

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY MICHIGAN,
Your County Administration Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Avenue Family Network, Inc. has historically received annual funding from Berrien County in the form of an appropriation for operating the West Michigan Guardianship (WMG) program; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the Berrien County Board of Commissioners authorized the replacement of the annual appropriation with a service contract in order to comply with local government accounting standards; and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2018, the Board approved resolution #A1803182 which allocated an annual amount for their services as well as a 3-year contract which expired on September 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, via Resolution #A2009320, Berrien County renewed a one-year agreement with the Avenue Family Network, Inc. and provided the amount of \$24,693.49 which was included in the FY2022 budget; and

WHEREAS, during the most recent audit period, there were 218 unduplicated residents of Berrien County receiving WMG services, of which 107 received services ordered by the Berrien County Trial Court, and of these, many were unable to pay the fees for the services because of low income, resulting in unpaid fees of \$19,148; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue to provide service that improves or maintains a better quality of life, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to our most vulnerable residents, this continued additional funding is necessary; and

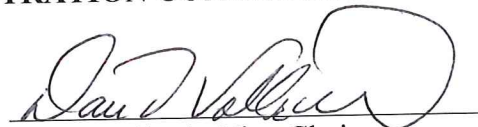
WHEREAS, following a presentation by representatives of West Michigan Guardianship at the April 14, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting, the Board of Commissioners expressed an interest in continuing this funding in the form of a 3-year agreement equaling \$25,187.36 for 2023. \$25,691.11 for 2024, and \$26,204.93 for 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chairperson to sign the Agreement for services between the Avenue Family Network, Inc. and Berrien County which will cover the period from the effective date of this resolution through September 30, 2025 in the amount for the first year of the agreement of \$25,187.36, and increases of 2% each year following for a total of three years.


Respectfully submitted,
BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE



Jim Curran, Chairperson



David Vollrath, Vice-Chairperson



Don Meeks



Julie Wuerfel