



Office of the County Executive

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **GRANT FUNDING TO HELP TREAT RESIDENTS BATTLING OPIOID ADDICTION**

*Grants will allow Racine County to expand Vivitrol program*

Racine – The Racine County Human Services Department has received two grants totaling \$165,000 to help treat residents battling opioid addiction.

The grant funding, from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services-Division of Care and Treatment Services, will enable Racine County to dramatically expand its Vivitrol program to serve more residents in the community as well as inmates in the Racine County Jail. Vivitrol is a non-addictive medication used to help prevent relapse while a person focuses on counseling and recovery. Currently, the County has access only to limited samples of the medication.

“Expanding the County’s Vivitrol program will allow us to reach more individuals struggling with opioid addiction – improving their quality of life and ability to successfully move beyond their addiction,” said Hope Otto, Racine County Human Services Director. “This will benefit not only the person receiving the treatment, but their families and the community.”

Successfully obtaining grant funding for expanded treatment is the latest step in the County’s ongoing efforts against the opioid crisis. Since the onset of the epidemic, the County has formed strong public-private partnerships to provide outpatient counseling, access to medication and overall improved quality of care. Racine County also joined dozens of Wisconsin counties in a lawsuit against opioid manufacturers – paving the way to bring critical resources into our communities to confront the epidemic and prevent it from happening again.

For additional information about the Vivitrol program and other treatment options, please call 262.638.6375.

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