

ADDENDUM

Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors  
**Wednesday, November 9, 2016 / 7 pm**  
**Thursday, November 10, 2016 / 1 pm**

Location:  
Courthouse, County Boardroom (Room 1277)  
721 Oxford Ave. Eau Claire, WI

Eau Claire County Mission Statement:

"To provide quality, innovative and cost-effective services that safeguard and enhance the well-being of residents and resources"

- (1) Indicates 1<sup>st</sup> Reading
- (2) Indicates 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

**11. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS UNDER 2.04.160 AND SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES**

**Human Services Board**

**File No.**

16-17/064 (1)

Supporting Increased Funding in the Children and Family Aids Allocation  
**(pg. 2-4)**

**PLEASE NOTE: Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities through sign language, interpreters or other auxiliary aids. For additional information or to request the service, contact the County ADA Coordinator at 839-4710, (FAX) 839-1669 or 839-4735, tty: use Relay (711) or by writing to the ADA Coordinator, Human Resources, Eau Claire County Courthouse, 721 Oxford Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703.**

## Fact Sheet

### Resolution No. 16-17/064

The Human Services Board recognizes the challenges of County agencies who deliver child welfare services and have not received an increase in the Children and Family Aids allocation since the creation of the Department of Children and Families in 2008, excluding payment for increased foster care rates.

In the State of Wisconsin, the number of child welfare referrals has increased 30% from 2007-2014. During this same time period, Eau Claire County has seen a 20% increase of child welfare referrals. The number of CHIPS (Child in Need of Protection and Services) referrals has increased 12.5 % from 2008 to 2015.

The number of children in out-of-home care has steadily increased since 2011.

Counties continue to look for ways to keep families safe and together while aiming to avoid costly out-of-home placements.

The stress of increased workloads is taking its toll on child welfare workers, with an increasing number of experienced child welfare workers leaving the profession across the State

Diane Cable, DHS Director

Tom Wirth, DHS Deputy Director

2  
3 **- SUPPORTING INCREASED FUNDING IN THE CHILDREN AND FAMILY AIDS**  
4 **ALLOCATION -**  
5

6 WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Counties Association in conjunction with the Wisconsin County  
7 Human Services Association (WCHSA) is working to secure additional funding in the Child and  
8 Family Aids allocation in the State 2017-19 biennial budget; and  
9

10 WHEREAS, the challenges which face human services departments across the state are  
11 always significant, but what is occurring in the child protective services area currently is nothing  
12 short of unprecedented; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, there was an 8.7 percent increase in screened in reports for the balance of the  
15 State from 2008 to 2015. In this same time period, Eau Claire County has seen an 8 percent increase  
16 in screened in reports; and  
17

18 WHEREAS, since 2011, the cost of Child Welfare services for Eau Claire County has  
19 increased by 1 million dollars, with only an increase of 100,000 thousand dollars in the base  
20 allocation related to the last increase in 2009 and small increases to foster care; and  
21

22 WHEREAS, the Department of Children and Families provides funding to counties through  
23 the Children and Family Aids allocation for the provision of child abuse and neglect services,  
24 including prevention, investigation, treatment, and out-of-home placement costs; and  
25

26 WHEREAS, base funding for child welfare services has not increased since the Department  
27 of Children and Families was created in 2009; and  
28

29 WHEREAS, over the past few years, the child welfare workload has increased in all counties  
30 across the state; and  
31

32 WHEREAS, the number of child protective services (CPS) referrals has increased by 30  
33 percent since 2007 – from 55,895 referrals in 2007 to 72,698 in 2014; and  
34

35 WHEREAS, the number of children in out-of-home care has increased from 7,653 in 2011 to  
36 8,258 in 2015; and  
37

38 WHEREAS, the number of screened-in CPS reports has increased from 18,706 in 2011 to  
39 20,384 in 2015; and  
40

41 WHEREAS, the number of Children in Need of Protection and Services (CHIPS) petitions  
42 filed with the court has increased 12.5 percent from 2008 to 2015; and  
43

44 WHEREAS, counties are struggling to recruit and retain child welfare workers; and  
45

46 WHEREAS, the stress of increasing caseloads is taking its toll on CPS workers, causing  
47 many experienced child welfare workers to leave the profession; and  
48  
49

1 WHEREAS, the leading cause of these increases is the use of heroin, opiates, and  
2 methamphetamines; and  
3

4 WHEREAS, it is critical that counties have the resources necessary to ensure the safety of  
5 children in every corner of the state; and  
6

7 WHEREAS, counties are struggling to identify resources to increase child welfare staff,  
8 especially given the significant overmatch counties already put in the human services system.  
9

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Board of Supervisors does hereby  
11 request that the state of Wisconsin, in its 2017-19 state biennial budget, increase funding to counties  
12 in the Children and Family Aids allocation to assist counties in serving the increasing number of  
13 children and families in the child welfare system.  
14

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Scott  
16 Walker, Department of Children and Families Secretary Eloise Anderson, Department of  
17 Administration Secretary Scott Neitzel, area legislators, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.  
18

19 Sandra McKinney

20 KA. Clark

21 Donna Blum

22 D. Mortimer

23 Paul D. Mortimer

24 Terrence Henney

25 Mark Anderson

26 Colleen Bates

27 Colleen Bates

28 Human Services Board  
29  
30

31 Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2016.  
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33  
34  
35

36 KRZjla

ORDINANC/16-17/064