



RESOLUTION # 15-8/22

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

As Amended

ITEM # 8-11

BOARD ACTION

Adopted:
For: 25
Against: 5
Abstain: _____
Abs/Excd: 0
Vote Req: Majority
Other Action: _____

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION

Adopted:
For: 8
Against: 0
Abstain: 0
Abs/Excd: 1

RE: APPROVING THE EXPENDITURE OF UP TO \$50,000 OF ARPA FUNDS FOR FURTHER STUDY OF CHILDCARE NEEDS IN LA CROSSE COUNTY

WHEREAS, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021, a \$1.9 trillion emergency legislative package to provide the resources needed to address the ongoing COVID-19 public health crisis and spur a strong economic recovery, into law on March 11, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, components of the act included \$242 billion in economic impact payments to individuals and families, an increase and expansion of the Child Tax Credit, \$10 billion for states, territories and Tribes to cover the cost of capital projects, \$21.6 billion for states, territories and local governments to assist households that are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 crisis, \$10 billion to state and Tribal governments to fund small business credit expansion initiatives, and \$350 billion in emergency funding for state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments to remedy the mismatch between rising costs and falling revenues; and,

WHEREAS, La Crosse County was allocated \$22.89 million, with \$11.445 million received in June 2021 and the second allotment to be received in 2022; and,

WHEREAS, the La Crosse County Board has authorized \$705,950 for COVID related expenditures in 2021 as described in Resolution #44-12-21, and approved the allocation of \$22,225,000 for future disbursement to eight (8) program areas as described in Resolution #55-1-22, including \$3,300,000 for "New or expanded high-quality childcare: Childcare Neighborhood Model"; and

WHEREAS, since that time the La Crosse County Board has heard several proposals including proposals from the School District of La Crosse and from a coalition of private and non-profit childcare providers; and

WHEREAS, although there has been written communication and presentations to the Board from multiple stakeholders there are significant questions about which, if any, of these proposals would best address the identified issues related to the provision and availability of childcare in the County; and

WHEREAS, it seems unlikely that these questions will be able to be fully addressed or answered in the context of further Board meetings or hearings; and

WHEREAS, the County does not have any employee on staff with the time or expertise to fully study this issue; and

WHEREAS, a neutral, independent review of all current proposals as well as any new initiatives would assist the Board in making decisions about the expenditure of reserved funds;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, ^{*UW-Extension will*} ~~that an RFI (Request for Information) shall be released to seek a qualified individual or entity to study and propose a plan to address the needs of the childcare industry in La Crosse County; and~~

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, ~~that after the review of any received proposals, up to \$50,000 of the \$3,300,000 of ARPA funds reserved for childcare may be used to compensate any entity or individual retained to develop such a plan; and~~ *Pay for any necessary expenses*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this study shall include input from public and private (non-profit and for profit) stakeholders and the proposed plan shall be reported back to the full board with recommendations for the best use of available ARPA funds related to this priority area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Executive Committee will monitor the study and provide interim reports to the Board as determined by the Board.

FISCAL NOTE: The cost of up to \$50,000 will be spent from the \$3,300,000 childcare APRA allocation. Costs will be tracked in division 295.770.3744 within the County financial system, Account 60400.01 Contracted Services.

Date: 8/10/22
Chair Kruse
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Date: 8-10-22
RTK
RECORDING CLERK

	Reviewed Only	Recommended	Not Recommended	
Co. Admin.	<u><i>JK</i></u>	<u><i>JK</i></u>	<u> </u>	Requested By: Chair Kruse
Fin. Director	<u><i>JK</i></u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Date Requested: August 4, 2022
Corp. Counsel	<u><i>JK</i></u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Drafted By: Corporation Counsel
Board Chair	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 18 Day of August, 2022

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 18th day of August 2022.

Ginny Dankmeyer
Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk