CERTIFICATION OF RESOLUTION

I, Susan T. Ertmer, Winnebago County Clerk, certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 052-92016, "Support Increased Funding in the Children and Family Aids Allocation" which was passed by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors on September 20, 2016.

Signed and dated this 30th day of September 2016.

[Signature]

Susan T. Ertmer
Winnebago County Clerk
RESOLUTION: Support Increased Funding in the Children and Family Aids Allocation

TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin 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 2009 when the Department of Children and Families was created; and

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

WHEREAS, since 2007, the number of child protective services (CPS) referrals has increased by 30%: from 55,895 in 2007 to 72,698 in 2014; 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 number of screened-in CPS reports has increased from 18,706 in 2011 to 20,384 in 2015; and

WHEREAS, between 2008 and 2015 the number of Children in Need of Protection or Services (CHIPS) petitions filed with the court has increased 12.5%; 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 increases is 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

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby requests that the State of Wisconsin, in its 2017-2019 State Biennial Budget, increase funding to counties in the Children and Family Aids Allocation to assist counties in serving the increasing number of children and families in the child welfare system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Scott Walker, Department of Children and Families Secretary Eloise Anderson, Department of Administration Secretary Scott Neitzel, area legislators, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

Respectfully submitted by:

HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Committee Vote: 8-0
Vote Required for Passage: 3/4's of Membership

Resolution Number: 052-92016
Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this 28th day of September, 2016.

Mark L Harris
Winnebago County Executive