

Resolution No. 30-10/16
Supporting Increased Funding in the Children and Family Aids Allocation

1 Moved/Sponsored by: Health and Human Services Board

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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25 **WHEREAS**, counties are struggling to recruit and retain child welfare workers; and,

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

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30 **WHEREAS**, the leading cause of these increases is the use of heroin, opiates, and
31 methamphetamines; and,

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33 **WHEREAS**, it is critical that counties have the resources necessary to ensure the safety of
34 children in every corner of the state; and,

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36 **WHEREAS**, counties are struggling to identify resources to increase child welfare staff,
37 especially given the significant overmatch counties already put in the human services system.

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39 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Walworth County Board of Supervisors
40 does hereby request that the State of Wisconsin, in its 2017-19 state biennial budget, increase
41 funding to counties in the Children and Family Aids allocation to assist counties in serving the
42 increasing number of children and families in the child welfare system.

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

Policy and Fiscal Note
Resolution No. 30-10/16

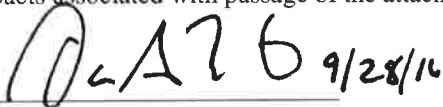
- I. **Title:** Supporting Increased Funding in the Children and Family Aids Allocation
- II. **Purpose and Policy Impact Statement:** The purpose of this resolution is to encourage area and state representatives to support an increase in the child and family aid allocation in the state of Wisconsin's 2017-19 state biennial budget to assist counties in serving the increasing number of children and families in the child welfare system.
- III. **Budget and Fiscal Impact:** Passage of this resolution will not have a fiscal impact on the 2016 Budget.
- IV. **Referred to the following standing committees for consideration and date of referral:**

Committee: Health and Human Services Board Meeting Date: September 14, 2016


Vote: 7-0

County Board Meeting Date: October 11, 2016

Policy and fiscal note has been reviewed and approved as an accurate statement of the probable policy and fiscal impacts associated with passage of the attached resolution.



David A. Bretl Date
County Administrator/Corporation Counsel



Nicole Andersen Date
Deputy County Administrator - Finance