

Lee, Chris

From: noreply@granicusideas.com
Sent: Friday, March 28, 2025 5:33 PM
To: Lee, Chris
Subject: New eComment for FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE on 2025-03-31 9:00 AM - Special

[The City of Milwaukee, WI](#)

New eComment for FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE on 2025-03-31 9:00 AM - Special

Tara Kniep submitted a new eComment.

Meeting: FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE on 2025-03-31 9:00 AM - Special

Item: 7. 241394 Substitute resolution directing the City Clerk to expend from the resources reserved in the Council-Led Transfer Fund.

eComment: My name is Tara Kniep, Director of Operations for the Milwaukee Justice Center, and I am writing to provide information about the MJC and its Family Forms Clinics. As the “self-help” center in the Milwaukee County Courthouse, our programming aims to remove substantive and procedural barriers to self-representation. Our programs assist more than 8,000 Milwaukee neighbors annually, from a wide range of backgrounds and life circumstances. The bulk of the MJC’s services are provided in its Family Forms Clinic, which helps clients translate “legalese” and navigate procedural barriers to filing for divorce; modifying child custody, placement, or support; name changes; and more. We recently held two clinics dedicated specifically to name changes, during which we helped nearly 100 people complete the necessary paperwork. We estimate that these clinics cost \$6,000-\$7,000 each, not including the cost of already-existing infrastructure or the filing and publication costs incurred by our clients. This support from the City of Milwaukee would allow us to expand our services, so that we can reach a greater number of people and make a lasting impact on their lives and our community.

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