RESOLUTION ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Katherine Luster INITIATED BY

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<u>Human Services Board</u> SUBMITTED BY



Tera O'Connor DRAFTED BY

August 27, 2020 DATE DRAFTED

Creating 5.0 FTE Positions to Support Project Implementation and Supportive Services to Enhance the Safety, Permanence, and Well-Being of the Children and Families Being Served in Child Protective Services

WHEREAS, the Human Services Department (HSD) received additional funding in the 2020 budget from the Department of Children and Families to support Child Welfare services and supports; and,
 WHEREAS, a portion of those funds will be transferred from contracted services to personnel; and,
 WHEREAS, HSD will utilize the funds to create a 1.0 FTE Coordinator of Family Support to support implementation of the Parents Supporting Parents Grant, Development / Implementation of Family

Team Meetings, and duties to support the Program Manager, Supervisory Staff, and CPS Staff; and,

WHEREAS, HSD will create 2.0 FTE Family Team Meeting Coordinators who will focus on strengthening a process for team meetings across the CPS system as well as facilitating the meetings across the life of a case; and,

WHEREAS, HSD will create 2.0 FTE Case Aide Positions who will be assisting CPS staff in supportive functions such as documentation, UA's, printing / mailing letters, coordination of phone calls, and other tasks; and,

WHEREAS, supporting the Child Protective Services System of care to integrate parent voice, collaborate with all partners via regular team meetings, and provide supportive assistance to the CPS workforce represent best practices in child welfare; and,

WHEREAS, these programs are aligned with our Departments values and practices; and,

WHEREAS all of these programs and positions will support positive outcomes in the safety, permanence, and well-being of Children and Families in Rock County.

Respectfully submitted,

HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

/s/ Brian Knudson Brian Knudson, Chair	/s/ J. Russell Podzilni J. Russell Podzilni
/s/ Sally Jean Weaver-Landers Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Vice Chair	/s/ Angelina Reyes Angelina Reyes
/s/ Pam Bostwick Pam Bostwick	/s/ Kathy Schulz Kathy Schulz
/s/ Ashley Hoffman Ashley Hofman	/s/ Shirley Williams Shirley Williams
/s/ Kaelyb Lokrantz Kaelyb Lokrantz	

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COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE

/s/ J. Russell Podzilni /s/ Kara Purviance Kara Purviance, Chair J. Russell Podzilni /s/ Richard Bostwick /s/ Alan Sweeney Richard Bostwick, Vice Chair Alan Sweeney /s/ Tom Brien /s/ Bob Yeomans Tom Brien Bob Yeomans /s/ Kevin Leavy Vacant Vacant Kevin Leavy /s/ Louis Peer Louis Peer

FISCAL NOTE:

Funds are available in the 2020 budget to cover the costs of these positions.

/s/ Sherry Oja

Sherry Oja Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to §59.22(2), Wis. Stats.

/s/ Richard Greenlee

Richard Greenlee Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

/s/ Josh Smith

Josh Smith County Administrator

Executive Summary

Creating 5.0 FTE Positions to Support Project Implementation and Supportive Services to Enhance the Safety, Permanence, and Well-Being of the Children and Families Being Served in Child Protective Services

Rock County Human Services Department received an additional \$1.15 Million in funding from the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families in the 2020 budget. These additional funds were allocated to support incentive pay for child welfare staff, consultation services for program development, to reduce the tax levy allocated for out of home placement costs, to add staff resources for quality improvement efforts, and to support increased in-home safety services for families. A portion of the funding remained undesignated and was budgeted in contracted services pending further planning and program development decisions. This resolution proposes to utilize \$91,370 from the previously undesignated funds to increase staff to support and advance program development efforts.

A priority in the Child Protective Services area is to assure that our practice is increasingly aligned with the evidence of what is most effective in assuring positive outcomes for the children and families that we serve. In addition, significant changes in Child Welfare practice are occurring as a result of the Federal Family First Act, landmark legislation that changes the way that federal IV-E funding can be utilized and requires additional efforts and resources to prevent out of home/out of family placements for children. In response to these priority areas, the Human Services Department plans to utilize increased staffing resources to support these system and practice changes. Requested staff include one full-time Coordinator of Family Support to support implementation of the Parents Supporting Parents Grant, Development/Implementation of Family Team Meetings, and duties to support the Program Manager, Supervisory Staff, and CPS Staff. In addition, we will create two full-time Family Team Meeting Coordinators and two full-time Case Aide Positions. The Family Team Meeting Coordinators will focus on strengthening a process for team meetings across the CPS system as well as facilitate the meetings across the life of a case. Case Aides will be assisting CPS staff in supportive functions such as documentation, UA's printing/mailing letters, coordination of phone calls, and other tasks. The addition of these positions will enable the HSD to commit to enhanced program development without adding these responsibilities to staff who are already dealing with maximized workloads.