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**2020 RES-424**

**AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH  
DANE BUY LOCAL FOUNDATION, INC. FOR AN EMERGENCY  
SMALL BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAM  
DCDHS – HAA DIVISION**

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted small businesses. Some of the industries that have been hardest hit include restaurants, retail, gyms/fitness facilities, and the service industry.

In March President Biden signed the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan authorizing historic investments to respond to and recover from the pandemic across multiple areas of need. The act includes \$50 billion in funding to support small businesses. Dane County is poised to receive over \$50 million in funding for 2021 through the bill. One of the clearly stated intents of this funding is to provide assistance to individuals and businesses impacted by the pandemic. Continuing to provide a bridge to help Dane County's small businesses until that federal support comes online is critical.

In January of 2021, \$4 million in additional CARES emergency small business grant funding was made available to local businesses hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic through a contract with Dane Buy Local (DBL). When the application for these funds closed in February, DBL had received more than \$51 million dollars in requests for assistance from Dane County businesses.

To help address this continued need, the Dane County Department of Human Services (DCDHS) Housing Access and Affordability (HAA) seeks to contract with Dane Buy Local Foundation Inc. in the amount of \$15 million dollars to allow DBL to continue to administer an emergency small business grant program as a bridge to future federal assistance.

In 2020, Dane Buy Local Foundation Inc. provided this service following Dane County's first federal CARES allocation, administering an over \$10.6 million emergency small business grant program that awarded funds to 2,692 local businesses. Of that number, 25% of the total funding was awarded to business owners of color, and 57% to women business owners. Businesses with a mailing address inside the City of Madison received 54.4% of the funds, and businesses with a mailing address outside the City of Madison received 45.6% of the funds.

To be eligible for the funding, a business must be for-profit, independently owned, and have a main office based in Dane County. Funding for the grant will be prioritized for businesses which have demonstrated a current financial need to save or pivot their business in order to provide services throughout 2021, such as restaurants, retail, gyms/fitness facilities, independent contractors (hair stylists, auto mechanics, etc.), the service industry, and start-up businesses in operation prior to March 15, 2020. Applications from other businesses will be considered on a case by case basis as available funding allows.

Up to 1.2% of the total is available for Dane Buy Local Foundation, Inc. to administer the program. Dane Buy Local will partner with the Latino Chamber of Commerce and Madison's Black Chamber of Commerce as well as the Wisconsin Women's Business

52 Initiative Corporation to identify local businesses to receive the grants. The minimum  
53 grant amount available will be \$1,000 and the maximum grant amount available will be  
54 \$50,000.

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56 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the County Board approves a contract in  
57 the amount of \$15,000,000 with Dane Buy Local Foundation Inc. and;

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59 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the following revenue account be added to the  
60 Housing Access and Affordability Division of the Dane County Department of Human  
61 Services and that the revenue increase be credited to the County General Fund and  
62 transferred from the General Fund to the following expenditure account in the  
63 Department of Human Services:

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65 Revenue

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
80000 NEW	ARP Revenue	\$15,000,000

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Total Revenue: \$15,000,000

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72 Expenditure

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Title</u>	<u>Amount</u>
8000 NEW	ARP Business Assistance	\$15,000,000

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Total Expenditure: \$15,000,000

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79 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the following contract awarded and that the County  
80 Executive and the County Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to sign the  
81 agreement on behalf of Dane County, and that the Controller is authorized to issue  
82 checks for payment of contract services.

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84 Vendor

Dane Buy Local Foundation, Inc.	\$15,000,000
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