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**2021 RES-163**

**AUTHORIZING FUNDING FOR CONTINUATION OF NON-CONGREGATE SHELTER  
DCDHS – HAA DIVISION**

This project is funded with the County’s allocation of local aid authorized in the 2021 American Rescue Plan. Therefore, this resolution follows the format outlined in 2021 RES-013.

**Justification**

Authorizing Law: In March of 2021, the federal government authorized the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan (ARP) stimulus bill authorizing additional funding to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic across multiple areas of need.

Dane County was allocated over \$106 million in ARP local aid. A portion of those funds has been committed to various efforts to prevent and end homelessness and limit spread of COVID-19 through efforts to provide social distancing in the congregate shelter system.

\$2.4 million in ARP funding was approved by the Dane County Board in April to assist with non-congregate sheltering efforts for people experiencing homelessness. This initial allocation assumed a non-congregate shelter end date of August 31<sup>st</sup>. Additional funding is required to provide non-congregate shelter through the end of 2021.

Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Preventing exposure to and spread of COVID-19 among households experiencing homelessness has been a pillar of Dane County’s pandemic response. Beginning in March of 2020, Dane County funded non-congregate hotel shelter operations and assisted with other congregate shelter expansions to quickly create critical social distancing in the community’s homeless shelter system, partnering with numerous hotels to provide rooms, and with the City of Madison, Public Health Madison-Dane County, and frontline agencies to administer the program.

While Dane County has one of the highest vaccination rates among eligible individuals in the United States, data suggests that the vaccination rate among people experiencing homelessness is much lower. Lower vaccination rates, combined with the rapid emergence of the COVID-19 Delta variant, necessitates the continuation of non-congregate shelter options for certain people experiencing homelessness to reduce exposure to and spread of the virus.

\$2,595,000 in additional funding is required to continue non-congregate isolation and quarantine shelter programs through the end of 2021 for people experiencing homelessness who are symptomatic/positive for COVID-19 or a close contact for a positive COVID-19 case, for people experiencing homelessness who are at higher risk of severe illness if they contract COVID-19.

Duplication of Funding/Existing Partnerships and Programs: The funding is not duplicative for a program providing non-congregate isolation/quarantine shelter for people experiencing homelessness who are symptomatic/positive for COVID-19 or a close contact for a positive COVID-19 case. The funding is cooperative with other non-congregate shelter programs, as additional space/programming is needed to maintain social distancing in the shelter system during this time.

50 **Expected Outcomes and Data Collection**

51 **Isolation/Quarantine Program**

52 Expected program outcomes include the safe recovery and discharge of people who are positive  
53 for COVID-19, and safe shelter and discharge of people who need to quarantine due to symptoms  
54 prior to test results or due to being a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case. The average  
55 number of people served by this program at any given time fluctuates based on COVID-19 spread  
56 at any given time. More than 70 people were served at one time during the pandemic's peak in  
57 the fall/winter of 2020/2021, and early during the summer of 2021 fewer than 12 people were  
58 served at any given time.

59 Data collection will minimally include the number of and demographics for the people served by  
60 the program.

61 **Non-Congregate Hotel Shelter**

62 Expected program outcomes include the provision of safe, non-congregate shelter for people  
63 experiencing homelessness who are at higher risk of severe illness if they contract COVID-19.  
64 Guests will receive information on how to limit their exposure to COVID-19, receive the COVID-  
65 19 vaccine, and make connections to community supports such as housing, employment, medical  
66 care, economic assistance programs, or other needs identified by the shelter guest.

67 Data collection will minimally include the number of and demographics for the people served by  
68 the program, the average length of stay in non-congregate shelter, and program exit destinations.

69 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVLED** that the following revenue account(s) be adjusted and  
70 that the revenue increase be transferred from the General Fund to the following expenditure  
71 account(s) in the Department of Human Services:

72

<b><u>Revenue</u></b>		
<b><u>Account Number</u></b>	<b><u>Account Title</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
74 80000 81367	75 ARP REVENUES	76 \$2,595,000
77 <b>Total Revenue</b>		78 <b>\$2,595,000</b>

<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		
<b><u>Account Number</u></b>	<b><u>Account Title</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
79 80 80000 30026	81 ARP EXPENSES	82 \$2,595,000
83 <b>Total Expenditure</b>		84 <b>\$2,595,000</b>

85 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Controller is authorized to make payments related to  
86 these programs.

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88 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that unspent funds from 2021 be carried forward for expenditure in  
89 2022.