

**AUTHORIZING FUNDING FOR EXTENSIONS OF NON-CONGREGATE SHELTER AND AMENDING A CONTRACT 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.

More than \$6.5 million in ARP funding was approved in the 2022 Dane County Budget to assist with non-congregate sheltering efforts for people experiencing homelessness. This initial allocation assumed a non-congregate shelter end date of June 30<sup>th</sup>. Additional funding is required to provide non-congregate shelter and related post-program supports through September 30, 2022, and isolation and quarantine shelter through February 28, 2023.

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.

The Dane County Department of Human Services – Housing Access and Affordability Division (HAA) requests \$3,123,950 in additional funding to continue non-congregate shelter for people experiencing homelessness who are at higher risk of severe illness if they contract COVID-19 and quarantine shelter programs for people experiencing homelessness who are symptomatic/positive for COVID-19 or a close contact for a positive COVID-19 case, and to continue non-congregate shelter for people experiencing homelessness who are at higher risk of severe illness if they contract COVID-19.

The Dane County Department of Human Services – Housing Access and Affordability Division (HAA) also requests \$700,000 of that total to amend an existing contract with Equitable Social Solutions, LLC (EQUUS) to provide on-site services for non-congregate hotels shelter and payment of hotel room costs associated with the program.

Duplication of Funding/Existing Partnerships and Programs: 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.

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.

52 **Expected Outcomes and Data Collection**

53 **Non-Congregate Hotel Shelter**

54 Expected program outcomes include the provision of safe, non-congregate shelter for people  
55 experiencing homelessness who are at higher risk of severe illness if they contract COVID-19.  
56 Guests will receive information on how to limit their exposure to COVID-19, receive the COVID-  
57 19 vaccine, and make connections to community supports such as housing, employment, medical  
58 care, economic assistance programs, or other needs identified by the shelter guest.

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

61 **Isolation/Quarantine Program**

62 Expected program outcomes include the safe recovery and discharge of people who are positive  
63 for COVID-19, and safe shelter and discharge of people who need to quarantine due to symptoms  
64 prior to test results or due to being a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case. The average  
65 number of people served by this program at any given time fluctuates based on COVID-19 spread  
66 at any given time. More than 110 people were served at one time during the pandemic's peak in  
67 the fall/winter of 2021/2022, and early during the Spring of 2022 fewer than 10 people were served  
68 at any given time.

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

71 **BE IT RESOVLED**, that account 80000 81367 ARP REVENUES be increased by \$3,123,950  
72 and that account 80000 30026 ARP EXPENSES be increased by \$3,123,950 and accounts  
73 ADMADM 21873 "Pandemic Response-ARP" and ADMADM 81367 "ARP Revenues" be  
74 decreased by \$830,000.  
75

76 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the following contract be increased \$700,000 (term of July  
77 1, 2022 – September 30, 2022) and that the County Executive and County Clerk are hereby  
78 authorized and directed to sign the agreement on behalf of Dane County, and that the Controller  
79 is authorized to make payments related to the execution of the amendment.

80 <u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amendment Amount</u>
81 Equitable Social Solutions, LLC	\$700,000

82 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the County Board requests quarterly reports be shared with  
83 the members of the County Board, and that the Health and Human Needs Committee review  
84 the reports on a quarterly basis and discuss how the information presented addresses  
85 anticipated program outcomes.

86 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that unspent funds from 2022 be carried  
87 forward for expenditure in 2023.