RE: AUTHORIZING RESOURCES TO BETTER SERVE LA CROSSE COUNTY’S OLDER ADULTS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

WHEREAS, the state of Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) Division of Public Health provides $920,014 annually to La Crosse County for services provided by the Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) as authorized under Wisconsin Statute 46.283 and subject to the requirements contained in Chapter DHS 10 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code; and,

WHEREAS, ADRCs support the fastest growing demographics of our state’s population through services that include but are not limited to: information and assistance; benefits counseling; coordination of short-term services; access to publicly funded long-term care programs and services; transitional services for students and youth; health promotion and early intervention services; and dementia care services; and

WHEREAS, the number of individuals in La Crosse County who are age 65 and older is expected to double by the year 2040 and according to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey, currently one-third of households in La Crosse County house one or more individuals 60 years of age or older and one-fourth house one or more individuals 65 years of age or older; and

WHEREAS, the number of adults with disabilities age 18 and older in La Crosse County is 12,954 and according to the U.S. Bureau of the Census, this number is also expected to increase; and

WHEREAS, while only serving approximately 20 percent of La Crosse County’s total population of older adults and individuals with disabilities, caseloads for ADRC workers remain significantly higher than the state average, with each ADRC Professional serving approximately 50-60 individuals monthly; and

WHEREAS, additional supervisory and professional staff is needed to keep pace with the ADRC workload due to a combination of current service needs, the growing complexity of cases, state mandates increasing the time to complete work, La Crosse County’s obligation under the ADRC Contract Scope of Services (which includes outreach and has increasingly emphasized caregiver support and health promotion, prevention and early intervention services) and to strategically plan and work with the community to meet ongoing and future needs of the growing Elder Adult and disabled population; and

WHEREAS, adding an Economic Support (ES) Specialist position to embed within the ADRC for the purpose of assisting ADRC customers to apply for Medicaid will streamline the process for enrollment into long term care programs like Family Care and significantly improve customer service by increasing face-to-face assistance and the ability to take care of needs in one stop; and

WHEREAS, the costs for all of the positions added in this resolution will be fully covered by state and federal revenues for the remainder of 2021, with expected increases to La Crosse County’s ADRC allocation due to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allowing sustainability for years to come.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors authorize the addition of 1.0 FTE Human Services/ADRC Supervisor, 1.0 FTE ADRC Professional, and 1.0 FTE ES Specialist, effective August 20, 2021, to adequately support current and future needs of the ADRC.

FISCAL NOTE: The cost of an additional ADRC Supervisor is estimated to be approximately $35,682 for the last 4.5 months of 2021. It is expected that 100 percent of these costs will be covered through state and federal grant funding. The cost of an additional ADRC Professional is estimated to be approximately $28,912 for the last 4.5 months of 2021. It is expected that 100 percent of these costs will be covered through state and federal grant funding. The cost of an additional ES Specialist is estimated to be approximately $24,024 for the last 4.5 months of 2021. It is expected that 100 percent of these costs will be covered through state and federal grant funding. The operating costs will be tracked under the 255.650.1000 and 230.600.1000 divisions within the County financial system.

Date: 8/10/21

COMMITTEE CHAIR

RECORDING CLERK

Reviewed
Only
Recommended
Not
Recommended
Requested By: Jason Witt
Date Requested: 07/29/2021
Drafted By: Corporation Counsel

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 19 Day of August, 2021

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE
I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 19th day of August 2021:

Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk