



RACINE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

1717 TAYLOR AVENUE
RACINE, WI 53403-2497
(262) 638-6353
FAX (262) 638-6376
TTY 1-800-947-3529

209 NORTH MAIN STREET
BURLINGTON, WI 53105
(262) 767-2900
FAX (262)767-2949

JOINT MEETING OF THE RACINE COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Monday, October 8, 2018

Ives Grove Office Complex – Auditorium

14200 Washington Avenue

Sturtevant, WI 53177

5:00 p.m.

The above location is handicap accessible. If you have other special needs please contact the Racine County Human Services Department, 1717 Taylor Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin, (262) 638-6646 or for hearing impaired for TTY, TTD/Relay Service 1-800-947-3529.

AMENDED AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Chairman Comments/Youth In Governance Statement
3. Public Comment Period Not to Exceed Fifteen (15) Minutes (Each Speaker Shall be Allotted a Maximum of Three (3) Minutes). The Speaker Shall Speak on Any Item.
4. Approval of Minutes of September 10, 2018 Joint Meeting of the Racine County Health and Human Development Committee & Human Services Board – **ACTION**
5. Resolution In Support of Increased Funding and Oversight Reforms for Wisconsin's Child Protective Services System – **ACTION OF COMMITTEE ONLY**
6. Aging and Disability Resource Center Program Updates – Amy Hart
7. Budget Priorities Update – Hope Otto
8. Establish 2019 Budget Priorities – Hope Otto
9. Correspondence and Other Business
10. Next Meeting Date – November 12, 2018, 5:00 p.m. – Ives Grove Office Complex, Auditorium
11. Adjournment

Scott Maier, Chairman
Health and Human Development Committee

NOTE: If members anticipate needing additional information, please contact Hope Otto or Human Services staff by Monday before noon.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-

**RESOLUTION BY THE HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
REQUESTING INCREASED FUNDING AND OVERSIGHT REFORMS FOR
WISCONSIN'S CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES SYSTEM**

To the Honorable Members of the Racine County Board of Supervisors:

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin child welfare system is county-operated and state-supervised, except Milwaukee County, where the system is administered by the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF), Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services (DMCPS); and

WHEREAS, DCF provides insufficient funding to counties for the provision of child abuse and neglect services including prevention, investigation, treatment, and out-of-home placement costs, though the state has primary responsibility for compliance with federal requirements and shares liability for ensuring the system is meeting its obligations to children and families in all 72 counties; and

WHEREAS, in recent years the state of Wisconsin added numerous mandates and practice expectations which increased county child protective services (CPS) workload and costs; and

WHEREAS, the opioid and methamphetamine epidemics have brought Wisconsin's child welfare system to a point of crisis, with increasing concern about the system's ability to meet its obligations to children and families; and

WHEREAS, the capacity for counties to continue to bear the majority of the financial responsibility to address this crisis has been exhausted, as rising county contributions to the CPS system have far outpaced increases to the DCF Children and Family Aids allocation and counties have used reserve funding to cover CPS expenses and increase staffing; and

WHEREAS, maintaining sufficient resources for Wisconsin's child welfare system is critical to secure the safety and future of our most vulnerable children; and

WHEREAS, without a proportional increase in the DCF Children and Family Services allocation, the CPS system has been stressed for over a decade, causing caseloads for CPS workers to grow to unreasonable levels, contributing to high levels of staff turnover in some counties and an overrun of out-of-home care costs above what counties can sustain within available resources; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's CPS system leaves significant gaps in state-level oversight for all counties except Milwaukee County, including the absence of caseload standards, no process for regular legislative evaluation and prioritization of CPS needs and the absence of a legislative committee that provides regular policy guidance concerning CPS system issues such as adequate funding, performance, cost sharing and long-term stability; and

3
4
5
6
7
8
9

WHEREAS, along with DMCPs, all eleven of Wisconsin's peer states with county-administered CPS systems have either adopted caseload standards for CPS caseworkers, completed thorough workload studies as a basis of determining funding needs, or otherwise have made significant recommendations related to keeping CPS workloads manageable; and

10 **WHEREAS**, the children within Wisconsin's CPS system are too important to allow
11 the current level of under resourcing, oversight gaps and disparity of attention, while
12 shifting the burden to property taxpayers.

13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Racine County Board of Supervisors does hereby request that the state of Wisconsin increase the Children and Family Aids Allocation to counties in the 2019-21 state biennial budget by \$30 million annually in order to cover a greater share of out-of-home care costs and increase staffing levels based on the caseload standards developed by the Wisconsin County Human Services Association (WCHSA) so Wisconsin's CPS system can meet its obligations; and

22
23
24
25
26
27

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Racine County Board of Supervisors urges the state of Wisconsin to close critical oversight gaps by creating legislative mechanisms to review the CPS resource needs of all counties as part of the biennial budget process and ensure an appropriate committee provide ongoing policy guidance to respond to emerging CPS trends and ongoing system needs; and

28
29
30
31

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

32
33

Respectfully submitted,

34
35
36
37

1st Reading _____

**HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE**

38
39

2nd Reading _____

Scott Maier

40
41
42
43
44

Adopted _____

For _____

Against _____

Absent _____

Kay Buske, Vice-Chairman

45
46

Robert N. Miller, Secretary

VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

47
48
49

Prepared by:
Corporation Counsel

Brett A. Nielsen

50
51
52
53

Donald Trottier

1 Res No. 2018-
2 Page Three

3
4 _____
Eric C. Hillery

5
6 **The foregoing legislation adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of**
7 **Racine County, Wisconsin, is hereby:**

8 **Approved: _____**

9 **Vetoed: _____**

10
11 **Date: _____,**

12
13 _____
14 **Jonathan Delagrave, County Executive**

CONTACT INFORMATION

1
2
3 Honorable Scott Walker
4 Governor, State of Wisconsin
5 115 East Capitol
6 Madison, WI 53702
7

8
9 Secretary Eloise Anderson
10 Wisconsin Department of Children and Families
11 201 East Washington Avenue, Second Floor
12 P.O. Box 8916
13 Madison, WI 53708-8916
14

15
16 Secretary Ellen Nowak
17 Wisconsin Department of Administration
18 101 E. Wilson Street, 10th Floor
19 P.O. Box 7864
20 Madison, WI 53707
21 DOASecretarysOffice@wisconsin.gov
22

23
24 Wisconsin Counties Association
25 Attn: Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf
26 22 E. Mifflin Street, Suite 900
27 Madison, WI 53703
28 diedrick@wicounties.org
29

30 Area Legislators:

31
32
33 Honorable (First Name) (Last Name)
34 Wisconsin State Senate
35 P.O. Box 7882
36 Madison, WI 53707-7882
37

38 Honorable (First Name) (Last Name A-L)
39 Wisconsin State Assembly
40 P.O. Box 8952
41 Madison, WI 53708
42

43 Honorable (First Name) (Last Name M-Z)
44 Wisconsin State Assembly
45 P.O. Box 8953
46 Madison, WI 53708
47