

RESOLUTION
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Katherine Luster
INITIATED BY

Lance Horozewski
DRAFTED BY



Human Service Board
SUBMITTED BY

September 19, 2016
DATE DRAFTED

In Support of Increased Funding in the Children and Family Allocation (CFA)

- 1 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Children and Families provides funding to Rock County
- 2 through the Children and Family Allocation for the provision of child abuse and neglect
- 3 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 Department
- 7 of Children and Families was created in 2009; and,
- 8
- 9 **WHEREAS**, over the past few years, the child welfare workload has increased in Rock
- 10 County and throughout the state; and,
- 11
- 12 **WHEREAS**, the number of Rock County child protective services (CPS) referrals has
- 13 increased by 25 percent since 2011 – from 2,829 referrals in 2011 to 3,535 referrals in 2015;
- 14 and,
- 15
- 16 **WHEREAS**, the number of children in out-of-home care has increased 19 percent since 2011
- 17 from 165 children in care in 2011 to 197 children in care in 2015; and,
- 18
- 19 **WHEREAS**, the number of same day initial assessment responses has increased by 91
- 20 percent since 2014 from 94 same days in 2014 to 180 same days in 2016; and,
- 21
- 22 **WHEREAS**, the number of Children in Need of Protection and Services (CHIPS) petitions
- 23 filed with the court has increased 15 percent since 2011 from 111 petitions in 2011 to 128
- 24 petitions in 2015; and,
- 25
- 26 **WHEREAS**, Rock County is struggling to recruit and retain CPS social workers; and,
- 27
- 28 **WHEREAS**, the stress of increasing caseloads is taking its toll on CPS social workers,
- 29 causing many experienced CPS social workers to leave the profession; and,
- 30
- 31 **WHEREAS**, the leading cause of these increases is the use of heroin, opiates, and complex
- 32 mental health issues; and,
- 33
- 34 **WHEREAS**, it is critical that counties have the resources necessary to ensure the safety of
- 35 children; and,
- 36
- 37 **WHEREAS**, Rock County and counties throughout the state are struggling to identify
- 38 resources to increase child welfare staff, especially given the significant overmatch counties
- 39 already put in the human services system.
- 40
- 41 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors does
- 42 hereby request that the state of Wisconsin, in its 2017-19 state biennial budget, increase
- 43 funding to counties in the Children and Family Allocation to assist counties in serving the
- 44 increasing number of children and families in the child welfare system; and,
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- 46 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Scott
- 47 Walker, Department of Children and Families Secretary Eloise Anderson, Department of

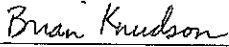
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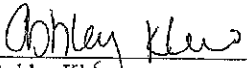
- 49 Administration Secretary Scott Neitzel, Rock County legislative delegation, and the
- 50 Wisconsin Counties Association.

Respectfully Submitted,

HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

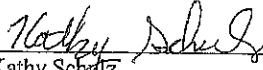


 Brian Knudson, Chair

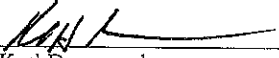


 Ashley Kleven

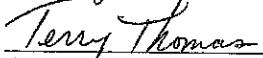
 Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Vice Chair



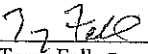
 Kathy Schultz



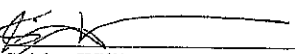
 Karl Dommershausen



 Terry Thomas



 Terry Fell



 Shirley Williams



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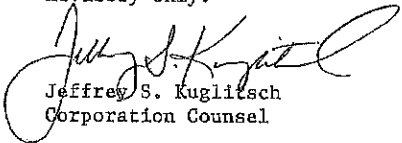
FISCAL NOTE:

This resolution is a request for additional children and family funding to be included in the next state budget.


 Sherry Oja
 Finance Director

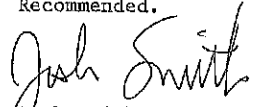
LEGAL NOTE:

Advisory only.


 Jeffrey S. Kuglitsch
 Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.


 Josh Smith
 County Administrator

CONTACT INFORMATION

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