

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

May 11, 2021

9:00 AM

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, May 11, 2021.

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. Verbal 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 April 13, 2021 | 3 |
| 4.2 | <i>Employment And Economic Assistance</i> - Authorization Of 2021 Local Youth Plan Submission For Workforce Innovation And Opportunity Act Youth Program, And To Accept Funds, Execute Grant Agreement, Execute Related Contract, And Amend 2021 Employment And Economic Assistance Budget | 7 |
| 4.3 | <i>Public Health</i> - Authorization To Amend Minnesota Department Of Health Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood Grant, Accept Grant Funds, Execute Grant Amendment, And Amend 2021 Public Health Budget | 13 |
| 4.4 | <i>Social Services</i> - Authorization To Execute Contracts On Behalf Of Dakota County Collaborative As Fiscal And Administrative Agent | 17 |
| 4.5 | <i>Social Services</i> - Authorization To Execute Contracts With Hearth Connection For Rental Assistance Administration | 23 |
| 4.6 | <i>Social Services</i> - Authorization To Submit Grant Application To Minnesota Housing Finance Agency For Family Homelessness Prevention And Assistance Program Funds, Accept Grant Funds, Execute Grant Agreement And Related Contracts, And Amend 2021 Social Services Budget | 29 |
| 4.7 | <i>Social Services</i> - Authorization To Submit Transportation Coordination Grant Proposal, Execute An Agreement With Minnesota Department Of Transportation, And Provide Local Share | 37 |
| 4.8 | <i>Social Services</i> - Ratification Of Grant Applications, And Authorization To Accept Grant Funds For Dakota County And Metro Counties, Execute Contracts With Vendors, Amend 2021 Employment And Economic Assistance And Social Services Budgets, And Extend A 1.0 FTE | 43 |

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5. Regular Agenda

5.1 *Social Services* - Update On Community Mental Health, Local Advisory Council Report,
And Proclamation Of May As Mental Health Month

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6. Community Services Directors Report

7. Adjournment

For more information please call 651-554-5742.

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

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

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

Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2021

Boardroom, Administration Center and Videoconference

Call To Order And Roll Call

Commissioner Mike Slavik

Commissioner Kathleen A. Gaylord

Commissioner Joe Atkins

Commissioner Liz Workman

Commissioner Mary Liz Holberg

Commissioner Laurie Halverson

Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland

Also in attendance: Matt Smith, County Manager; Jen Wolf, 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 in a hybrid manner, via both virtual and in-person. The Board meeting was conducted under Minn. Stat. § 13D.021.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by the Chair, Commissioner Joe Atkins.

Video of this meeting is available on the Dakota County [website](#). The audio of this meeting is available upon request.

Audience

The Chair, Commissioner Joe Atkins, noted that all public comments can be sent to countyadmin@co.dakota.mn.us.

As of 8:00 a.m. on April 13, 2021, none were received.

Approval Of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

On a motion by Commissioner Mary Liz Holberg, seconded by Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland, the agenda was unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda

On a motion by Commissioner Liz Workman, seconded by Commissioner Laurie Halverson, the consent agenda was unanimously approved as follows:

4.1 Approval Of Minutes Of Meeting Held On March 16, 2021

4.2 Authorization To Execute 2021 Federal Transit Administration Annual List Of Certifications And Assurances

WHEREAS, by Resolution 19-614 (July 23, 2019), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized the County Manager to execute a Section 5310 Elderly and Disabled Assistance grant with the Minnesota Department of Transportation to improve access to transportation service and public transportation alternatives to seniors, persons with disabilities, and individuals who are system involved and transportation dependent; and

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WHEREAS, before the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) may award federal assistance for public transportation in the form of a federal grant, cooperative agreement, loan, line of credit, or loan guarantee, certain pre-award Certifications and Assurances are required; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 20-240 (May 19, 2020), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized the Community Services Director to execute the 2020 Annual List of Certifications and Assurances for FTA Grants and Cooperative Agreements in connection with federally funded projects and grants; and

WHEREAS, these Certifications and Assurances are required annually and encompass a wide range of funding programs overseen by the FTA; and

WHEREAS, all categories have been reviewed by staff in the Dakota County Attorney's Office and the Community Services Division Contracts Unit; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined as a result of that review that Dakota County complies with the applicable terms set forth in the Certifications and Assurances; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorization to execute the 2021 FTA Annual List of Certifications and Assurances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to execute the 2021 Annual List of Certifications and Assurances for Federal Transit Administration Grants and Cooperative Agreements in connection with federally funded projects and grants, upon the advice of the Community Services Director and the County Attorney, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form.

4.3 Authorization To Respond To Request For Assessment Of Need/Letter Of Support From Nystrom & Associates, Ltd.

WHEREAS, under Minnesota Rule 9530.6800, the need for additional or expanded chemical dependency treatment programs must be determined, in part, based on the recommendation of the county board of commissioners of the county in which the program will be located and the documentation submitted by the applicant at the time of application; and

WHEREAS, under Minnesota Rule 9530.6810, when an applicant for licensure for chemical dependency treatment services requests a written statement of support for a proposed chemical dependency treatment program, the county board of commissioners of the county in which the proposed program is to be located shall submit a statement to the need for the applicant's program; and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2021, Dakota County received a request from Kevin Evenson, Director of Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services at Nystrom & Associates, Ltd., requesting a written statement that supports the need for the program; and

WHEREAS, local needs assessment information suggests a need for the type of chemical dependency treatment services proposed; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County is not taking any positions about Nystrom & Associates, Ltd.'s, qualifications or ability to meet the identified needs; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Human Services will process Nystrom & Associates, Ltd.'s request for a license to provide outpatient 245G counseling programs at the Lilydale Clinic location in Dakota County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorizes the

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Community Services Director to issue a letter to the Minnesota Department of Human Services stating the following: "Please consider this letter as Dakota County's support for an outpatient 245G counseling program at the Lilydale Clinic in Dakota County, as proposed by Nystrom & Associates, Ltd."

4.4 Distribution Of Funds For 2021 Memorial Day Activities

This item was on the agenda for informational purposes only.

Regular Agenda

5.1 Review Of Service Delivery During COVID-19 Pandemic

Marti Fischbach, Community Services Division Director, 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.

5.2 COVID-19 And Vaccination Information Outreach Strategies For City Officials

Marti Fischbach, Community Services Division Director, presented on this item and stood for questions. There was general consensus by Committee members to get the word out to city officials through a variety of media avenues to help spread the word about the importance of getting vaccinated and where to get vaccinated.

Community Services Directors Report

Marti Fischbach, Division Director, first asked Bonnie Brueshoff, Public Health Department Director, to speak about the news that came out today regarding the Johnson and Johnson (J&J) vaccine. Ms. Brueshoff stated that in regards to vaccinations Dakota County follows the direction of the Minnesota Department of Health who follows the direction of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The CDC put a pause on the use of the J&J vaccine to investigate a reaction of concern, of which none of the six cases are in Minnesota. Dakota County has mostly the Moderna vaccine and has a minimal amount of J&J vaccines. There is enough of the Moderna vaccine currently in the County to replace any J&J vaccines with no service interruption.

Ms. Fischbach then reported that the COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance program application is expected to go live next week and the County is awaiting official launch information from Minnesota Housing. Tenant applications will be submitted through a common statewide portal and assigned to local jurisdictions for processing. The County is working with other jurisdictions on a landlord application process and will have more information to share on that soon.

Last, Ms. Fischbach introduced the new Community Corrections Department Director, Suwana Kirkland who started two months ago. Most recently, she was with the Ramsey County Sheriff's Department.

Adjournment

On a motion by Commissioner Mary Hamann-Roland, seconded by Commissioner Mike Slavik, the meeting was adjourned at 9:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Collette, Administrative Coordinator
Community Services Division

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization Of 2021 Local Youth Plan Submission For Workforce Innovation And Opportunity Act Youth Program, And To Accept Funds, Execute Grant Agreement, Execute Related Contract, And Amend 2021 Employment And Economic Assistance Budget

Meeting Date: 5/11/2021	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: Employment and Economic Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> New FTE(s) requested
Contact: Abdi, Nadir	Board Goal: A successful place for business and jobs
Contact Phone: (651) 554-5953	Public Engagement Level: N/A
Prepared by: Higgins, Amber	

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize the submission of the 2021 Local Youth Plan to the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program, and, if approved by DEED, authorize acceptance of the funds, execution of the grant agreement and related contract, and amendment to the 2021 Employment and Economic Assistance (E&EA) Budget.

SUMMARY

WIOA requires local service areas to provide services to low-income, at-risk youth to promote educational and employment success. DEED fulfills this requirement through grants to local Workforce Development Boards (WDB) for the WIOA Youth Program. The WIOA Youth Program grant is allocated between Dakota and Scott Counties based on the DEED formula and anticipated needs. By Resolution No. 20-193, (April 21, 2020), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized execution of a contract with HIRED to provide WIOA Youth Program services for the period of April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021.

Dakota-Scott Workforce Services received official notification of Program Year (PY) 2020 funding on April 23, 2020. WIOA Youth Program funding was \$283,532, for Dakota and Scott Counties (Attachment A). A Request for Proposal (RFP) is issued for WIOA Youth Program services every five years, the last being on November 30, 2020. There was one respondent. A committee comprised of Dakota-Scott WDB members, Youth Committee members and County staff reviewed the proposal and recommended the current provider under contract with Dakota County, HIRED, to continue to provide services (Attachment B).

Dakota-Scott Workforce Services will submit the 2021 Local Youth Plan to DEED for WIOA Youth PY 2021 funds for the period of April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022. Official notification of WIOA Youth PY 2021 funding in the amount of \$588,222 for Dakota and Scott Counties was received on April 27, 2021.

OUTCOMES

In PY 2020, 71 total youth were enrolled in the WIOA Youth Program. See Attachment C for detailed WIOA Performance Measures and Outcomes.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to submit the 2021 Local Youth Plan to DEED, and, if approved by DEED, authorization to accept WIOA Youth Program funds, execute the grant agreement with DEED, execute the related contract with HIRED to provide WIOA Youth Program services in the amount of the grant awarded, less ten percent, and less the amount allocated to Scott County for the period of April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022, and amend the 2021 E&EA Budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

There is a \$0 net County cost anticipated as a result of this action. Authorization is requested to amend the 2021 E&EA Budget by \$100,000 to reflect the increase in the revenues and expenses associated with the grant. Any unspent 2021 funds will be requested to be carried over to the 2022 Budget. The contract shall contain a provision that allows the County to immediately terminate the contract in the event sufficient funds from county, state, and federal sources are not appropriated at the level sufficient to allow payment of the amounts due.

Supporting Documents:

Attachment A: Breakdown of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Youth Allocations
 Attachment B: Solicitation Summary
 Attachment C: Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Performance Measures and Outcomes

Previous Board Action(s):

20-193; 04/21/20

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requires local service areas to provide services to low-income, at-risk youth in order to promote educational and employment success; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) fulfills this requirement through grants to local Workforce Development Boards for the WIOA Youth Program; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 20-193 (April 21, 2020), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized execution of a contract with HIRED to provide WIOA Youth Program services; and

WHEREAS, Dakota-Scott Workforce Services received official notification from DEED on Program Year (PY) 2020 funding on April 23, 2020, with \$283,532 in WIOA Youth Program funding allocated to Dakota and Scott Counties; and

WHEREAS, a Request for Proposal (RFP) is issued for WIOA Youth Program services every five years, the last being on November 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, a committee recommended the current provider under contract with Dakota County, HIRED, to continue to provide services; and

WHEREAS, Dakota-Scott Workforce Services received official notification of PY 2021 funding on April 27, 2021, with \$588,222 in WIOA Youth Program funding allocated to Dakota and Scott Counties; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorization to submit the 2021 Local Youth Plan to DEED, and, if approved by DEED, authorization to accept WIOA Youth Program funds, execute the grant agreement with DEED, and execute the related contract with HIRED in the amount of the grant awarded, less ten percent, and less the amount allocated to Scott County, for the period of April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorization to amend the 2021 Employment and Economic Assistance Budget by \$100,000 to reflect the increase in the revenues and expenses associated with the grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the submission of the 2021 Local Youth Plan to DEED for the WIOA Youth Program 2021 Plan funds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to accept the WIOA Youth Program funds if the Local Youth Plan is approved by DEED and execute the WIOA Youth Program grant agreement with DEED in the amount of the grant awarded, 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 execute a contract with HIRED to provide WIOA Youth Program services in an amount not to exceed the grant award, less ten percent for administrative expenses, and the amount allocated to Scott County, for the period of April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That unless the grant program requirements change, the Community Services Division Director is hereby authorized to amend the grant to alter the grant term, accept additional grant funds and continue grant funded full-time equivalent(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 Community Services Director is hereby authorized to amend said contract consistent with the approved WIOA Youth Program 2021 plan, to accept additional funding, alter the number and types of clients served, types of services provided, reporting requirements, contract amount and contract term, consistent with County contracting policies, subject to the approval of 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 sufficient 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 2021 Employment and Economic Assistance Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Expense	
Program Expenses	<u>\$100,000</u>
Total Expense	\$100,000

Revenue	
Grant Revenue	<u>\$100,000</u>
Total Revenue	\$100,000

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

Breakdown of WIOA Youth Allocations – Program Year (PY) 2020 and 2021

<p>WIOA Youth PY 2020 Allocations</p> <p>The funding allocation for Dakota and Scott Counties was \$283,532.</p>	<p>Of the allocated amount, Dakota County's funding was \$226,826 and Scott County's funding was \$56,706. Ten percent of the WIOA Youth grant was retained for administrative expenses.</p>
<p>WIOA Youth PY 2021 Allocations</p> <p>The funding allocation for Dakota and Scott Counties is \$588,222.</p>	<p>Of the allocated amount, Dakota County's funding is \$470,558 and Scott County's funding is \$117,664. Ten percent of the WIOA Youth Program Grant will be retained for administrative expenses.</p>

Minnesota and eight additional states received the maximum 30.81 percent increase due to just over \$5.6 million increase in total WIOA Youth allocations to the states.

All 16 Workforce Development Areas (WDA) in Minnesota have at least one area of substantial unemployment (ASU), due to the COVID-19 emergency. The re-emergence of ASUs in Hennepin-Carver, Dakota-Scott and Washington County shifted the sub-state formula substantially, resulting in the comparatively large percentage increases from PY20.

Dakota-Scott WIOA Youth Program allocations for PY 2021 increased 107.5 percent compared to PY 2020.

The Dakota-Scott Workforce Development Board (WDB) Youth Committee approved contracting with HIRED on February 4, 2021. The recommendation was approved by the Dakota-Scott WDB on February 19, 2021.

Solicitation Summary: Youth Employment Programs and Training Services For Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and Minnesota Youth Program (RFP)

Date of Solicitation: Issued: November 30, 2020; **Due:** December 23, 2020

Number of Proposals Received: 2 – (HIRED for WIOA Youth Services and Tree Trust for Minnesota Youth Program (MYP))

Review Team Agencies: A committee comprised of Dakota-Scott Workforce Development Board (WDB) member, Youth Committee members and Dakota County staff

Purpose:

Dakota-Scott Workforce Development Board (WDB) and its Youth Committee seeks contractors to provide comprehensive youth employment and training services authorized under both Title 1 of the Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) (Public Law 113-128) and State Minnesota Youth Program (MYP) (MN Statutes 116L.561).

Services Description:

Dakota-Scott Workforce Development Board (WDB) and its Youth Committee has been given the responsibility of identifying eligible providers to carry out youth career development activities under both the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the State Minnesota Youth Program (MYP). This Request for Proposal (RFP) is being issued to solicit proposals for the operation of youth career development programs in Dakota County.

WIOA Youth Program services provides out-of-school youth between the ages of 16-24 and in-school youth between the ages of 14 and 21, with year-round employment and training services including work-based learning, an introduction to career pathways, attainment of recognized credentials and wraparound support services.

State Minnesota Youth Program services provides short-term employment and training services to low-income and at-risk youth ages 14 to 24, who lack the academic and applied skills considered critical in the workplace.

Solicitation Selection Criteria:

The review panel reviewed the proposal received for the following criteria explained in the RFP:

- Executive Summary
- Program Design
- Knowledge of Statutes and Mandated Programs
- Organization Capacity
- Performance
- Appendices

Evaluation Results:

The Review Panel, Dakota-Scott Workforce Development Board, and Youth Committee reviewed and approved contracting with HIRED for WIOA Youth Services and Tree Trust for Minnesota Youth Program.

Rationale of Recommended Vendor:

It was determined if that selected providers had the skills necessary to partner with and if the proposed project met the requirements for both the WIOA Youth Services and Minnesota Youth Program.

WIOA Youth

Source: U.S. Department of Labor

Program Year (PY) 2020 Dollar Amount: \$283,532 (\$226,826 Dakota County, \$56,706 Scott County)

Purpose of Grant: To help eligible youth attain educational and employment success

Who is served/eligible (WIOA):

Out-of-school youth aged 16-24, not attending any school, with one or more additional conditions which include:

School dropout; within age of compulsory attendance but has not attended for at least the most recent complete school year calendar quarter; holds a secondary school diploma or recognized equivalent and is low-income and is basic skills deficient or an English language learner; subject to the juvenile or adult justice system; homeless, runaway, in foster care or aged out of the foster care system, eligible for assistance under Section 477, Social Security Act, or in out-of-home placement; pregnant or parenting; an individual with a disability; low income person who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment

In-school youth aged 14-21, attending school, low income, with one or more additional conditions which include:

Basic skills deficient; English language learner; an offender; homeless, runaway, in foster care or aged out of the foster care system; pregnant or parenting; an individual with a disability; person who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment

Providers: HIRED (Dakota County), Scott County Employment and Training

		QUANTITY	QUALITY		
Process "input"	EFFORT	How much did we do? (Dakota County Only)		How well did we do it? (Dakota County Only)	
		# Served In-School Youth (PY 2020, 04/01/2020-03/31/2021)	12	In-School Youth Average Time in Program (days)	439
		# Served Out-of-School Youth (PY 2020, 04/01/2020-03/31/2021)	58	Out-of-School Youth Average Time in Program (days)	711
		New Enrollments	19	Exits	10
Is anyone better off?					
Product "output"	EFFECT	Program participants in education or training activities, or unsubsidized employment during 2nd Quarter after program exit (07/01/2019 – 6/30/2020). Planned 75%, Actual 75%		The transition from WIA to WIOA shifted program focus from serving in-school youth to serving out-of-school youth. The WIOA program is geared towards high school dropout recovery and attainment of recognized postsecondary credentials. A minimum of 75 percent of total youth served are required to be out-of-school youth.	
		Program participants in education or training activities, or unsubsidized employment during 4th Quarter after program exit (01/01/2019 – 12/31/2019). Planned 73%, Actual 81.3%		<i>In PY 2020:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 82.8% (58) out-of-school youth and 17.2% (12) in-school youth were enrolled • 11.4% (8) out-of-school youth and 2% (2) in-school youth exited the program • 8.5% (6) out-of-school youth and 7% (5) in-school youth obtained either a diploma or GED • 18.5% (13) out-of-school youth and 1% (1) in-school youth obtained an Occupational Skills Certificate or other recognized credential 	
		Median earning of participants in unsubsidized employment during 2nd Quarter after program exit (07/01/2019 – 06/30/2020). Planned \$3,700, Actual \$4,038		*Data reflects Dakota County during PY 2020 (04/01/2020 – 03/31/2021) only. Thus, percentages will not align with the after program exit performance outcomes on the left side quadrant.	
		Program participants that obtained a recognized credential, secondary school diploma or equivalent during participation or within one year after program exit (01/01/2019 – 12/31/2019). Planned 62%, Actual 100%			
		*Data reflects Dakota and Scott Counties.			
<p><i>*All PY 2020 performance measure data is preliminary. Final performance measure data is not yet available.</i></p> <p><i>*Due to Covid-19, many in-person education (including training and certification programming) and work-based learning opportunities were halted in 2020.</i></p>					

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Amend Minnesota Department Of Health Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood Grant, Accept Grant Funds, Execute Grant Amendment, And Amend 2021 Public Health Budget

Meeting Date: 5/11/2021	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: Adasiewicz, Gina	Board Goal: A great place to live
Contact Phone: (952)891-7149	Public Engagement Level: N/A
Prepared by: Adasiewicz, Gina	

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize an amendment of the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood (MIECHV) grant, and acceptance of grant funds from MDH for MIECHV, execution of the grant amendment with MDH for MIECHV, and amendment to the 2021 Public Health Budget.

SUMMARY

The Dakota County Board of Commissioners acts as the Community Health Board and has responsibility to prevent disease and disability and to promote and protect the health and safety of County residents. The Dakota County Board of Commissioners has approved the MDH MIECHV grant since the onset of the MIECHV program in Minnesota.

Public Health has received the MIECHV grant since March 2013 to provide home visiting to families in Dakota County. The grant supports 4.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) public health nurses as well as a required Reflective Practice consultant who meets monthly with home visitors and supervisors to discuss best practice approaches to effectively promote healthy development in children and families.

By Resolution. No. 21-145 (March 23, 2021), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized Public Health to accept the MDH Strong Foundations (MDH-SF) grant in the amount of \$370,863. The MDH-SF grant will fund a 1.0 FTE Family Health Operations Manager from April-June 2021, and a .6 FTE Family Health Operations Manager from July 2021-December 31, 2022. To fund the other .4 FTE of the Family Health Operations Manager, MDH has directed Public Health to amend the MIECHV grant to cover the costs up to \$76,322, effective upon execution of the amendment through February 28, 2022. The amendment will also include an increase in the supply budget, travel expenses and funding for reflective supervision from Sara McGee, LLC, a vendor currently under contract with the County. The total amount of the amendment is \$76,322, of which \$59,870 will be amended in the 2021 budget. The remaining \$16,452 will be carried over to 2022.

This amendment to the MDH MIECHV grant will be effective upon execution of the grant agreement through February 28, 2022. MDH has informed Public Health that the MIECHV grant will be renewed or extended, effective March 1, 2022, and beyond, and Public Health will be notified prior to the end of 2021, of which a portion of those grant dollars will continue to fund the .4 FTE for the remainder of 2022.

OUTCOMES

See Attachment A for Outcomes that support the overall Family Home Visiting program that the Family Health Operations Manager position will be overseeing.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to amend the MDH MIECHV grant, accept the grant funds in the amount up to \$76,322 per year, effective upon execution of the grant amendment, execute the grant amendment with MDH for MIECHV for the remainder of the current term through February 28, 2022, add a .4 FTE grant funded employee, and amend the 2021 Public Health Budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

This grant has no associated County cost. Authorization is requested to amend the 2021 Public Health Budget, and funds will continue to be included in future County Manager's Recommended Budgets. The grant will fund a .4 FTE from July 2021 through February 2022. This position is contingent upon continued availability of grant funding. Unspent budget will be requested to be carried over to 2022.

Supporting Documents:
Attachment A: Outcomes

Previous Board Action(s):
21-145; 03/23/21

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Dakota County Board of Commissioners acts as the Community Health Board and has responsibility to prevent disease and disability and to promote and protect the health and safety of County residents; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners has approved the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood (MIECHV) grant since the onset of the MIECHV program in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Public Health has received the MIECHV grant since March 2013 to provide home visiting to families in Dakota County whereby the grant supports 4.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) of public health nurses as well as a required Reflective Practice consultant who meets monthly with home visitors and supervisors to discuss best practice approaches to effectively promote healthy development in children and families; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution. No. 21-145 (March 23, 2021), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized Public Health to accept the MDH Strong Foundations (MDH-SF) grant in the amount of \$370,863; and

WHEREAS, the MDH-SF grant will fund a 1.0 FTE Family Health Operations Manager from April-June 2021, and a .6 FTE Family Health Operations Manager from July 2021-December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Department will fund the other .4 FTE of the Family Health Operations Manager by amending the MDH MIECHV grant to cover the costs up to \$76,322, effective upon execution of the amendment through February 28, 2022, as well as funding an increase in the supply budget, travel expenses and funding for reflective supervision from a contracted vendor; and

WHEREAS, the MDH MIECHV grant amendment will be effective upon execution of the grant agreement through February 28, 2022; and

WHEREAS, MDH has informed Public Health that the MIECHV grant will be renewed or extended, effective March 1, 2022, and beyond, and Public Health will be notified prior to the end of 2021, of which a portion of those grant dollars will continue to fund the .4 FTE for the remainder of 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to amend the Minnesota Department of Health Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood grant, accept the grant funds and execute the grant agreement in the amount of \$76,322, effective upon execution of the grant amendment through February 28, 2022, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That unless the grant program requirements change, the Community Services Division Director is hereby authorized to amend the grant to alter the grant term, accept additional grant funds and continue grant funded full-time equivalents (FTE), 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 2021 Public Health Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Expense	
Personnel Costs (0.4 FTE for 6 months)	\$25,948
Program Expenses	<u>\$33,922</u>
Total Expense	\$59,870
Revenue	
MIECHV Revenue	\$65,857
Use of Fund Balance	<u>(\$ 5,987)</u>
Total Revenue	\$59,870

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

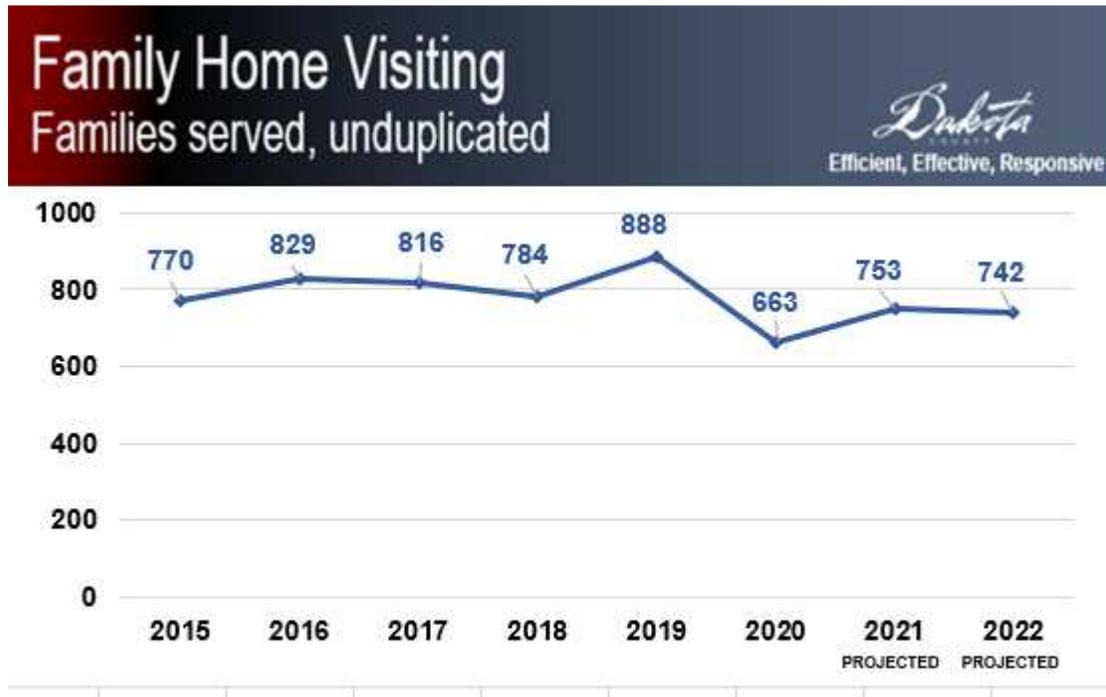


County Manager

Outcomes

How much?

- Due to COVID-19, the number of families and home visits decreased in 2020, however projections show an increase in 2021 and 2022.



How well?

- In 2020, 87% of children were up to date with immunizations.
- 100% of children had their nine-month well child check- up done before one year of age.
- 97% of clients strongly agree or agree they were able to get assistance from a public health nurse when they needed support or referrals to community resources.

Is anyone better off?

- In 2020, 94% of babies delivered by mothers who were seen prenatally were born at a healthy weight, which exceeds the County target of 90%.

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Execute Contracts On Behalf Of Dakota County Collaborative As Fiscal And Administrative Agent

Meeting Date: 5/11/2021	Fiscal/FTE Impact:
Item Type: Consent-Action	<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

Authorize execution of contracts on behalf of the Dakota County Collaborative as the Fiscal and Administrative Agent.

SUMMARY

By Resolution No. 05-601 (November 29, 2005), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized a joint powers agreement between the County of Dakota, Dakota County School Districts, and the Scott-Carver-Dakota Community Action Partnership Agency, Inc., for the purpose of establishing a Dakota County Integrated Children's Mental Health and Family Service Collaborative (Collaborative) in which Dakota County agreed to serve as Fiscal Agent for the Dakota County Collaborative.

By Resolution No. 19-529 (May 21, 2019), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners approved and authorized Dakota County to act as the Administrative Agent for the Collaborative.

On October 26, 2020, the Collaborative issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for: Collaborative Day Treatment, Early Childhood Clinical Mental Health Services, Early Childhood Parenting Skills Program, Facilitated Service Planning and Navigation, and Adolescent Support Services. The Collaborative Governing Board selected and authorized Dakota County, as the Fiscal and Administrative Agent, to contract with the agencies listed below, to provide the services for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023 (See Attachment A, Solicitation Summary).

On January 29, 2021, the Collaborative Governing Board approved the budget and authorized Dakota County, as the Fiscal and Administrative Agent on behalf of the Collaborative, to execute the following actions:

- Contract with Life Development Resources in a not to exceed contract amount of \$75,178 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; and
- Contract with the following vendors for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023, in the not to exceed contract amounts noted:
 - Nexus-FACTs Family Healing, up to \$160,000;
 - National Alliance on Mental Illness Minnesota (NAMI-MN), up to \$134,084;
 - TreeHouse, up to \$75,000;
 - Dakota Child and Family Clinic, up to \$100,000; and
 - Associated Clinic of Psychology (ACP), up to \$124,192.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Dakota County, as the Fiscal and Administrative Agent on behalf of the Dakota County Collaborative, execute a one-year contract with Life Development Resources and execute two-year contracts with Nexus-FACTS Family Healing, NAMI-MN, TreeHouse, Dakota Child and Family Clinic, and ACP for the services and in the not to exceed contract amounts listed in the Resolution for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

There is a \$0 net County cost anticipated as a result of this action. The Dakota County Collaborative receives Local Collaborative Time Study funds that the Collaborative budgets to fund these contracted services; therefore, no County levy dollars are affected. The contracts shall contain a provision that allows the County to immediately terminate the contracts in the event that sufficient funds from county, state or federal sources are not appropriated at a level sufficient to allow payment of the amounts due.

Supporting Documents:
Attachment A: Solicitation Summary

Previous Board Action(s):
05-601; 11/29/05
19-529; 05/21/19

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 05-601 (November 29, 2005), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized a joint powers agreement between the County of Dakota, Dakota County School Districts, and the Scott-Carver-Dakota Community Action Partnership Agency, Inc., for the purpose of establishing a Dakota County Collaborative in which Dakota County agreed to serve as Fiscal Agent for the Dakota County Collaborative; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 19-529 (May 21, 2019), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners approved and authorized Dakota County to act as the Administrative Agent for the Dakota County Collaborative; and

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2020, the Dakota County Collaborative issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Collaborative Day Treatment, Early Childhood Clinical Mental Health Services, Early Childhood Parenting Skills Program, Facilitated Service Planning and Navigation, and Adolescent Support Services; and

WHEREAS, the Collaborative Governing Board selected and authorized Dakota County, as the Fiscal and Administrative Agent, to contract with selected agencies to provide the services for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2021, the Collaborative Governing Board approved the budget and authorized Dakota County, as the Fiscal and Administrative Agent on behalf of the Collaborative, to execute the following actions:

- Contract with Life Development Resources in a not to exceed contract amount of \$75,178 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; and
- Contract with the following vendors for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023, in contract amounts not to exceed those noted:
 - Nexus-FACTS Family Healing, up to \$160,000;
 - National Alliance on Mental Illness Minnesota, up to \$134,084;
 - TreeHouse, up to \$75,000;
 - Dakota Child and Family Clinic, up to \$100,000; and
 - Associated Clinic of Psychology, up to \$124,192.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to execute a one-year contract for Dakota County, as the Fiscal and Administrative Agent on behalf of the Dakota County Collaborative, with Life Development Resources in a not to exceed contract amount of \$75,178 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, 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 the Community Services Director to execute two-year contracts for Dakota County, as the Fiscal and Administrative Agent on behalf of the Dakota County Collaborative, with Nexus-FACTS Family Healing in a not to exceed contract amount of \$160,000, with the National Alliance on Mental Illness Minnesota in a not to exceed contract amount of \$134,084, with TreeHouse in a not to exceed contract amount of \$75,000, with Dakota Child and Family Clinic in a not to exceed contract amount of \$100,000, and with Associated Clinic of Psychology in a not to exceed contract amount of \$124,192 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023, 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 contracts within the amount budgeted, to alter the number and types of clients served, types of services provided, service expectations and rates, and the contract term, consistent with County contracting policies, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the contracts shall contain a provision that allows the County to immediately

terminate the contracts in the event that sufficient funds from county, state or federal sources are not appropriated at a level sufficient to allow payment of the amounts due.

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

Solicitation Summary**Date of Solicitation: 11/17/2020****Number of Proposals Received: 8****Review Team Agencies: A subcommittee of the Dakota County Collaborative Board which included representatives of Independent School Districts; ISD 195, 917, 200, 196, 199 and a parent representative.****Services Description:**

Dakota County Collaborative Purpose Statement The purpose of the Dakota County Collaborative is to foster collaborative prevention and early intervention efforts to improve the stability and health of all children and families through the coordination of multi-agency services and informal and formal supports within the community. The Collaborative shall not function as a service provider but shall perform activities that coordinate supports and services with a goal of system improvement. The Collaborative shall neither replace nor duplicate existing agencies but shall redefine relationships among them.

Primary Deliverables:

- Collaborative Day Treatment for Youth
- Early Childhood Clinical Mental Health Services
- Early Childhood In-Home Parenting Skills Program
- Facilitated Service Planning and Navigation for Children's Mental Health
- Adolescent Support Services

Solicitation Selection Criteria:

1. Identification of one or more of the services listed in Attachment E that you interest in providing
2. A description of your agency's experience in providing the service(s) you selected
3. A description of the methods you will utilize to provide the service(s) you selected
4. A description of staffing capabilities and qualifications of the staff providing the service(s) you selected, and staff's knowledge of community resources in Dakota County.
5. The required costs to deliver the service(s) you selected. In the provision of direct service to clients, please indicate the hourly rate, using Attachments B & C.
6. Please provide assurance that your agency will heed the following program expectations for the service(s) you have selected.
 - All programs must develop a measurable outcome plan and provide outcome data in the form of an outcome report every 6 months.
 - The evaluation outcome plan must be designed to measure the impact of the service/activity on the people served (as opposed to volume of work).

- The method of measurement described utilizes generally accepted approaches (validated tools when applicable, appropriate sample size, etc.).
- The outcome plan indicates how the outcome data is collected and aggregated.
- Services must be available countywide; however for this RFP we indicated in application section “what geographic areas or target populations to be served” so in essence we are willing to forgo “countywide” if we have a variety of providers that can make a service countywide, or a provider is able to provide services to an underserved population in Dakota County.
- Steps to overcome transportation and other access barriers including language and literacy barriers must be addressed.
- Service delivery must be culturally competent and responsive.
- A strong partnership with other services to maximize support for families is essential.
- All programs must agree to meet the reporting requirements as provided in Attachment A, #4 Reporting.

Evaluation Results:

After a thorough review, the review panel and the Dakota County Collaborative Board recommended to award contracts with: Next Level (DCCC), Life Development Resources, Dakota County Child and Family clinic. These providers are in addition to our current contracted providers: TreeHouse, NAMI-MN, Nexus-Facts, and Associated Clinic of Psychology (ACP).

Rationale of Recommended Vendors:

Adolescent Support Services

- TreeHouse will provide individual and group mentoring for adolescents and young adults. Groups are provided in Eagan and Lakeville. There is potential expansion based on donation of space. Transportation is provided to youth within 15 minutes of each site.
- Next Level: This is a 10-week group specifically for youth ages 13-18, who identify as being of color and are involved in a Dakota County Children and Family Services program or involved with Dakota County Juvenile Corrections.
- Dakota Child and Family Clinic will facilitate three support groups, and any associated resource connection and navigation needed by support group members. A support Group for youth and a Multiracial BIPOC Alliance Group (MAG). These groups are open to any Dakota County resident.
- Support groups include:
 - Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC)
 - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and/or Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, Two-Spirit, and the countless affirmative ways in which people choose to self-identify (LGBTQ2S+)

- Youth.

