

**RESOLUTION**

**ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Yuri Rashkin  
INITIATED BY



12/22/2021  
DATE DRAFTED

**Allocating American Rescue Plan Funding to Community Health Systems to Expand Behavioral Health Services in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on disadvantaged populations, including those who are uninsured and underinsured; and,

**WHEREAS**, mental health has been negatively impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, Community Health Systems, Inc., in Beloit is a nonprofit, Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) that provides services to those who lack access to health care, especially low-income individuals who are uninsured, on Medicaid or Medicare, or who have private insurance but limited means to pay for quality health care; and

**WHEREAS**, in the most recent County health rankings, Rock County is the lowest quartile for both health outcomes and health factors; and

**WHEREAS**, the Rock County Public Health Department recognizes access to quality healthcare services as a social determinant of health and recognizes that established, well-known, health care providers, such as Community Health Systems, are key partners in improving health outcomes; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Rock County Human Services Department has partnered with Community Health Systems to support the capacity for and provision of quality behavioral health services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Health Equity Alliance of Rock County (HEAR) has identified Mental Health and Access to Care as priorities for improving the health of people who reside in Rock County; and

**WHEREAS**, due to increasing demand, Community Health Systems has increased its staff over the past two years from four clinicians and one psychiatric provider to eleven clinicians and three psychiatric providers, in addition to new support staff, and has only been able to provide increased services through virtual telehealth due to physical space limitations; and

**WHEREAS**, Community Health Systems would like to physically expand its facilities to be able to increase the group and individual behavioral health services it is able to provide to clients; and

**WHEREAS**, Community Health Systems is working with a contractor on this project and has secured other private funding to support a portion of this expansion; and

**WHEREAS**, providing these one-time funds is consistent with the allowable uses of ARPA and both addresses an immediate need in the community and provides a long-term investment in behavioral health services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this 13th day of January, 2022, does hereby allocate \$350,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to Community Health Systems, Inc., to expand its facilities in order to provide increased space for the provision of behavioral health services..

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the 2022 Rock County budget be amended as follows:

<b>Account</b>	<b>Budget 1/1/2022</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>Amended Budget</b>
----------------	----------------------------	--------------------------------	-----------------------

Source of Funds 19-1980-0000-42100 ARPA Funding	\$10,739,760	\$350,000	\$11,089,760
Use of Funds 19-1980-1102-64604 Program Expenses	-0-	\$350,000	\$350,000

**FISCAL NOTE:**

Community Health Systems, Inc is requesting \$350,000 from the County's ARPA allocation. No other County funding is being requested.

/s/ Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

**LEGAL NOTE:**

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to §§ 59.01 and 59.51, Wis. Stats. As an amendment to the adopted 2022 County Budget, this Resolution requires a 2/3 vote of the entire membership of the County Board pursuant to sec. 65.90(5)(a), Wis. Stats.

s/Bridget Laurent

Bridget Laurent  
Deputy Corporation Counsel

**ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:**

Using ARPA dollars for this project would be an appropriate use of funding.

/s/Josh Smith

Josh Smith  
County Administrator

**Committee Action**

**Board of Health**

The Board of Health recommended this resolution for approval by a unanimous voice vote.

**Finance Committee**

Finance Committee recommended this resolution for approval by a unanimous voice vote.