

2018 RES-274

**AWARDING A CONTRACT TO THE HMONG INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES  
DCDHS ADMINISTRATION DIVISION**

In August, Journey Mental Health Center informed the staff at Kajsiab House they would be closing the community center at the end of September. As a result of the impending news, the Hmong and Cambodian community were forced to reach out to the community at large for support.

Members of the Kajsiab House community bravely told their story to the County Board and the City Council, and asked for emergency assistance to continue the community services, as well as assistance in finding a new home. After many conversations with many entities and organizations, an emergency home was found by the leaders of the Hmong community at the Catholic Multicultural Center.

The Catholic Multicultural Center (CMC) will insure many of the community services can continue by providing community space for community meals, case management, programming, support groups, family support and referral services. This evidence based model of wrap around services in a community setting is how the Kajsiab House community seeks to continue. The space will be open to the Hmong and Cambodian community five days a week. In addition, CMC has offered to provide access to the food pantry, computer lab, language classes and citizenship classes if necessary.

The Catholic Multicultural Center is a place where the community is welcome and safe, and CMC respects the Kajsiab House community's need for hope and autonomy during this transition and into the future.

While the members of the Kajsiab House have had to face new trauma as a result of this situation, they worked diligently to find new partners and prepare for the transition.

The Madison City Council and many individual members of the community have stepped up with funding to keep these services available through this year. Many organizations such as United Way of Dane County have also provided support during this time.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVED** that a new expenditure account be added to the ADMIN section of the Department of Human Services.

<b>Expenditure Account Number</b>	<b>Account Title</b>	<b>Amount</b>
HSADMIN HCSFAA (new)	Hmong and Cambodian Services Fund	\$40,000

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that Dane County immediately enter into a contract with the Hmong Institute in the amount of \$40,000 for community services such as staff, food and programming to be utilized in 2018.