Facilitated Service Planning and Navigation for Children's Mental Health

- NAMI-MN will provide individual parent support and navigation, parent support groups and educational events held throughout the County. Both English speaking and Spanish speaking staff will provide direct services to Dakota County families and youth at no cost.

Collaborative Day Treatment for Youth

- Life Development Resources will provide in-person day treatment program for youth which includes an educational component, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT) and wraparound services. The latter currently does not have a funding source or was funded by CARES funding which is no longer available. It is anticipated that funding for these components will be secured by July 1, 2022.

Early Childhood Clinical Mental Health Services

- ACP will provide clinical Mental Health services to children birth to age 6 attending designated school districts in Dakota County. Funds are to be used to serve the uninsured and under insured using a sliding fee scale.
- Nexus-Facts will provide clinical mental health services to children birth to age 6 attending designated school districts in Dakota County. Funds are to be used to serve the uninsured and under insured using a sliding fee scale. They will also provide Circle of Security Groups and Early Childhood Day Treatment Support which may not be covered by a child's health insurance or medical assistance.

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**Authorization To Execute Contracts With Hearth Connection For Rental Assistance Administration**

Meeting Date: 5/11/2021	Fiscal/FTE Impact:
Item Type: Consent-Action	<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: Kastler, Madeline	

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize execution of contracts with Hearth Connection for rental assistance administration.

SUMMARY

Dakota County issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for rental assistance administration services on July 2, 2018, with proposals due on July 26, 2018, to secure a vendor to provide rental assistance administration program services on behalf of Dakota County Social Services. One proposal was received. A committee consisting of staff from Dakota County Social Services and the Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA) reviewed the proposal on July 30, 2018, using a pre-determined scoring tool, and recommended Hearth Connection (Attachment A, Solicitation Summary). By Resolution No. 18-425 (August 21, 2018), the Board authorized the Community Services Director to contract with Hearth Connection for rental assistance administration. By Resolution Nos. 19-850 (November 26, 2019), and 20-238 (May 12, 2020), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized the Community Services Director to execute renewal contracts with Hearth Connection to provide rental assistance.

Rental Assistance resources included in the RFP are U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care Rapid Re-Housing (CoC RRH) and HUD Emergency Solutions Grant Rapid Re-Housing (ESG RRH). Dakota County is the grant recipient for the CoC RRH program and the administrator on behalf of the CDA for the ESG RRH program. These relationships will remain in place with the selection of a Rental Assistance Administrator.

The HUD CoC RRH funds are secured annually through a competitive grant process. The grant year runs from June 1 through May 31 of each year and is anticipated to renew. This grant serves 48 family households at a time. Total rental assistance, application fee, security deposit and administration funds currently available are \$733,506 for the grant year. Funds must be spent within each grant period.

The HUD ESG RRH funds are secured annually through a formula allocation. The grant year runs from July 1 through June 30 of each year and is anticipated to renew. This grant serves approximately 15 households (singles and families) at a time. Total rental assistance, application fee, security deposit and administrative funds available are \$145,000 for the grant year. Funds must be spent within 18 months of the beginning of the grant period.

Rental assistance administration includes: management of RRH rental assistance budgets and rent payments to landlords, management of program participant file and documentation requirements per program regulations, connection of participants to required case management services, and provision of all data entry.

OUTCOMES

See Attachment B, Outcomes.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to execute a contract with Hearth Connection for HUD CoC rental assistance administration services in a not-to-exceed amount of \$733,506 for the period of June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022, and authorization to execute a contract with Hearth Connection for HUD ESG rental assistance administration services in a not-to-exceed amount of \$145,000 for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

There is a \$0 net County cost anticipated as a result of this action. Funding for this contract is included in the 2021 Social Services Budget. The contracts shall contain a provision that allows the County to terminate the contracts immediately in the event sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are not appropriated at a level sufficient to allow payment of the amounts due.

Supporting Documents:

Attachment A: Solicitation Summary

Attachment B: Outcomes

Previous Board Action(s):

18-425; 8/21/18

19-850; 11/26/19

20-238; 5/12/20

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Dakota County issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for rental assistance administration services on July 2, 2018, to secure a vendor to provide rental assistance administration program services on behalf of Dakota County Social Services, Housing Section, and Hearth Connection was selected as the provider for this service; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 18-425 (August 21, 2018), the Board authorized the Community Services Director to contract with Hearth Connection for rental assistance administration and by Resolution Nos. 19-850 (November 26, 2019), and 20-238 (May 12, 2020), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized the Community Services Director to execute renewal contracts with Hearth Connection to provide rental assistance; and

WHEREAS, rental assistance resources included in the RFP are U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care Rapid Re-Housing (CoC RRH) and HUD Emergency Solutions Grant Rapid Re-Housing (ESG RRH); and

WHEREAS, the HUD CoC RRH funds are secured annually through a competitive grant process and the grant year runs from June 1 through May 31 of each year and is anticipated to renew, and total rental assistance, application fee, security deposit and administration funds currently available are \$733,506 for the grant year; and

WHEREAS, the HUD ESG RRH funds are secured annually through a formula allocation and the grant year runs from July 1 through June 30 of each year and is anticipated to renew, and total rental assistance, application fee, security deposit and administrative funds available are \$145,000 for the grant year; and

WHEREAS, rental assistance administration includes: management of RRH rental assistance budgets and rent payments to landlords, management of program participant file and documentation requirements per program regulations, connection of participants to required case management services, and provision of all data entry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to execute a contract with Hearth Connection for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care rental assistance administration services in a not-to-exceed amount of \$733,506 for the period of June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022, 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 the Community Services Director to execute a contract with Hearth Connection for HUD Emergency Solutions Grant rental assistance administration services in a not-to-exceed amount of \$145,000 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, 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 contracts, within the amount budgeted, to alter the number and types of clients served, types of services provided, service expectations and rates, and the contract term, consistent with County contracting policies, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

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

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

Solicitation Summary**Number of Proposals Received:** One**Review Team Agencies:** Dakota County Social Services Staff, Dakota County Community Development Agency**Services Description:**

To secure a vendor to provide Rental Assistance Administration Services on behalf of Dakota County Social Services, Housing Section. Rental Assistance resources include (but are not limited to) U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Continuum of Care Rapid Re-Housing (CoC RRH), and HUD Emergency Solutions Grant Rapid Re-Housing (ESG RRH). Other funds may be included at a later date. Dakota County is the grant recipient for the CoC RRH program, and the administrator on behalf of the Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA) for the ESG RRH program. These relationships will remain in place with the selection of a Rental Assistance Administrator.

Primary Deliverables:

- Management of RRH rental assistance budgets
- Management of rent payments to landlords
- Liaison with landlords and case managers
- Requests for and management of referrals from Suburban Metro Area Continuum of Care Coordinated Entry
- Management of program participant file and documentation requirements, per program regulations
- Connection of participants to required case management (Housing Search and Housing Stability) services
- Provision of all data entry as required into the Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS)

Solicitation Selection Criteria: Eligibility and Priority

1. Vendor has demonstrated experience managing federal rental assistance programs)
2. Continuum of Care grant experience
3. Access to support services

Planning and Implementation Approach

1. Description of how agency provides rental assistance services currently.
2. Description of how agency proposes to provide rental assistance services with the funds available through this RFP, noting specifically the approach with RRH programs.
3. Description of internal training of rental assistance staff. Explanation of how organization ensures continuity in grant administration and handles staff turnover to prevent gaps in performance of administrative responsibilities.
4. Listing of all other rental assistance programs that agency administers, including the length of time agency has administered each program and the number of households served in each program.

5. Description of how agency will coordinate with support services to ensure program requirements are met.
6. Description of how agency monitors internal performance of rental assistance programs to ensure quality.
7. Description of successes and challenges agency have experienced in existing rental assistance programs
8. Description of how organization promotes choice for rental assistance participants.
9. Description of how organization works with people that have a variety of backgrounds, experiences and cultures.
10. Description of capacity to transition rental assistance administration to agency by September 1, 2018.

Budget

1. Is the rental assistance budget for CoC RRH sufficient to serve 48 households at a given time?
2. Are all CoC RRH budget items appropriate and allowable (including admin budget)?
3. Is the rental assistance budget for ESG RRH sufficient to serve 48 households at a given time?
4. Are all ESG RRH budget items appropriate and allowable (including admin budget)?

Evaluation Results: Unanimously recommend Hearth Connection

Rationale of Recommended Vendor:

- Experienced Provider
- Proven ability to provide these services in the Twin Cities Metro
- Amazing application highlighting their experience, expertise, and ability to meet the desired deliverables

OUTCOMES

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Continuum of Care Rapid
Re-Housing Program (HUD CoC)

Year-to-Date Outcomes June 1, 2020-April 13, 2021

How Much?	YTD Outcomes	Goal
<i>Number of households served</i>	<i>71 families</i>	<i>48 families</i>
How Well?		
<i>Earned income</i>	<i>33% increased earned income</i>	<i>40%</i>
<i>Total income</i>	<i>58% increased total income</i>	<i>60%</i>
Better Off?		
	<i>96% exit to permanent housing destination</i>	<i>80%</i>

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Emergency Solutions
Grant Rapid Re-Housing Program (HUD ESG)

Year-to-Date Outcomes July 1, 2020-April 13, 2021

How Much?	YTD Outcomes	Goal
<i>Number of households served</i>	<i>25 households: 13 singles 12 families</i>	<i>20 households</i>
How Well?		
<i>Earned income</i>	<i>27% have earned income</i>	<i>40%</i>
<i>Total income</i>	<i>41% have total income</i>	<i>60%</i>
Better Off?		
	<i>71% exit to permanent housing destination</i>	<i>80%</i>

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Submit Grant Application To Minnesota Housing Finance Agency For Family Homelessness Prevention And Assistance Program Funds, Accept Grant Funds, Execute Grant Agreement And Related Contracts, And Amend 2021 Social Services Budget

Meeting Date: 5/11/2021	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: 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: Kastler, Madeline	

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize submission of a Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) grant application to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, and, if awarded, authorize acceptance of grant funds, execution of the grant agreement and related contracts, and amendment to the 2021 Social Services Budget.

SUMMARY

The Minnesota Legislature established FHPAP in 1993 to assist families with children, youth and single adults who are homeless or are at imminent risk of homelessness. By Minn. Stat. § 462A.204, FHPAP grant funding must be administered by counties in the metro area who, in turn, may sub-grant some or all funds to other entities. Funding is awarded through a competitive grant application process with predetermined criteria in four categories: planning, project design, program capacity/performance and need.

Minnesota Statute also requires the establishment of an advisory committee to assist in preparing the project proposal and the design, implementation and evaluation of the project. The Dakota County Affordable Housing Coalition (AHC) acts as the FHPAP Advisory Committee and a community-based subcommittee has been established by the AHC to help inform project direction and priorities.

Dakota County has received these grant funds for the past twenty years. For the 2019-2021 biennium, Dakota County received \$959,976 and subcontracted to two vendors: Matrix Housing Services for Rapid Re-Housing services and the Scott-Carver-Dakota Community Action Partnership (CAP) Agency for homelessness prevention services

For the 2021-2023 biennium, a request for proposals for subcontractors was issued on March 3, 2021, as required by county procurement policies. Four responses were received and three subgrantees, Matrix Housing Services, CAP, and 360 Communities were selected to serve homeless and at-risk families, single adults and youth (Attachment A, Solicitation Summary).

For the upcoming biennium, staff requests authorization to submit a grant application to Minnesota Housing Finance Agency for the FHPAP grant in the amount of \$1,800,000 which will include the amounts in the resolving clause for the three recommended contracted subgrantees and \$36,000 for Dakota County administrative costs for the period of September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2023.

OUTCOMES

See Attachment B.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorizes submission of a FHPAP grant application to Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, and, if awarded, authorizes acceptance of grant funds, execution of the grant agreement and related contracts for services in the not to exceed contract amounts listed in the Resolution, and amendment to the 2021 Social Services Budget.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

There is a \$0 net County cost anticipated as a result of this action. No local match is required. If awarded, the 2021 Social Services Budget is requested to be amended to reflect the amount received. The contracts shall contain a provision that allows the County to immediately terminate the contracts in the event sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are not appropriated at a level sufficient to allow payment of the amounts due.

Supporting Documents:

Attachment A: Solicitation Summary

Attachment B: Outcomes

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

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Legislature established the Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) in 1993 to assist families with children, youth and single adults who are homeless or are at imminent risk of homelessness and by Minn. Stat. § 462A.204, FHPAP grant funding must be administered by counties in the metro area who, in turn, may sub-grant some or all funds to other entities; and

WHEREAS, funding is awarded through a competitive grants application process with predetermined criteria in four categories: planning, project design, program capacity/performance and need; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute also requires the establishment of an advisory committee to assist in preparing the project proposal and the design, implementation and evaluation of the project; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Affordable Housing Coalition (AHC) acts as the FHPAP Advisory Committee and a community-based subcommittee has been established by the AHC to help inform project direction and priorities; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County has received these grant funds for the past twenty years and for the 2019-2021 biennium Dakota County received \$959,976 and subcontracted to two vendors: Matrix Housing Services for Rapid Re-Housing services and the Scott-Carver-Dakota Community Action Partnership (CAP) Agency for homelessness prevention services; and

WHEREAS, for the 2021-2023 biennium, a request for proposals for subcontractors was issued on March 3, 2021, as required by county procurement policies; and

WHEREAS, four responses were received and three subgrantees, Matrix Housing Services, CAP, and 360 Communities, were recommended to serve homeless and at-risk families, single adults and youth; and

WHEREAS, for the upcoming biennium, staff requests authorization to submit a grant application to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency for the FHPAP grant in the amount of \$1,800,000 which will include the amounts in the resolving clause for the three recommended contracted subgrantees and \$36,000 for Dakota County administrative costs for the period of September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to submit a Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program grant application to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency in the amount of \$1,800,000 for the period of September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, if awarded, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to accept grant funds, and execute a grant agreement with the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency in the amount of the grant awarded, for the period of September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2023, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, if awarded, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to execute contracts with the Matrix Housing Services in an amount not to exceed \$750,642, and with the Scott-Carver-Dakota Community Action Partnership Agency in an amount not to exceed \$720,050, and with 360 Communities in an amount not to exceed \$293,308 for the Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) for the period of September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2023, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; 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 full-time equivalents, consistent with County contracting policies, and inclusion of grant funds in future yearly Recommended and Approved Budgets, 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 contracts, within the amount budgeted, to alter the number and types of clients served, type of services provided, and the contract term, consistent with County contracting policies, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the contracts shall contain a provision that allows the County to immediately terminate the contracts in the event sufficient 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, if awarded, the 2021 Social Services Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Expense

Social Services Budget \$1,800,000

Total Expense **\$1,800,000**

Revenue

FHPAP Grant \$1,800,000

Total Revenue **\$1,800,000**

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

Solicitation Summary- Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) Letter of Interest**Date of Solicitation: March 3, 2021****Number of Proposals Received: Four**

- Scott-Carver-Dakota CAP Agency Inc (CAP)
- Matrix Housing Services (Matrix)
- 360 Communities (360)
- People Development Services (PDS)

Review Team Agencies: Dakota County Housing Deputy Director, Dakota County Program Coordinator, Dakota County Program Coordinator, Chair of FHPAP Workgroup, Staff from Hearth Connection, Person with lived experience

Services Description:

1. Homeless Prevention Assistance
 - a. Light-Touch Assistance: Services geared towards providing stabilization support to households that demonstrate the likelihood to stabilize with limited assistance. These services are primarily in the form of referrals and resources furnished by the provider to the client, and do not come with a guarantee of provision of financial assistance but allow for minimal financial assistance
 - b. Short-term Homeless Prevention Assistance: Provides short-term rent or deposit assistance to maintain current housing or re-house households from homelessness as defined by the state of MN
 - c. Intermediate-Term Assistance: Provides the services outlined to eligible recipients of the *Light Touch & Short-Term Assistance*; but may also include actively assisting in rehousing the household, and time-limited rental assistance up to, but not to exceed six (6) months.
2. Rapid-Rehousing
 - a. Provides the services to eligible recipients experiencing homelessness with a housing solution. The provision of financial assistance is estimated to average over 6 months, with support services to be provided for as long as they are deemed appropriate up to 24 months. Due to the cost of providing long term rental assistance, the RRH program is designed to provide support services and financial assistance to resolve homelessness of households who will be able to access a longer-term housing solution. Refers for the program are through SMAC CE, which prioritized persons who are chronically homeless. The current average in the current FHPAP RHH program is 15 months.

Solicitation Selection Criteria:

The selection team will examine all responses and evaluate the merits of each based on the capacity to deliver services as described.

Selection criteria will include but is not limited to:

1. LOI, General & Contract Requirements

- Be familiar with Dakota housing resources.
- Have clear access point(s) in Dakota County for clients seeking services.

- Be experienced with FHPAP provider expectations or have a clear, credible plan for developing the capacity to meet these expectations.
 - Have experience and/or be willing to use HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) as required by MN Housing.
 - Be adequately prepared to participate in Grantee and Funder site visits and file reviews.
 - Be willing to participate in Coordinated Entry for referrals and participate in system development and improvements.
 - Be able to provide both case management, and the financial services necessary to meet the requirements of the service models.
 - Participate in Dakota County Affordable Housing Coalition (the Advisory Committee) and FHPAP workgroup meetings, which assists and advises on FHPAP activities, policies, and outcomes.
- 2. Project Objectives and Activities/Methods**
- Are key staff responsibilities and qualifications adequately described?
 - Vendor demonstrates their ability and capacity to administer the FHPAP program
 - Vendor demonstrates their ability to meet administration and reporting expectations
 - List of populations vendor plans to serve, model vendor proposes to administer, and how vendor proposes to administer them are appropriate, well thought out, and reasonable given the funding and staffing available
 - Description of vendor's plans to offer services are appropriate, well thought out, and reasonable given the funding and staffing available
 - Vendor gives adequate description of how typical clients will be served from initial referral or program entry to stable housing
 - Vendor includes and describes adequately the screening points for a typical client from initial referral or program entry to stable housing
- 3. Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity**
- Does the proposal address potential barriers to accessing services and strategies for alleviating barriers?
 - Does the proposal address the needs of diverse communities?
 - Does vendor describe practices or methods they will utilize to increase access to people who are disparately impacted by homelessness or housing instability?
 - Does vendor describe how all applicants regardless of their spoken or written language will be served?
- 4. Budget**
- Budget
 - Are the budget items appropriate and allowable?
 - Is the budget justification sufficient to explain the necessity of each budget item?
 - Is the project cost-effective?

Evaluation Results:

Three providers submitted proposals for Prevention (CAP, 360, PDS) and two providers submitted proposals for Rapid Re-Housing (Matrix, PDS)

In the Prevention category, Scott-Carver-Dakota CAP Agency Inc scored the highest and had the best proposal, although 360 Communities submitted an excellent proposal as well.

In the Rapid Re-Housing category, Matrix Housing Services scored the highest and had the best proposal.

Rationale of Recommended Vendor

For the Prevention portion of FHPAP, we recommend contracting with CAP and 360 Communities. We propose continuing with CAP as the main provider and contracting with 360 Communities to help provide this service on a smaller scale. Adding a second prevention provider will allow coordination with other prevention programs such as Federal Emergency Rental Assistance and eviction court.

For the Rapid Re-Housing portion of FHPAP, we recommend contracting with Matrix Housing Services. Their proposal was excellent, they have a proven track record of success in this role, and they are an important service provider of Rapid Re-Housing in Dakota County.

**Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP)
OUTCOMES**

The FHPAP grant supports and, if funded, expands two of the interventions supported by the Housing Business Plan (**Services + Vouchers + Units = Housing Stability**).

	Current Outcomes 2019-2020	Projected Outcomes 2021-2022
Amount Received/Requested	\$959,976	\$1.8 million
Funding distribution		
Admin	8%	10%
Services	41%	45%
Rent Assistance/vouchers	51%	45%
How much?	<p>125 households served with homelessness prevention funds</p> <p>52 households served with rapid re-housing funds</p>	<p>Total request \$1.8 million over biennium to serve 506 total households</p> <p>431 households to be served with homelessness prevention funds. This includes serving households who receive services thru FHPAP and assistance to apply for direct assistance funding through CERA and other non-FHPAP programs.</p> <p>Two prevention contracts proposed: CAP Agency– \$720,050 to serve 330 households 360 Communities – \$293,308 to serve 101 HH</p> <p>Rapid Rehousing: 75 households served with rapid re-housing funds through a contract with Matrix - \$750,642</p>
How well?	100% compliance with Housing Service Standards	100% compliance with Housing Service Standards
Is anyone better off?	85% housed at program exit 5% returns to shelter	85% housed at program exit 5% returns to shelter

**The numbers reflect an increase in the per household cost and increase in length of time served.*

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Authorization To Submit Transportation Coordination Grant Proposal, Execute An Agreement With Minnesota Department Of Transportation, And Provide Local Share

Meeting Date: 5/11/2021	Fiscal/FTE Impact:
Item Type: Consent-Action	<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: Kastler, Madeline	Board Goal: A great place to live
Contact Phone: (651) 554-5918	Public Engagement Level: N/A
Prepared by: Bernardy, Robyn	

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize submission of a Section 5310 Elderly and Disabled Assistance grant proposal to the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) and, if awarded, authorize execution of an agreement with MnDOT that provides a local share of 20 percent of program costs for the project.

SUMMARY

By Resolution No. 13-446 (August 27, 2013), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized the County Manager to execute an agreement with the University of Minnesota Center for Transportation Studies (CTS) for human services transit research and analysis. The Dakota County Transportation Collaborative Council, now known as GoDakota, was established in 2015 to oversee the implementation of recommendations from the CTS study. GoDakota works with stakeholders to improve access to transportation services and develop public transportation alternatives for seniors and persons with disabilities.

By Resolution No. 18-362 (July 17, 2018), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized the County Manager to execute a Section 5310 Elderly and Disabled Assistance (5310) grant with MnDOT to improve access to transportation services and public transportation alternatives to seniors, persons with disabilities, and individuals who are system involved and transportation dependent, assisting Dakota County with implementing CTS recommendations. A Dakota County staff position was hired with funds from this grant to fulfill the recommended role of Transportation Coordinator.

By Resolution No. 19-614 (July 23, 2019), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized the County Manager to execute a Section 5310 Elderly and Disabled Assistance (5310) grant with MnDOT to continue grant funding through December 31, 2021. Work plans continue to be developed and implemented annually to meet the terms of this grant, and staff will update the Board on a regular basis.

Staff requests authorization to submit a 2022-2023 MnDOT Section 5310 Transit Coordinator Assistance Project grant proposal for funding in an amount not to exceed \$634,392.16 in grant funds with a \$158,598.04 (20%) match for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023. See Attachment A that outlines GoDakota's 2022-2023 proposed Budget Request.

OUTCOMES

See Attachment B that outlines GoDakota's 2020 Results-to-Date and GoDakota's 2022-2023 Work Plan Overview.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends authorization to submit a Section 5310 Transit Coordinator Assistance Project grant proposal to MnDOT and, if awarded, execute an agreement with MnDOT in an amount not to exceed \$634,392.16 in grant funds with a \$158,598.04 (20%) match for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

The total cost of the GoDakota's development project is estimated at \$792,990.20 for 2022 and 2023, to be funded by \$634,392.16 in grant funds with a \$158,598.04 (20%) County match, which is available through existing County operating budget. Budgeted expenses and revenues will be included in the 2022 and 2023 County Manager's Recommended Budgets.

Supporting Documents:

Attachment A: GoDakota 2022-2023 Budget Request

Attachment B: GoDakota 2020 Results, 2022-2023 Work Plan Overview

Previous Board Action(s):

13-446; 8/27/13

18-362; 7/17/18

19-614; 7/23/19

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 13-446 (August 27, 2013), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized the County Manager to execute an agreement with the University of Minnesota Center for Transportation Studies (CTS) for human services transit research and analysis; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Dakota County Transportation Collaborative Council, now known as GoDakota, was established in 2015 to oversee the implementation of recommendations from the CTS study; and

WHEREAS, GoDakota works with stakeholders to develop coordinated transportation services and programs to increase efficiencies and enhance accessibility to residents, particularly seniors and those with special transportation needs; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 18-362 (July 17, 2018), the Community Services Director was authorized to accept funds from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) to be used in 2019 for the Section 5310 program by MnDOT; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 19-614 (July 23, 2019), the Community Services Director was authorized to accept funds from MnDOT to be used in 2020 and 2021 for the Section 5310 program by MnDOT; and

WHEREAS, the County Board will be updated on a regular basis; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of the GoDakota's development project is estimated at \$792,990.20 for 2022 and 2023, to be funded by \$634,392.16 in grant funds with a \$158,598.04 (20%) County match; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorization to submit a Section 5310 Transit Coordinator Assistance Project grant proposal to MnDOT and, if awarded, execute an agreement with MnDOT in an amount not to exceed \$634,392.16 in grant funds with a \$158,598.04 (20%) match for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the County Manager to submit a grant proposal to the Minnesota Department of Transportation for a Section 5310 Transit Coordinator Assistance Program grant to improve access to transportation services and public transportation alternatives for seniors, persons with disabilities, and individuals who are system involved and transportation dependent; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, if awarded the grant, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to accept and execute the Section 5310 Transit Coordinator Assistance Program grant with the Minnesota Department of Transportation in an amount not to exceed \$634,392.16 in grant funds for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That unless the grant program requirements change, the Community Services Division Director is hereby authorized to amend the grant to alter the grant term, accept additional grant funds and continue grant funded full-time equivalents, 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.

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

GoDakota 2022-2023 Proposed Budget Request

Budget Requested

	Total 2022-2023	Budget Line Details
Admin, Management and Supervisor Salaries	\$ 36,000.00	
Operations Support Wages	\$ 483,482.94	3.5 FTE
Fringe Benefits	\$ 113,447.26	3.5 FTE
Public Outreach	\$ 14,080.00	Two videos, mileage and focus group
Advertising, Marketing and Promotional Charges	\$ 6,000.00	Posters, brochures, GoDakota marketing items
Staff Development - Continued Education	\$ 11,900.00	ATI Membership, Travel Trainer Certification, National Conferences
Office Supplies	\$ 8,080.00	Phone stipend, hot spot stipend, Survey Monkey, general office supplies
Other Direct Administrative Charges	\$ 120,000.00	Call Center Contract
Total	\$ 792,990.20	

Funding Source

	2022-2023
TCAP Grant (80%)	\$ 634,392.16
Dakota County (20%)	\$ 158,598.04
Total	\$ 792,990.20

GoDakota 2020-2021 Results-to-Date and 2022-20223 Work Plan

Task	Goal	2020-2021 Results To Date	2022-2023 Work Plan
Transportation Guidance/ Consultation	To inform people in the community about existing services	<p>Transportation Finder:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 600 views <p>Transportation Assistance Program (TAP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 57 TAP cards have been provided for individuals to access reduced fare for the fixed route <p>Travel Training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 31 individuals have completed one-on-one trip training Over 850 individuals have completed group training to learn more about existing transportation options 	<p>Provide tools to the community with information on existing transportation resources. These can include Transportation Resource Documents, trainings and the GoDakota Transportation Finder.</p> <p>Continue Travel Training program to teach individuals the skills they need to use existing transportation resources. Travel Training can include train-the-trainer training group training or one-on-one trip training.</p>
Vehicle Sharing	To maximize utilization of existing vehicles used by organizations including 5310 funded vehicles	<p>Lyft Program for individuals on HCBS Waivers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 700 individuals with disabilities are eligible to use Lyft for rides for work and community access <p>Jail Transportation Pilot:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DakotaLink provided rides to over 380 people New pilot has started effective 3/25/2021 using Lyft Concierge. Service is more individualized and less costly to date. 	<p>Continue to support the Lyft Program for individuals on Home and Community Based Service (HCBS) Waivers to provide an on-demand transportation solution for people with disabilities.</p> <p>Support the Jail Transportation Pilot to help provide transportation access to jail releasees so they can get home after their jail release.</p>
Private non-profit and for-profit providers engagement	To engage private for profit and nonprofit organizations as stakeholders	Monthly GoDakota meetings are used to learn about transportation needs, gaps and to brainstorm solutions with community members and GoDakota stakeholders.	<p>Continue to engage and receive feedback from GoDakota stakeholders to support transportation access for people with disabilities and older adults in Dakota County.</p> <p>Collaborate with private for profit and nonprofit GoDakota stakeholders on programs and projects. Stakeholders include transportation providers, disability and older adult service organizations, county and state employees and individuals with disabilities and older adults.</p>

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Volunteer Driver Programs	To have supportive resources to develop and sustain volunteer driver programs	<p>Dakota County continues to contract with three organizations to provide Volunteer Driver Services.</p> <p>Over 4200 rides (for over 130,000 miles) have been provided through this program.</p> <p>Volunteer Driver Programs have also provided food delivery during the pandemic. Over 500 food deliveries have been completed through these programs.</p>	<p>Retain current volunteer drivers.</p> <p>Support Volunteer Driver Organizations, as needed including problem-solving, helping with training needs and legislative support.</p>
Staff Training	GoDakota staff will gain expertise as a regional transportation resource	<p>In 2020-2021, GoDakota staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended and presented at the Minnesota Social Service Association (MSSA) Conference • Attended and presented at the St. Louis County Health and Human Service Conference • Attended and presented at the Transportation Resource Board (TRB) International Conference • Attended and presented at the Association of Travel Instruction (ATI) Annual Conference • Sat on the Board of Directors for ATI and headed an ATI Committee • Presented information for County staff, MCOTA membership and participants, other TCAP and RTCC organizations 	<p>GoDakota staff will develop Travel Training skills and apply those skills with the GoDakota program.</p> <p>GoDakota staff will develop Mobility Management skills and apply those skills with the GoDakota program.</p>

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**Ratification Of Grant Applications, And Authorization To Accept Grant Funds For Dakota County And Metro Counties, Execute Contracts With Vendors, Amend 2021 Employment And Economic Assistance And Social Services Budgets, And Extend A 1.0 FTE**

Meeting Date: 5/11/2021
 Item Type: Consent-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 great place to live
 Public Engagement Level: N/A

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Ratify submission of grant applications and, if awarded, authorize acceptance of Community Living Infrastructure (CLI) grant funds for Dakota County (DC) and on behalf of the Metro Area Housing Coordinating Board (MAHCB); execution of contracts with Ally Support Services, LLC, and Mental Health Resources (MHR), amendment to the 2021 Employment and Economic Assistance (E&EA) and Social Services (SS) Budgets, and extension of a 1.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) employee in the E&EA Department.

SUMMARY

In 2017, the Minnesota Legislature added language to the Minnesota Housing Support Act (Chapter 256I) to increase opportunities for Minnesotans with disabilities to live in the community. The housing package included grant funding aimed at developing and supporting CLI throughout the State. The funding covers initiatives in three categories: 1) Outreach services to connect homeless individuals to housing, medical supports, employment and community resources; 2) Housing Resource Specialist services to assist individuals with obtaining required documentation so they can access housing; and 3) Administration and monitoring of the Housing Support (HS) program in order to monitor quality of services, increase efficiencies and build capacity to expand. By Resolution No. 18-365 (July 17, 2018), DC received two awards to support this work. By Resolution No. 19-585 (June 18, 2019), DC received two additional awards for the 2019-2021 biennium.

DC submitted two renewal applications to the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) on April 9, 2021, for the CLI grant for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023:

- An application for DC in the amount of \$565,988 to support the needs of people with disabilities and housing instability who want to live in the community. DC proposes to contract with Ally Supportive Services, LLC, in a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$479,254 to fulfill the roles of street outreach services and a Housing Resource Specialist. The remainder of the funding, \$86,734, will be used to continue funding a Financial Specialist position in E&EA to streamline the eligibility determination and renewal process for HS participants, previously authorized by Resolution No. 19-681 (August 20, 2019).
- An application on behalf of the Metro Housing Coordinating Board in the amount of \$534,952. DC proposes to contract with MHR in a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$499,955. MHR was selected through a competitive process to be the regional HS Administrator for this project in the 2018 grant cycle. DC is a member of the MAHCB and is the fiscal agent for this grant. This funding will be used to continue a metro HS Administrator role that facilitates HS payments in private market, community-based rental housing for people who are homeless or exiting institutional settings in the seven-county metro area.

OUTCOMES: See Attachment A.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends ratification of the grant applications and, if awarded, authorization to accept CLI grant funds from DHS on behalf of DC and the MAHCB, execute contracts with Ally Support Services, LLC, and MHR, amend the 2021 E&EA and SS Budgets, and extend a 1.0 grant-funded FTE in E&EA.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

This grant has no associated County cost. Authorization is requested to amend the 2021 SS Budget by \$556,411 to reflect the revenues and expenses associated with these grants, and to use 50 percent grant funds and 50 percent federal financial participation funds to extend a 1.0 grant-funded FTE employee in the E&EA Department. The contracts shall contain a provision that allows the County to immediately terminate the contracts in the event that sufficient funds from county, state or federal sources are not appropriated at a level sufficient to allow payment of the amounts due.

Supporting Documents:
Attachment A: Outcomes

Previous Board Action(s):
18-365; 7/17/18
19-585; 6/18/19
19-681; 8/20/19

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in 2017 the Minnesota Legislature added language to the Minnesota Housing Support Act (Chapter 256I) to increase opportunities for Minnesotans with disabilities to live in the community and the housing package included grant funding aimed at developing and supporting community living infrastructure throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, the funding covers initiatives in three categories: 1) Outreach services to connect homeless individuals to housing, medical supports, employment and community resources; 2) Housing Resource Specialist services to assist individuals with obtaining required documentation so they can access housing; and 3) Administration and monitoring of the Housing Support program in order to monitor quality of services, increase efficiencies and build capacity to expand; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 18-365 (July 17, 2018), Dakota County received two awards to support this work and, by Resolution No. 19-585 (June 18, 2019), Dakota County received two additional awards for the 2019-2021 biennium; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County has submitted two renewal applications on April 9, 2021, for the Community Living Infrastructure Grant (CLI) grant for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023: Dakota County for \$565,988 and Metro Area Housing Coordinating Board for \$534,952; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota County CLI grant, if awarded, will contract with Ally Supportive Services, LLC in a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$479,254 to fulfill the role of street outreach services and the Housing Resource Specialist role, and the remainder of the funds (\$86,734) will be used to continue funding a Financial Specialist position in the Employment and Economic Assistance (E&EA) Department to streamline the eligibility determination and renewal process for Housing Support participants; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Area Housing Coordinating Board CLI Grant, if awarded, will contract with Mental Health Resources (MHR) in a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$499,955, and MHR was selected through a competitive process to be the regional Rental Assistance Administrator for this project in the previous grant cycle; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County is a member of the Metro Area Housing Coordinating Board and is the fiscal agent for this grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners ratifies the submission of the grant application to the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) and authorizes the Community Services Director to accept Community Living Infrastructure grant funds for Dakota County in the amount of \$565,988 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners ratifies the submission of the grant application to DHS and authorizes the Community Services Director to accept Community Living Infrastructure grant funds on behalf of the Metro Area Housing Coordinating Board in the amount of \$534,952 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Community Services Director to contract with Ally Support Services, LLC, in a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$479,254 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Community Services Director to contract with Mental Health Resources in a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$499,955 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023, 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 contracts within the amount budgeted, to alter the number and types of clients served, types of services provided, service expectations and rates, and the contract term, consistent with County contracting policies, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the contracts shall contain a provision that allows the County to immediately terminate the contracts in the event that sufficient 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 the Community Services Director to use 50 percent grant funds and 50 percent federal financial participation funds to extend a 1.0 grant-funded full-time equivalent (FTE) employee in the Employment and Economic Assistance Department; 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, consistent with County contracting policies, and inclusion of grant funds in future yearly Recommended and Approved Budgets, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the 2021 Social Services Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Revenue	
DHS Community Living Infrastructure Grant	<u>\$1,100,940</u>
Total Revenue	\$1,100,940
Expense	
DHS Community Living Infrastructure Grant	<u>\$1,100,940</u>
Total Expense	\$1,100,940

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the 2021 Employment & Economic Assistance Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Revenue	
Community Living Infrastructure Grant	\$ 86,734
Federal Financial Participation Funding	<u>\$ 86,734</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	\$173,468
Expense	
1.00 Limited Term FTE	
Salaries and Benefits,	<u>\$86,734</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$86,734

; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the 2021 Social Services Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Revenue	
Community Living Infrastructure Grant	<u>(\$86,734)</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	(\$86,734)
Expense	
Community Living Infrastructure Grant	<u>(\$86,734)</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	(\$86,734)

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

**MN Department of Human Services Community Living Infrastructure Grant
OUTCOMES**

	July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019	July 1, 2019-June 30, 2021*	July 1, 2021-June 30, 2023
Dakota County CLI Grant			
How Much?	815 people received Outreach and Housing Resource Specialist services	1,449 people received Outreach and Housing Resource Specialist services during the grant term.	1,100 people will receive Outreach and Housing Resource Specialist services during the grant term.
How Well?	Increased outreach and housing resource specialist services to homeless persons in Dakota County and new community partnerships with police departments, libraries and mental health clinics.	Increased outreach and housing resource specialist services to homeless persons in Dakota County and continued community partnerships with police departments, libraries and mental health clinics.	Increased access to housing and community resources for individuals who are homeless or exiting institutions and continued partnerships with police departments, landlords, libraries, treatment centers and community organizations.
Better Off?	Reduction in homelessness among target population leading to permanent housing and health stability.	Reduction in homelessness among target population leading to permanent housing and health stability.	Reduction in homelessness among target population leading to an increase in permanent housing and health stability.

* Actuals through December 31, 2020

Metro Counties CLI Grant	July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019	July 1, 2019-June 30, 2021*	July 1, 2021-June 30, 2023
How Much?	30 households were referred to program and approved for Housing Support funding.	66 households are leased up with housing and approved for Housing Support funding. An additional 34 households are in the application and/or housing search process.	<p>Housing Support Administrative program is serving at least 300 households across the seven-county metro during this grant period.</p> <p>Engage and develop relationships with at least 20 additional homeless outreach agencies and Housing Stabilization Services providers during this grant period.</p>
How Well?	Successful development of a Housing Support model with established clear roles between the administrator, service provider, counties, and DHS that can be duplicated in other regions. Selection of Mental Health Resources (MHR) as administrator for Housing Support payments for the metro in private market, community-based rental housing.	<p>Continue to develop and improve the administration and services model, including roles and responsibilities, communication tools, access points and referral system, and continuous improvement methods;</p> <p>Expand to the Demo program and improve the process for coordination and partnership between counties, service providers, tenants, and rental property managers to ensure timely rental payments;</p> <p>Collaborate with the counties, DHS, and partners on continuous improvement and program adaptations.</p>	<p>Remove rent payment responsibilities from counties and service providers. Lessen the workload of county administration, economic assistance workers and service providers, while leveraging and consolidating rent payment expertise at the administrator.</p> <p>Housing Support participants have more choices regarding where they want to live, types of services and a service provider.</p> <p>Collaborate with counties, DHS, partners on continuous improvement and program adaptations.</p>

Better Off?	The project identified system barriers and inefficiencies between county administration, economic assistance workers, and service providers. The project has also leveraged and consolidated housing authority expertise with the administrator to improve the entire benefit processing system.	The Metro group will increase Housing Support types (Demo) and additional services (including supplemental services, waivers, and housing stabilization services) to better fit the housing and service needs of participants. This Housing Support Administration model is achieving Olmstead goals of giving Housing Support recipients more choices of service providers, by separating housing from services.	This project will create housing stability and increase access to permanent housing by removing barriers to Housing Support. The project will also provide participants with choice of service provider by separating housing from services.
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** Actuals through December 31, 2020*

DAKOTA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Update On Community Mental Health, Local Advisory Council Report, And Proclamation Of May As Mental Health Month

Meeting Date: 5/11/2021	Fiscal/FTE Impact:
Item Type: Consent-Action	<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: Schug, Emily	

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Receive an update on community mental health and a report from the Local Advisory Council, and proclaim May as Mental Health Month in Dakota County.

SUMMARY

May is National Mental Health Month. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness:

- One in five United States (U.S.) adults experience mental illness,
- One in twenty U.S. adults experience serious mental illness, and
- 17 percent of youth, ages 6-17 years, experience a mental health disorder.

Mental health is an important determinant of overall health and well-being for individuals. The COVID-19 pandemic, along with compounding community trauma, is having a significant impact on adult and child mental health, particularly for people with pre-existing mental illness and Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and for communities of color. Many residents are struggling with the impacts of illness, loss of loved ones, social isolation, job loss, changes in routines, racism or other forms of discrimination, and community trauma. As a result, many are experiencing unprecedented levels of fear, anxiety, and stress.

Throughout the COVID-19 period, Dakota County has maintained focus on connecting people to community mental health and SUD services, promoting mental health messaging and initiatives, addressing service needs and gaps through community partnerships, and engaging the perspective and voice of people with lived experience. This includes providing community members with practical tools they can use to improve their mental health and increase resiliency. Prevention is an effective strategy to reduce the impact of mental health conditions and, with effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives.

Dakota County has a network of mental health services and initiatives that provide mental health services and promote mental health awareness and education. Dakota County staff, in partnership with other organizations, are committed to building public awareness and addressing stigma as important steps in supporting people to access treatment and support. Promoting mental health and awareness of resources and support is especially important given the impacts of the pandemic and community trauma on mental health and well-being.

Staff will provide an update on mental health services, resources and initiatives, including:

- Use of data to assess needs and trends
- Initiatives focused on awareness, education, prevention and early intervention, including suicide prevention
- County service response during the pandemic
- Collaboration with system partners, including first responders, to address mental health crises
- Efforts to leverage federal, state and local funding to address needs and gaps

For community indicators and impacts see Attachment A

Members of Dakota County's Children's Local Advisory Committees (LAC) will also share their annual report. See Attachment B for the 2021 Report from the LAC for Children's Mental Health.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Dakota County Board of Commissioners proclaim May as Mental Health Month in Dakota County, and support efforts to promote mental health awareness, trauma-informed training, education, and access to services and supports to serve the mental health needs of the residents of Dakota County.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACTS

None.

Supporting Documents:

Attachment A: Community Indicators and Impacts
 Attachment B: 2021 Report from the Local Advisory Council for Children’s Mental Health

Previous Board Action(s):

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, May is National Mental Health Month; and

WHEREAS, mental health is an important determinant of overall health and well-being for individuals; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic, along with compounding community trauma, is having a significant impact on adult and child mental health, particularly for people with pre-existing mental illness and Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and for communities of color; and

WHEREAS, there are practical tools that all people can use to improve their mental health and increase resiliency; and

WHEREAS, the mental health impacts of the pandemic and community trauma are significant; and

WHEREAS, prevention is an effective strategy to reduce the impact of mental health conditions and, with effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County has a network of mental health services and initiatives that provide mental health services and promote mental health awareness and education; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County staff, in partnership with other key organizations, is committed to building public awareness and addressing stigma as important steps in supporting people to access treatment and support; and

WHEREAS, promoting mental health and awareness of resources and support is especially important given impacts of the pandemic and community trauma on mental health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends the Dakota County Board of Commissioners proclaim May as Mental Health Month in Dakota County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims May 2021 as Mental Health Month in Dakota County, and supports efforts to promote mental health awareness, training, education, and access to information, services, and supports to serve the mental health needs of the citizens of Dakota County.

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

Community Mental Health Update

Community Services Committee of the Whole

May 11, 2021

Community Mental Health

Mental Health is an important determinant of overall health and well-being. The COVID-19 pandemic has significant impact on adult and child mental health, particularly for people with pre-existing mental illness and Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and for communities of color. Many people are struggling with the impacts of illness, loss of loved ones, social isolation, job loss, changes in routines, racism or other forms of oppression, and community trauma. As a result, many in our community are experiencing unprecedented levels of fear, anxiety, depression and stress. Mental health is essential to overall physical health and well-being. Mental illness and SUD are common and treatable. Dakota County, community partners and each of us play an important role in facilitating access to a continuum of mental health and SUD services.

Community Indicators, Minnesota and Dakota County

Just as tracking data on infections, hospitalization and deaths is key in managing the COVID-19 public health emergency, data and community indicators tell an important story about the impacts of the pandemic on mental health. As part of the COVID-19 response, Dakota County developed a [Behavioral Health Dashboard](#) to reflect trends in mental health and SU and provide information about resources and support. This report draws on data indicators from the Dashboard.

Calls for Support

Statewide mental health call centers have experienced significant increases in people reaching out for support. Between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020, the Minnesota Warmline responded to 1,219 calls and texts from Dakota County residents. **Dakota County represents the third highest utilization** and Dakota County calls account for approximately 9% of all Warmline calls and texts.

In 2020, approximately 1,575 Dakota County residents took an online mental health screening through the Mental Health Minnesota. In comparison, approximately 500 residents completed a screening in 2019. Screening results include:

- Approximately 670 online screenings during just the last three months of 2020
- Nearly 600 screenings for depression (83% who scored moderate to severe)
- More than 315 screenings for anxiety (80% who scored moderate to severe)

Top factors identified as contributing to the current mental health of those taking screenings was loneliness/social isolation, past trauma, coronavirus and current events. Sixty-eight (68%) of those who completed screenings were under the age of 24.

Emergency/Crisis Response

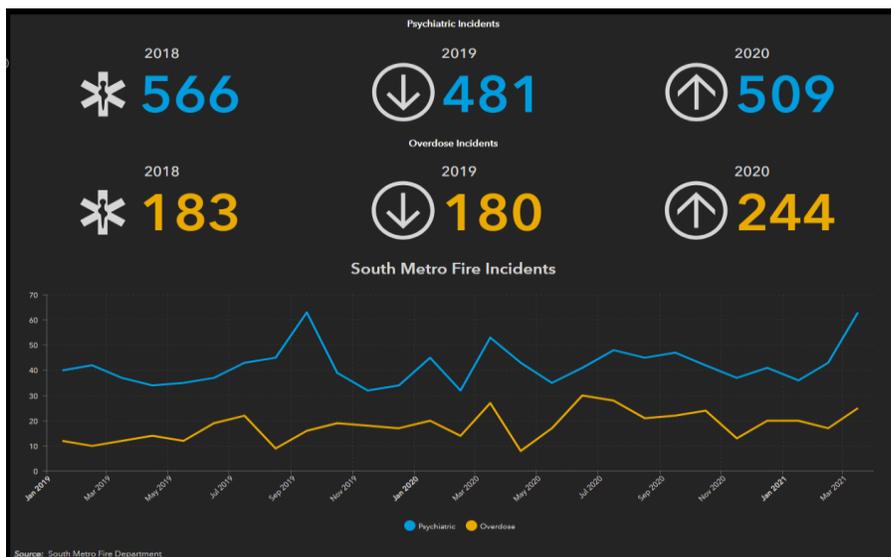
In addition to high call volume to warmlines, emergency response systems are experiencing high volume and high acuity. For example, calls to the Dakota County Communication Center (911) for **mental health crisis increased 14% from 2019 to 2020** (see **Figure 1**). South Metro Fire’s **incidents related to overdoses/poisoning increased by 36% from 2019 to 2020** (see **Figure 2**). In 2020, Dakota County’s 24/7 mobile mental health crisis response team received more than 9,000 calls. Requests for civil commitment screening increased by 22% from 2019 to 2020.

Figure 1. Total Dakota County 911 Behavioral Health Calls, by Call Code



*Coding doesn't capture all calls where a mental health or SUD issue is presenting.

