



RESOLUTION # 15-8/23

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

ITEM # 8-10

BOARD ACTION

Adopted:
For: 29
Against: 0
Abstain: 0
Abs/Excd: 1
Vote Req: -
Other Action: -

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION

Adopted:
For: 7
Against: 1
Abstain: 0
Abs/Excd: 1

RE: APPROVE USE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDING FOR GRANTS FOR CHILD CARE PROJECTS

WHEREAS, La Crosse County was allocated \$22,923,224 through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which must be obligated by the end of 2024 and spent by the end of 2026; and,

WHEREAS, the County Board has reserved funding for eight project priority areas as outlined in Resolution #55-1/22, including \$3.3 million for a child care neighborhood model; and,

WHEREAS, at the February 2023 meeting, the County Board reiterated its support for a child care grant project; and,

WHEREAS, proposed plans to redevelop Hillview Healthcare Center include an intergenerational day center, a community based residential treatment facility, housing, and crisis beds for individuals with dementia that require additional funding; and,

WHEREAS, the 2023 – 2025 state biennial budget discontinues the Child care Counts program that has, as of June 2023, made \$15,721,615 in payments to providers in La Crosse County through programs designed to stabilize the sector by increasing wages and benefits which was launched with federal support in 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the scale of spending by the state to support the sector demonstrates that long-term direct payments to providers by La Crosse County would not be sustainable; and,

WHEREAS, La Crosse county recognizes that other factors impact providers, such as access to capital to fund improvement projects that may allow for increased quantity or quality of services; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed capital grant program is designed to fund these capital improvement projects up to \$25,000 that may allow providers to increase capacity and would cover spending on learning materials, furniture, outdoor equipment and landscaping, fencing, structural remodeling, education courses, computer hardware or other office equipment, business software, food preparation and storage materials, training or one year of liability insurance; and,

WHEREAS, should applications exceed the allocated amount, preference would be given to providers in underserved areas outside the City of La Crosse; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the La Crosse County Board hereby approves the allocation of \$500,000 of American Rescue Plan Act dollars as reserved in Resolution #55-1/22 for projects that meet the requirements outlined in the grant application, which include grant use, amount required, and follow-up detailing the impact of the grant; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the community development specialist and UW Extension community development educator will lead the grant process, with final grant approval from the Economic Development Fund; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator, County Board Chair, Finance Director and County Clerk are authorized to take all appropriate actions to effectuate the purpose of this resolution subject to approval as to form by the County Corporation Counsel; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Committee shall serve as the oversight committee for approving funding for child care projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if funds are not obligated to child care projects by June of 2024, the County Board may reallocate the remaining funds to another American Rescue Plan Act eligible use of funds.

FISCAL NOTE: Costs up to \$500,000 will be tracked in division 295.770.3744 within the County financial system, Account 60300.04.

Date: 8-9-2023

Kevin Cahle
COMMITTEE CHAIR

Date: 8-9-23

ETK
RECORDING CLERK

	Reviewed Only	Recommended	Not Recommended	
Co. Admin.	_____	_____	_____	Requested By: Jane Klekamp Date Requested: July 26, 2023 Drafted By: Jane Klekamp
Fin. Director	<u><i>[Signature]</i></u>	_____	_____	
Corp. Counsel	_____	_____	_____	
Board Chair	_____	_____	_____	

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 17 Day of August, 2023

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 17th day of August 2023.

[Signature]
Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk