

OPERATIONS FUNDING FOR A PERMANENT COMPREHENSIVE DAY RESOURCE CENTER

In November, 2015, Dane County issued a request for proposals (RFP) for operators for a comprehensive day resource center to serve homeless individuals and families in Dane County. The RFP, as amended, committed \$330,000 in operations funding, recognizing that the operator would have to bring its own additional resources to the table, through other grants or private fundraising, to operate the day resource center. The County's RFP amount was based on permanent day resource center funding of \$130,000 from the County, \$100,000 from the City of Madison, and \$100,000 committed from the United Way of Dane County. The only respondent to the RFP came in with a budget of \$450,000 to operate the day resource center and was rejected because it was over the amount of \$330,000 offered in the County's RFP. Other potential RFP respondents indicated they did not apply because they would not be interested in taking on such a substantial fundraising burden to operate a comprehensive day resource center.

After the RFP response was rejected, representatives from Dane County, the City of Madison, and the United Way, and other potential private funders, including Downtown Madison, Inc. and Catholic Charities, met to review the concept for the day resource center and the funding commitments. In April, 2016 a concept paper was released based on the discussions. The concept paper proposes a new RFP be issued based on \$310,000 of funding commitments—\$130,000 from Dane County, \$80,000 from the City of Madison, and \$100,000 from the United Way. The concept paper also indicates that the total budget for the day resource center is \$427,398, which leaves a funding gap of \$117,398 for the day resource center operator to contribute from its own funds or fundraising.

For the past several years as Dane County has been attempting to site and open a permanent day resource center, Dane County and the City of Madison have been collaborating on interim day services to address the needs that are unmet due to the lack of a permanent day resource center. These unmet needs include access to day shelter space, laundry, personal storage, case management, and van transportation to these services offered at scattered sites. These interim services were not intended to continue at these scattered sites once the permanent comprehensive day resource center opened because the services would then be located at the permanent comprehensive day resource center. Porchlight, Inc., has repeatedly represented that it would not continue to operate the Hospitality House once the permanent comprehensive day resource center opens. The funding for these services is reflected in the 2016 budgets for Dane County and the City of Madison and is available to be redirected and consolidated in 2017, when the permanent day resource center is planned to open. Consolidating these funding lines to operations for the permanent day resource center would enable Dane County to release funding commitments at least equal to the amount needed to fully fund operations for a comprehensive day resource center, closing the \$117,398 funding gap and allowing an operator to offer competitive salaries to staff.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in 2017 Dane County plan to consolidate funding for the operation of its permanent comprehensive day resource center by redirecting funding totaling \$112,864 that currently funds services at Bethel Lutheran (\$80,560) and Hospitality House day center operated by Porchlight, Inc. (\$7,324) and van transportation operated by Porchlight (\$25,000);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Dane County commits to adding a long-term personal storage program to the day resource center concept to offer homeless persons a place to store smaller personal items

48 including winter coats and sleeping gear, but not furniture, which they can access during the day resource
49 center hours of operation;

50

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Dane County requests the City of Madison to commit to adding to their
52 annual permanent day resource center commitment by redirecting funding of at least \$57,000 in interim
53 homeless services, currently supporting laundry, personal storage, and van transportation, to support
54 those services at the comprehensive day resource center;

55

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Dane County requests that the coordinated intake program funded by
57 the City of Madison at approximately \$145,000 operate out of the comprehensive day resource center;

58

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that until such time as the comprehensive day resource center opens,
60 which is currently planned for July 2017, permanent comprehensive day resource center operations
61 funding should be used to provide interim services to the homeless in collaboration with the City of
62 Madison and homeless services providers;

63

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Dane County encourages potential comprehensive day resource
65 center operators and RFP respondents to pursue additional resources, private funding commitments, and
66 in-kind contributions from partner agencies, to enhance the operations plan, attract highly-qualified staff,
67 and offer a comprehensive range of services and programs;

68

69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Dane County should explore ways to incentivize the comprehensive
70 day resource center operator to successfully obtain funding from other sources; and

71

72 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that any future RFP issued for the operations of the comprehensive day
73 resource center reflect that the County and its partners are committed to funding the base level of
74 operations at the permanent day resource center.

75

76