

**RESOLUTION****ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Katherine Luster  
INITIATED BY



1/4/2023  
DATE DRAFTED

**Awarding \$1,634,310 in ARPA Funds for Homeless Services Matching Grant Initiatives**

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2022, the Rock County Board of Supervisors passed resolution 22-3A-452 allocating \$3,000,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to implement a matching grant program to encourage the development of initiatives by local non-profit organizations and other local municipalities to address challenges related to homelessness; and,

**WHEREAS**, the resolution directed that the grant program would be overseen by the Homelessness Prevention Coordinator in the Human Services Department; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Homelessness Prevention Coordinator advertised the opportunity and solicited applications for funding from community organizations and municipalities in Rock County resulting in the submissions of 10 applications; and,

**WHEREAS**, an application review committee was formed comprised of individuals with subject matter expertise and leadership roles including: the Homelessness Prevention Coordinator, Director of Human Services, Human Services Deputy Director, Director of Planning and Development, Human Services Board Chair, Coordinator of Prevention and Community Engagement, and the Director of a Shelter and Homelessness Services agency from a neighboring County; and,

**WHEREAS**, the review committee evaluated applications according to a scoring rubric which assessed project goals and alignment with funding criteria, relevance of projects in reducing homelessness in Rock County, defined measurable outcomes, project budget, compliance with matching funds requirements, attention to equity for individuals experiencing homelessness, sustainability of the project; and,

**WHEREAS**, the review committee approved applications and recommends funding for the following entities and amounts: City of Janesville (\$891,880), ECHO (\$25,000), Safe Families for Children (\$38,750), Project 16:49 (\$84,170), Beloit Cares (\$5,000), House of Mercy (\$101,930), Red Roadhouse (\$196,000), Janesville Mobilizing 4 Change (\$61,420), Youth to Youth 4 Change (\$50,000), Family Promise of Greater Beloit (\$180,160) for a total amount of \$1,634,310; and,

**WHEREAS**, upon authorization, the Human Services Department will initiate contracts with each awardee, which will specify the terms of use of the awarded funds and define quarterly reporting requirements on project tasks, spending, and outcomes, which will be monitored by the Homelessness Prevention Coordinator.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this 12th day of January, 2023 hereby authorizes the release of \$1,634,310 of American Rescue Plan Act funds to Homelessness Services Matching Grant Program applicants per the recommendations of the application review committee.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors authorizes the Human Services Department to enter into a contract with each funding recipient.

**FISCAL NOTE:**

The funding for these contracts is from ARPA funds that were set aside for this purpose.

Sherry Oja

Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 59.01 & 46.23. Pursuant to RCCO § 2.223(6), Human Services contracts for the purchase of client services of \$200,000 or more must be approved by the County Board.

Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

Josh Smith  
County Administrator

**Committee Action**

Human Services Board

Human Services Board recommended this resolution for approval by a unanimous voice vote. Supervisor Podzilni and Citizen Representative Reyes were absent.

## Executive Summary

### **Awarding \$1,634,310 in ARPA Funds for Homeless Services Matching Grant Initiatives**

This resolution authorizes the release of a total of \$1,634,310 million dollars in ARPA funding to one municipality and nine agencies through a Matching Grant program for Community initiatives to combat homelessness.

On March 10, 2022, the Rock County Board of Supervisors passed resolution 22-3A-452 allocating \$3,000,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to implement a matching grant program to encourage the development of initiatives by local non-profit organizations and other local municipalities to address challenges related to homelessness and directed that the grant program would be overseen by the Homelessness Prevention Coordinator in the Human Services Department. The resolution also directed that Rock County ARPA funds must be matched at \$1.00 ARPA funds for every \$1.00 provided through private, nongovernmental agencies and local municipalities with populations under 8,000, and a match of Rock County ARPA funds in the amount of \$1.00 for every \$4.00 provided by local municipalities with a population over 8,000.

The Homelessness Prevention Coordinator advertised the opportunity and solicited applications for funding from community organizations and municipalities in Rock County resulting in the submissions of 10 qualifying applications. An application review committee was formed comprised of individuals with subject matter expertise and leadership roles including: the Homelessness Prevention Coordinator, the Director of Human Services, the Director of Planning and Development, Human Services Deputy Director, the Human Services Board Chair, the Coordinator of Prevention and Community Engagement, and the Director of a shelter and homelessness services agency from a neighboring County. This review committee evaluated applications according to a scoring rubric which assessed project goals and alignment with funding criteria, relevance of projects in reducing homelessness in Rock County, defined measurable outcomes, project budget, compliance with matching funds requirements, attention to equity for individuals experiencing homelessness, and sustainability of the project. The committee recommends funding the proposals from the ten applicants which are listed in the summary table below.

Upon authorization from the County Board, the Human Services Department will initiate contracts with each awardee. The contracts will specify the terms of use of the awarded funds and define quarterly reporting requirements on project tasks, spending, and outcomes, which will be monitored by the Homelessness Prevention Coordinator.

<u>Organization/ Municipality</u>	<u>Project Summary</u>	<u>ARPA amount requested</u>
City of Janesville	<b><i>Coming Home-Janesville</i></b> Creation of 120 affordable new units located in city of Janesville with supportive services from local organizations for the homeless.	<b>\$891,880</b>
ECHO	<b><i>Emergency Lodging Program</i></b> Expansion of current motel housing vouchers for limited period. Each household is paired with Client Advocate to establish self-sufficiency recovery plan and continued case management.	<b>\$25,000</b>
Project 16:49	<b><i>Youth Homeless Demo Program-Building Permanent Connections</i></b> Hiring Outreach Specialist to work with schools and community sites to establish drop-in hours services for homeless youth. One location per community in Rock County with life skills workshops and groups for homeless youth.	<b>\$84,170</b>
Beloit Cares	<b><i>Community Partners Hotel Vouchers Fund &amp; Shower Fund</i></b> Expansion of current hotel vouchers and shower vouchers program for survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking, plus Beloit School District families in need.	<b>\$5,000</b>
Mercy/House of Mercy	<b><i>House of Mercy Housing Specialist</i></b> Hiring Housing Specialist for House of Mercy shelter to provide referrals for alternative housing arrangements and appropriate services	<b>\$101,930</b>
Red Road House	<b><i>The Red Road is a Road to Recovery</i></b> Program provides rent free housing for chronically homeless individuals during substance use recovery. Development of individual's recovery plan with supportive services and transportation to medical appointments, court, and probation.	<b>\$196,000</b>
Janesville Mobilizing 4 Change	<b><i>Project Hope (Homeless Outreach Prevention Efforts)</i></b> Homeless Program targeted at providing training sessions at Hedberg Library on different topics related to homelessness and providing hotel vouchers for 10 households for emergency assistance.	<b>\$61,420</b>
Youth to Youth 4 Change	<b><i>Bags of Hope</i></b> Expansion of Current hygiene bag program in Beloit distributing laundry supplies, blanket, sleeping bag, tarp, and hygiene products in backpack. Additionally, hiring Program Coordinator for project working 5 hours weekly.	<b>\$50,000</b>
Family Promise of Greater Beloit	<b><i>Emergency Shelter Expansion</i></b> Expand shelter case management staff to increase services and bed capacity at Family Promise of Greater Beloit emergency shelter from 6 families to 9 families.	<b>\$180,160</b>
Safe Families for Children -WI	<b><i>Expanding Social Services in Rock County</i></b> Provide stable shelter for children while parents restore stability. Parents voluntarily place children while parents receive wrap around services. In additional to increase referral sources and volunteer support network with host families and family coaches.	<b>\$38,750</b>
<b>TOTAL ARPA funds requested</b>		<b>\$1,634,310</b>