

**Strategic Program Area 2: Historical Society**

Service Provision: **Discretionary**

<b>How We Do It: Program Budget Summary</b>					
<b>Category</b>	<b>2018 Actual</b>	<b>2019 Actual</b>	<b>2020 Budget</b>	<b>2021 Budget</b>	<b>2021/2020 Variance</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	\$308,721	\$258,105	\$258,105	\$258,105	\$ 0
<b>Revenues</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 0
<b>Tax Levy</b>	\$308,721	\$258,105	\$258,105	\$258,105	\$ 0

<b>What We Do With It: Activity Data</b>				
<b>Activity</b>	<b>2018 Actual</b>	<b>2019 Actual</b>	<b>2020 Target</b>	<b>2021 Target</b>
Attendance-Public (General)	8,000*	7,629	9,000	9,000
Attendance-Public (Programming)	4,000*	8,567	5,000	5,000
Attendance-Other	2,500*	2,636	4,000	4,000
Research Requests	4,400	4,271	5,000	5,000

<b>How Well We Do It: Performance Measures</b>				
<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>2018 Actual</b>	<b>2019 Actual</b>	<b>2020 Target</b>	<b>2021 Target</b>
Annual % Increase in Patron Usage of MCHS Resource Material	-5%*	-3%*	6%	5%**
Annual % Increase in Overall Attendance (for all MCHS Operated Facilities)	-25%*	25%*	3%	5%**

*\*Due to construction on outside cornice, attendance has been impacted 2017-2019.*

*2021 Targets are a goal and may change throughout the year as the MCHS better understands the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on our 2020 Target/Actuals.*

**Strategic Overview:**

The Milwaukee County Historical Society (MCHS) was founded as a service provider to the County and continues to serve in this role by preserving and making accessible historic County records. Through the research library, people can access essential vital records including documents that prove relationships or verify citizenship. As a cultural organization, MCHS offers exhibits, programs and special events, educational field trips and school visits, and more.

As directed by the Board of Supervisors and County Administration, the MCHS continues to evaluate and improve operations to achieve the highest levels of efficiency.

*Notes of Operation:*

- Coronavirus Pandemic Impacts:
  - The MCHS was closed from March 14, 2020 through June 28, 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic. This closure had significant impacts on the MCHS finances and visitor numbers.

## CULTURAL CONTRIBUTIONS (1900) BUDGET

UNIT NO. 1900

Department: **Cultural Contributions**

FUND: **General — 0001**

- During the closure, the MCHS continued to carry out its mandate of making historical documents available to the public. Requests for vital documents were fulfilled during this time with no lapse in service.
- The long-term impact to the MCHS is unclear as the situation continues to unfold, however, the organization will continue to monitor its fiscal health moving forward.
- MCHS and Milwaukee County Parks Department are working on an operating agreement for Kilbourntown House in Estabrook Park. The MCHS will assume all responsibility except for mechanicals; an increased responsibility for MCHS.

### *Information about MCHS and Record Retention:*

The MCHS was founded to carry out the state statute of third-party record retention for Milwaukee County. Since 1935, the Society has served the county in this role by retaining and preserving documents such as naturalization records, civil court records, documents from elected officials, maps, etc. The MCHS is also a service provider to Milwaukee County due to its records retention and service role.

Beginning in 2020, the County will be transferring digital records to the MCHS for archival management. The first deposit housed at the MCHS includes unstable files/infrastructure. The MCHS intends to build infrastructure, begin the digital preservation process, and address the instability of these documents.