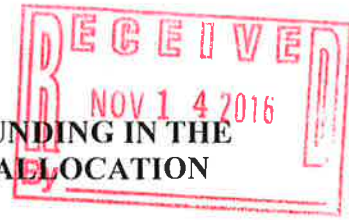


6

No. 2016/2017-



**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED FUNDING IN THE WISCONSIN CHILDREN AND FAMILY AIDS ALLOCATION**

TO THE MANITOWOC COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1 WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families provides funding to  
2 counties through the Children and Family Aids allocation for the provision of child abuse and  
3 neglect services, including prevention, investigation, treatment, and out-of-home placement costs;  
4 and  
5

6 WHEREAS, base funding for child welfare services has not increased since the Wisconsin  
7 Department of Children and Families was created in 2009; and  
8

9 WHEREAS, over the past few years, the child welfare workload has increased in all  
10 counties across the state; and  
11

12 WHEREAS, the number of child protective services (CPS) referrals in Wisconsin has  
13 increased by 30 percent since 2007 – from 55,895 referrals in 2007 to 72,698 in 2014; and  
14

15 WHEREAS, the number of children in out-of-home care in the state has increased from  
16 7,653 in 2011 to 8,258 in 2015; and  
17

18 WHEREAS, the number of screened-in CPS reports in the state has increased from 18,706  
19 in 2011 to 20,384 in 2015; and  
20

21 WHEREAS, the number of Children in Need of Protection and Services (CHIPS) petitions  
22 filed in the state with the court has increased 12.5 percent in the state from 2008 to 2015; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, Manitowoc County’s experience has been consistent with the foregoing state  
25 trends; and  
26

27 WHEREAS, the leading cause of these increases is the use of heroin, opiates, and  
28 methamphetamines by caregivers; and  
29

30 WHEREAS, it is critical that counties have the resources necessary to ensure the safety of  
31 children in every corner of the state; and  
32

33 WHEREAS, counties are struggling to recruit and retain child welfare workers; and  
34

35 WHEREAS, the stress of increasing caseloads is taking its toll on CPS workers, causing  
36 many experienced child welfare workers to leave the profession; and  
37

38 WHEREAS, counties are struggling to identify resources to increase child welfare staff,  
39 especially given the significant overmatch counties already contribute to the human services  
40 system;

41  
42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Manitowoc County Board of  
43 Supervisors does hereby request that the state of Wisconsin, in its 2017-19 state biennial budget,  
44 increase funding to counties in the Children and Family Aids allocation to assist counties in  
45 serving the increasing number of children and families in the child welfare system; and  
46

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Scott  
48 Walker, Department of Children and Families Secretary Eloise Anderson, Department of  
49 Administration Secretary Scott Neitzel, area legislators, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

Dated this 10th day of November 2016.

Respectfully submitted by the  
Human Services Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rick Henrikson, Chair

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

FISCAL NOTE: Reviewed and approved by Comptroller. \_\_\_\_\_

LEGAL NOTE: Reviewed and approved as to form by Corporation Counsel. 

I respect the prerogative of the members of the Manitowoc County Board of Supervisors to voice their opinions on legislative issues. Therefore, it is my practice to neither approve nor veto a legislative policy resolution that has been enacted by the County Board in order to allow the County Board, acting as the legislative branch of county government, to freely express its sentiment on legislative and public policy issues or to request action by a governmental entity, or both.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Ziegelbauer, County Executive

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date