's population, but 25 percent of positive cases in the County. Similarly, Black people makeup seven percent of the County's population but account for 21 percent of positive cases.

In addition to disparities in COVID-19 prevalence, data from a recent Office of Performance and Analysis (OPA) review of unemployment claims indicates the economic impacts of COVID-19 are also disproportionately affecting communities of color in Dakota County. For example, the OPA analysis found 40.1 percent of all people of color employed in Dakota County prior to March had filed unemployment claims, as compared to 22.5 percent of non-Hispanic white workers in Dakota County. While impacts of such high unemployment rates across both populations are concerning and require attention, the impact compounds the economic disparities that existed for communities of color prior to COVID-19, including differences in household income, homeownership, and poverty rates.

Despite these disparities, Dakota County's existing communication channels and materials were not designed for these communities and will require customization to better reach Latino and Black residents. Therefore, staff recommends using CARES Act funds to support the development of contracts with trusted community organizations to deliver targeted outreach and communications with communities of color related to COVID-19 and available resources.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to develop contracts with trusted community organizations to deliver targeted outreach and engagement with communities of color in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Social Services budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

This funding has no associated County cost. Authorization is requested to amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Social Services budget, transferring \$250,000 of CARES Act funding for the outreach program. No new County FTEs will be added, and no additional administrative costs will be associated with this proposal. This program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

Supporting Documents:**Previous Board Action(s):****RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, data compiled and analyzed by Dakota County Public Health demonstrates growing disparities in the impacts of COVID-19 on communities of color in Dakota County with Latino people making up 7 percent of Dakota County's population, but 25 percent of positive cases in the County, and, Black people making up 7 percent of the County's population, but 21 percent of positive cases; and

WHEREAS, in addition to disparities in COVID-19 prevalence, data from a recent Office of Performance and Analysis (OPA) review of unemployment claims indicates the economic impacts of COVID-19 are also disproportionately affecting communities of color in Dakota County; and

WHEREAS, for example, the OPA analysis found 40.1 percent of all people of color employed in Dakota County prior to March had filed unemployment claims, as compared to 22.5 percent of non-Hispanic white workers in Dakota County; and

WHEREAS, while impacts of such high unemployment rates across both populations are concerning and require attention, the impact compounds the economic disparities that existed for communities of color prior to COVID-19, including differences in household income, homeownership, and poverty rates; and

WHEREAS, despite these disparities, Dakota County currently lacks effective outreach and engagement with our Latino and Black communities; and

WHEREAS, the County's existing communication channels and materials were not designed for these communities and will require customization to better reach our Latino and Black communities; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorization to develop contracts with trusted community organizations to deliver targeted outreach and engagement with communities of color in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Social Services budget; and

WHEREAS, there is an immediate and serious need for these services that cannot be met with other procurement methods, and that the services that may be contracted for are limited to those necessary to meet the emergency facing individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has determined that targeted outreach and engagement with communities of color costs are necessary and a reasonable response to the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore eligible for the use of CARES Act funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to develop partnerships with trusted community organizations for targeted outreach and engagement with communities of color in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 1, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act	<u>(\$250,000)</u>
Total Expense	<u>(\$250,000)</u>
Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>(\$250,000)</u>
Total Revenue	<u>(\$250,000)</u>

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Social Services budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act – Outreach to Communities of Color	<u>\$250,000</u>
Total Expense	\$250,000

Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>\$250,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$250,000

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

County Manager's Comments:

- Recommend Action
- Do Not Recommend Action
- Reviewed---No Recommendation
- Reviewed---Information Only
- Submitted at Commissioner Request

Reviewed by (if required):

- County Attorney's Office
- Financial Services
- Risk Management
- Employee Relations
- Information Technology
- Facilities Management



County Manager

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Offer A Business Incentive To Dakota County Employers To Hire Or Re-Hire Individuals With Disabilities, Amend 2020 Non-Departmental Budget And Amend 2020 Social Services Budget

Meeting Date: 8/11/2020
 Item Type: Regular-Action
 Division: Community Services
 Department: Social Services
 Contact: Henspeter, Evan
 Contact Phone: (651) 554-6344
 Prepared by: Acevedo, Gilbert

Fiscal/FTE Impact:
 None Other
 Current budget Amendment requested
 New FTE(s) requested
 Board Goal: A great place to live
 Public Engagement Level: N/A

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize offering a business incentive to Dakota County employers to hire or re-hire individuals with disabilities, amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amendment to the 2020 Social Services budget.

SUMMARY

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dakota County has seen the unemployment rate exceeding 90 percent for individuals with disabilities served by Social Services. As of November 2019, 811 individuals with disabilities served by Dakota County were employed by a community business, and that number is now estimated to be approximately 80. In many cases, these previously employed individuals now find themselves isolated at home, and many are reporting a sense that they are no longer contributing to their community. Compounding this issue, many of these individuals are not eligible for traditional unemployment benefits provided by the State due to limited work hours or subcontractor status.

Social Services operates an existing hiring incentive program for area employers that hire people with disabilities receiving certain support services from the County. Staff estimates that an additional 50 individuals with disabilities could be employed in 2020 if this existing program were expanded to include all individuals with disabilities supported by the County. This proposal seeks to incentivize Dakota County employers to hire individuals with disabilities at their business by offering a one-time \$3,000 incentive to employers who hire or re-hire an individual with disabilities.

OUTCOMES

How Much: An estimated 50 individuals with disabilities will be able to be hired or re-hired by a Dakota County business through this incentive.

How Well: Each employer would be offered a \$3,000 incentive payment from the Federal CARES Act Funds after successfully hiring/re-hiring a person with a disability.

Is Anyone Better Off: Reintegration of individuals with disabilities into the workforce, providing opportunities for people with disabilities to be contributing members of the community.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to offer a one-time \$3,000 business incentive to Dakota County employers who hire or re-hire an individual with disabilities in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 31, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Social Services budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

This funding has no associated County cost. Authorization is requested to amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Social Services budget, transferring \$150,000 of CARES Act funding for the Business Incentive Program. No new County FTEs will be added, and no additional administrative costs will be associated with this proposal. Dakota County Social Services has an existing process for providing business incentives for hiring of a limited subset of people with disabilities served through the County. This same process would be used to administer payments to employers for any person with a disability served through Dakota County. This program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available to continue this program.

Supporting Documents:

Previous Board Action(s):

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, Dakota County has seen the unemployment rate for individuals with disabilities exceeding 90 percent; and

WHEREAS, 811 individuals with disabilities were employed by a Dakota County community business prior to COVID-19, and that number is now estimated to be approximately 80; and

WHEREAS, many individuals with disabilities who were previously employed prior to COVID-19 are not eligible for traditional unemployment benefits provided by the State; and

WHEREAS, staff estimates 50 individuals with disabilities would benefit from this Business Incentive program and would be hired or re-hired by a Dakota County business; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorization to offer a one-time \$3,000 business incentive to Dakota County employers who hire or re-hire an individual with disabilities in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 31, 2020, amend the 2020 Non-Departmental budget and amend the 2020 Social Services budget; and

WHEREAS, this incentive would be available to Dakota County employers in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the County Board has determined Business Incentive costs to Dakota County employers to hire or re-hire individuals with disabilities are necessary and is a reasonable response to the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore eligible for use of CARES Act funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to offer a \$3,000 business incentive to Dakota County employers who hire or re-hire an individual with disabilities in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for the period of August 18, 2020 through December 31, 2020, subject to approval by the County Attorney’s Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Non-Departmental budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act	<u>(\$150,000)</u>
Total Expense	(\$150,000)
Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>(\$150,000)</u>
Total Revenue	(\$150,000)

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes an amendment to the 2020 Social Services budget as follows:

Expense	
CARES Act Employment Incentive	<u>\$150,000</u>
Total Expense	\$150,000
Revenue	
CARES Act	<u>\$150,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$150,000

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this program will end immediately in the event that sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are no longer available at a level sufficient to continue this program.

County Manager's Comments:

- Recommend Action
- Do Not Recommend Action
- Reviewed---No Recommendation
- Reviewed---Information Only
- Submitted at Commissioner Request



County Manager

Reviewed by (if required):

- County Attorney's Office
- Financial Services
- Risk Management
- Employee Relations
- Information Technology
- Facilities Management