Figure 2. South Metro Fire, Psychiatric and Overdose Incidents

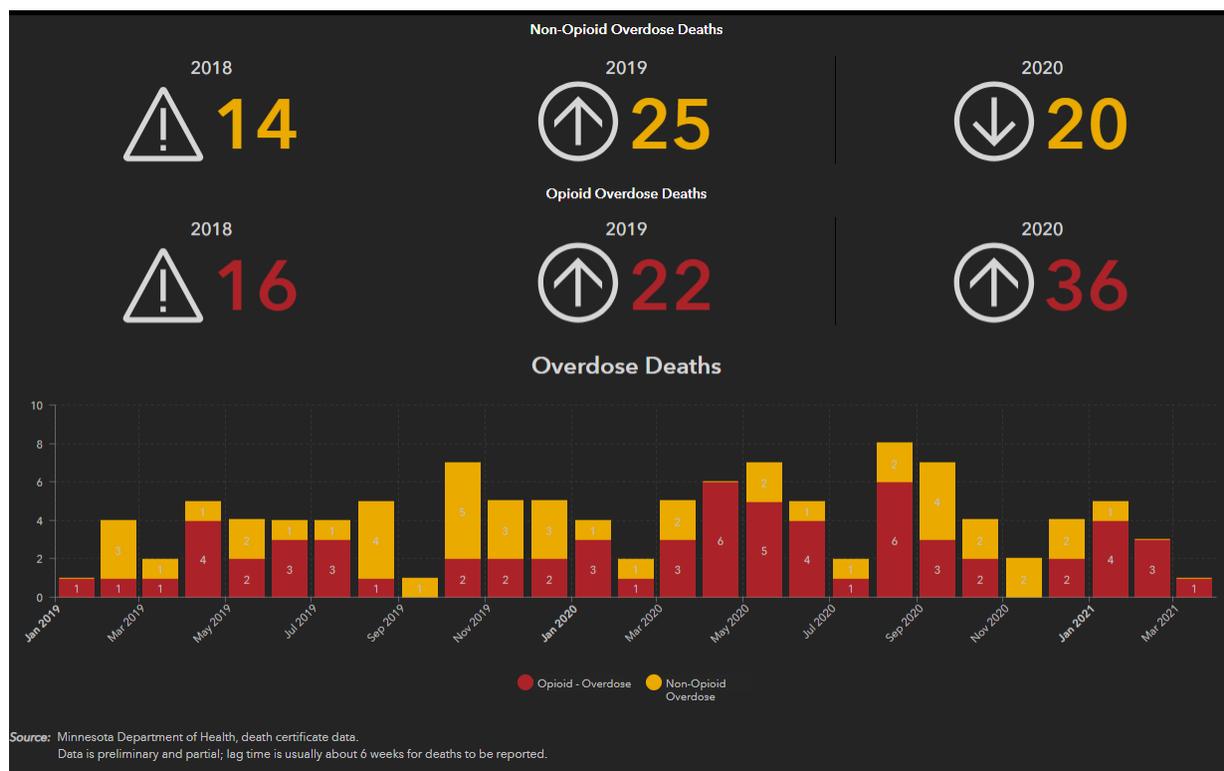


Given the high volume of service needs presenting through emergency services, Social Services’ partnerships with police, EMS, 911, hospitals, and community-based providers have been critically important in responding to community need. In 2020, Dakota County expanded the Coordinated Response model to two new cities and established crisis mental health liaison relationships with other cities. Proactive engagement, system coordination and outreach, through Coordinated Response, crisis services, and other initiatives, provides a bridge between acute/crisis services and long-term services and supports. Nearly 300 residents received services from Coordinated Response in 2020.

Deaths

According to the Minnesota Department of Health, statewide, more than 1,000 Minnesotans died from drug overdoses in 2020 — a 27 percent increase from the year before. Dakota County data shows a similar, troubling trend related to opioid-related deaths. As indicated in **Figure 3, opioid-related deaths in Dakota County increased 63% from 2019 to 2020 and 125% from 2018 to 2020.** Total overdose deaths increased by 19% from 2019 to 2020 and 86% from 2018 to 2020. While deaths from overdose increased, suicide deaths decreased. Death data will continue to be updated as new information is available.

Figure 3. Dakota County Deaths by Overdose, Opioid and Non-Opioid Related



Impact on Communities of Color

Reports by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)¹ and US Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)² document higher rates of mental health symptoms for people of color during the COVID-19 period. The pandemic has put a spotlight on overall disparities in access to health care, including mental health and SUD care, and point to the need for better access to care, including telehealth/technology; culturally tailored messaging and services; language-specific services; partnership with community leaders; and peer support. Responding to the unique need, barriers, and preferences of residents of color has been a focus of Dakota County's pandemic response plan.

Dakota County's Response to Growing Mental Health and SUD Needs

CARES – Community Partnerships



In August 2020 Dakota County Social Services solicited Letters of Interest (LOI) to utilize federal CARES Act funds to address unmet needs and gaps in mental health care access for Dakota County residents. Specifically, Dakota County contracted with agencies that provide mental health services; as well as, outreach and education to address impacts of the pandemic. There was specific focus on services for community members who are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Dakota County partnered with 6 agencies to achieve the following goals:

- Provide low-barrier access to behavioral health services
- Provide work-related mental health support to residents, staff and family members
- Provide support for co-pays and deductibles to facilitate access to individual/family care
- Provide funding for culturally specific service needs
- Provide mental health and financial support for children and families

The following agencies were awarded CARES funding totaling \$69,804.67 to meet the above goals:

- Mental Health Minnesota
- Residential Transitions, Inc. (RTI)
- Dakota Child and Family Clinic (DCFC)

¹ Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Prevalence of Stress and Worry, Mental Health Conditions, and Increased Substance Use Among Adults During the COVID-19 Pandemic — United States, April and May 2020, Centers for Disease Control

² Double Jeopardy: COVID-19 and Behavioral Health Disparities for Black and Latino Communities in the U.S. (Submitted by OBHE), SAMHSA

- Life Development Resources
- East African Healing Services (EAHS)
- Christian Family Solutions

In just two months, approximately 1,120 Dakota County residents were served by these programs. Those residents were able to: gain coping skills through therapeutic groups, connect with a mental health professionals to alleviate feelings of loneliness and isolation as a result of the pandemic, first responders were able to get free therapeutic supports, youth were able get academic and emotional health support, residents were able to obtain COVID-19 testing, food assistance for those experiencing food insecurity, community, resources and much more.

Outcome/Impact

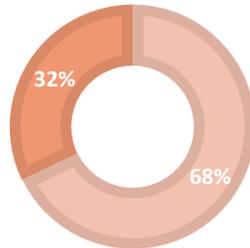
How Much

1,118 residents were able to access various mental health services through the CARES Act Funding:

- **22** youth in Dakota County received 30 hours a week of educational support through Christian Family Solutions.
- **750** individuals were able to access healthcare, COVID-19 testing, personal protective equipment (PPE), referrals and resources through Dakota Child and Family Clinic.
- **272** individuals utilized the Warmline which resulted in reducing need for crisis intervention, hospitalization, or other more intensive, high cost services.
- **7** individuals from the East African community received culturally competent hybrid delivery (telehealth and in-home) of mental health, chemical dependency support, and resource connection services
- **25** residents were able to access coping/wellness skills groups and learn new effective coping strategies.
- **12** individuals (mostly first responders) were able to access free Trauma Recovery Sessions including 9 hours of Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) consultation
- **30** individuals were contacted through the Mental Health Response Team (MHRT) who experiences police contact due to a mental health crisis within 30 days of the encounter. The MHRT has established partnerships with Dakota County's Crisis Response Unit, Crisis Stabilization Program and Coordinated Response teams.

INDIVIDUALS SERVED

■ Other/White/Etc. ■ Identified as Person of Color



**Due to anonymity, Mental Health Minnesota does not collect demographic information. Therefore, the total number of individuals served who identify as a person of color is likely higher than the data shown above.*

How Well

MENTAL HEALTH Minnesota

The Voice of Recovery

- **100%** of attendees of the coping/wellness group at RTI reported an **increase in coping skills** as a result of participating in the group.
- **890** individuals **connected to direct services** through Dakota Child and Family Clinic (DCFC).
- DCFC created **resource sheets** for anyone getting COVID tested and Were distributed to over **7,000 community members**.
- A mental health professional was able to reach out to nearly **400 COVID positive patients** to check in on their mental well-being and to help with resources. **66% of positive cases were people of color** and DCFC was able to provide culturally appropriate resources and food as needed.
- **All the youth** in the program at Christian Family Solutions **avoided being isolated** on distance learning days—they interacted with other youth their age and received **daily mental health and academic support**.
- To date, **100%** of EAHS' Dakota County clients receiving services during the contract period **continue to schedule and attend regular telehealth and in-home sessions** with their Dakota County case worker. This indicates improved ability to self-advocate, access appropriate community and health resources, and manage mental health/chemical dependency symptoms and medications.

***1,133** calls from Dakota County residents x 25% of callers who would go to ER/use EMS or crisis = **283 potential ER/EMS/crisis calls avoided**
***283 potential ER visits** or EMS/crisis calls x \$1,000/call = **\$283,000 saved**

- **Officers reported significant improvements** in their ability to continue with their mission or realize that they are overwhelmed and became ready to move on to other things through Life Development Resources EMDR Therapy sessions.
- There were **5 fewer individuals with repeat use of emergency services** for mental health crisis after connected with the MHRT from Oct.- Dec. 2020.

Is Anyone Better Off?

Participants were asked how the coping/wellness group improved their mental health (RTI):

- *“Helps me to feel less depressed...”*
- *“Just knowing there is a consistent group I can talk to instead of isolating.”*
- *“It’s given me something to look forward to...”*



One in four callers to the Minnesota Warmline **stated that they would go to an emergency room or use crisis/emergency services if they were not able to reach the Warmline service.** However, despite 25% of all callers indicating that they would use more intensive, higher cost services if they couldn’t reach the warmline, it is probable that the Warmline helps reduce those numbers significantly through its provision of peer support for callers. In fact, **96% of callers report feeling calmer at the end of the call, and less than 1% of all Warmline calls are transferred/handed off to crisis or emergency services.**

DCFC partnered with students from Metro State University and were able to **survey approximately 200 community members getting tested for COVID-19** to see what their biggest needs would be if they were to be COVID positive and required in-home quarantine. They found that personal and family stress, mental well-being and the ability to get food and medication were the biggest stressors related to needing to quarantine. With this information DCFC responded by:

- Partnering with Open Door Food Pantry and provided emergency food bags to those being tested over **200 families received food** (over 500 individuals).
- Once staff at DCFC realized people were re-testing for COVID-19 to get more food, DCFC made sure to include extra information about ongoing food
- **Food and PPE supplies** were personally delivered to over **20 homes** in Dakota County,



Teens attending the ARMOR day treatment educational support program at Christian Family Solutions received structure, supervision, academic support, and skills to manage their mental health. On their distance learning days, they received a full day of programming that helped **reduce stress for the families** because they were not required to take off work to teach and supervise their teen. The parents and guardians expressed relief knowing their teens were in a safe and nurturing environment

with trained mental health providers. The **teens gained confidence** in their ability to be **successful academically** which will impact their future success.



The use of evidence-based protocols in **EMDR enhanced the officers and other first responders ability to perform their duties safely** and provided them with a greater understanding of the impact of trauma in their lives as well as the lives of those they serve.

Officers received feedback from residents that their visits were positive and as one mother stated, "**this is what we are looking for in a policing model**" referring to a mental health professional partnering with local law enforcement.



Sustainability

Based on the positive outcomes of CARES funded contracts, Social Services extended projects by reallocating unspent department budget intended for mental health services. Social Services will continue to explore state and federal funding options to continue and evolve partnerships to address continued community mental health needs and gaps.

Local Advisory Council for Children's Mental Health (LAC)

2021 Report to the Dakota County Board of Commissioners

Local Advisory Council for Children's Mental Health (LAC) Membership for 2020-2021

Jen Zaske-Chair, District 196

Serena Chermack- youth, 2020 Co-Chair

Payton Marks-Youth

Jo Burr-Parent

Caryn Lantz-Parent

Amber Schupp-MMHC

Stephanie Johnson-MHR

Kelly Johnson-ACP

Laura Lambert-LDR

Laura Peterson-Nystroms

Ericka Heglund-MMHC

Paul Maloney-TreeHouse

Bill Barnd-TreeHouse

Jennifer Jiang-BCBS

Kate Bartlein-NAMI

Molly Cirillo-District #200

Beth Nelson-District #200

Susan Piepgras-District #196

Shannon Bailey-DCPH

Kate Ebert-DCPH

Suzanne Tuttle-DCSS Deputy Director

Andrea Grossman-DCSS Coordinator

Vanessa Galavas-DCCC

Renee Grassi-DC Libraries

2021 LAC Goals:

Day Treatment: Dakota County will have locally available day treatment for all age groups of children. These services will have timely access, be individualized with integration of education, and offer service for a range of mental health needs, including but not limited to dual diagnoses of substance abuse and eating disorders. Providers and services must be financially viable, sustainable, and collaborate with community partners.

Resource Guide: Make available a mental health resource guide that is user friendly, broadly known about, readily accessible and maintained for current accurate information.

Reintegration after Crisis: Providers and schools are well informed about what supports positive transitions back to community care after youth access higher levels of care.

School-Based Mental Health (SBMH) and Wellness Education: Advocate that all Dakota County Students, at all levels of education, have access to Wellness Education and SBMH services.

Navigation of the Mental Health System: Make mental health system navigation more user friendly by creating a mental health system of care map, create access to information about health care benefits, authorization processes, and how to link to advocates and navigators for utilizing health care benefits.

Improve access and quality of mental health services for individuals and families from communities of color by educating our council on current barriers to equitable access and care, grow representation of persons of color on the LAC especially youth, and advising the county board and collaborative on changes needed.