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**RACINE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT RECEIVES
FAMILY FOUNDATIONS HOME VISITING GRANT**

Grant Supports Healthy Families and Healthy Children through Home Visiting Services

Racine – The Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) recently announced that Racine County Human Services Department (HSD) is a recipient of a Family Foundations Home Visiting Grant (FFHV) of \$901,921. This is the second time HSD has received this competitive grant. The FFHV grant works to strengthen and promote healthy families in Racine County by ensuring access to high quality home visiting services for families who want to improve their child’s health, nutrition and developmental outcomes.

“We are honored to have the opportunity to expand our scope of services in Racine County. We have a proven track record of successful outcomes and we’re excited to help even more families.” said Hope Otto, Racine County Human Services Director.

With the FFHV grant, Racine County HSD will help provide access to voluntary, high-quality, evidence-based home visiting services in partnership with Central Racine County Health Department, a nationally-accredited Healthy Families America (HFA) home visiting agency. Collaboration with Professional Services Group, Ascension All Saints, City of Racine Health Department, the Greater Racine Collaborative for Healthy Birth Outcomes and other agencies ensures the identification, coordination, and connection of families to community partners like hospitals, obstetricians, pediatricians, and social service agencies.

“Racine County HSD has a history of providing prevention services and strives to enhance the welfare of all Racine County families,” said Racine County Executive, Jonathan Delagrave. “The FFHV grant fits into our strategic objectives of ensuring our residents have the tools they need for success in school and in life. Our Human Services Department developed the Racine County Home Visiting Network which works to promote the well-being of all families in our community.”

Home visitors receive extensive training in a wide range of areas that can cause stress and worry to most new parents: caring for a new baby, ensuring the baby is receiving proper nutrition, promoting healthy child development and coping with a myriad of other potential personal issues, such as finances, housing, and partner relationships. “As noted by HFA, parents want to be good parents; and as parents we all have had many questions when it comes to raising a child,” said Margaret Gesner, Health Officer, Central Racine County Health Department. “Using an evidence-based model, our well-

trained home visitors help provide answers to those questions, individualized support when it is needed most, and linkages to other community services in the familiar home setting of the family.”

Families interested in home visiting services can contact the Racine County Home Visiting Network by calling 262-638-6641 or sending an email to RCHVN@racinecounty.com

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