



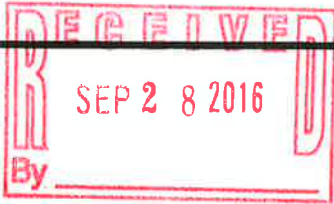
Portage County Clerk

Shirley M. Simonis

1516 Church Street

Stevens Point, WI 54481

Phone: 715-346-1351 Fax: 715-346-1486



CERTIFICATION

I, Shirley M. Simonis, Clerk of the County of Portage, Wisconsin do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of

RESOLUTION NO. 42-2016-2018
RE: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED
FUNDING IN THE CHILDREN AND FAMILY AIDS ALLOCATION

which was considered by the County Board by a vote of:

24 for

___ against

___ abstained

___ vacant

1 excused Supervisor Barry Jacowski

at an Adjourned Session of the Portage County Board of Supervisors, held on the 20th day of September, 2016, and recorded in the minutes of said meeting, a quorum of members being present.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the County of Portage, Wisconsin, this 23rd day of September, 2016.

Shirley M. Simonis RTP
SHIRLEY M. SIMONIS
Portage County Clerk (SEAL)

**TO: HONORABLE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PORTAGE
COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Re: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED FUNDING IN THE
CHILDREN AND FAMILY AIDS ALLOCATION**

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the statewide number of child protective services (CPS) referrals has increased by 30 percent since 2007 – from 55,895 referrals in 2007 to 72,698 in 2014 and in Portage County, during that same time frame, CPS referrals increase from 478 to 797 a 60 percent increase; and

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

WHEREAS, the statewide number of screened-in CPS reports has increased from 18,706 in 2011 to 20,384 in 2015 and the Portage County screened in reports increased from 239 in 2011 to 329 in 2015; and

WHEREAS, the number of Children in Need of Protection and Services (CHIPS) petitions filed with the court has increased 12.5 percent from 2008 to 2015 and in Portage County there were 25 CHIPS petitions filed in 2008 and 101 petitions filed in 2015 representing a 400 percent increase; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the leading cause of these workload increases is due to the use of heroin, opiates, and methamphetamines; and

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