



RESOLUTION # 66-3/20

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ITEM # 3-10

**BOARD ACTION**

Adopted:   
For: 23  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Abs/Excd: 6  
Vote Req: 1  
Other Action: ---

**JUDICIARY & LAW COMMITTEE ACTION**

Adopted:   
For: 4  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Abs/Excd: 1

**RE: AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TITLED IV-E LEGAL REPRESENTATION OF PARENTS AND CHILDREN PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families has awarded an allocation of federal IV-E funds to support the La Crosse County court system in providing legal representation for parents and children involved in child welfare proceedings based on evidence that demonstrates the important role of competent legal representation for parents and children in ensuring that salient information is conveyed to the court; that parties' legal rights are protected and that the wishes of parties are effectively voiced; and

**WHEREAS**, La Crosse County has already allocated \$350,000 in the 2020 budget toward legal representation for parents and children in child welfare cases; and

**WHEREAS**, DCF has awarded an allocation amount of up to \$98,900 for FY2020 as a reimbursement towards that total amount; and

**WHEREAS**, La Crosse County Human Services will act as the fiscal agent for the program and ensure compliance with the reporting requirements of the Department of Children and Families and will work with the Clerk of Courts to facilitate reimbursement to the Clerk of Courts budget;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the La Crosse County Board hereby accepts the Title IV-E Legal Representation of Parents and Children pass-through funding allocation in the amount of \$98,900 and the County Administrator is authorized to execute any documents to effectuate this resolution, after approval of Corporation Counsel; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Finance Department is authorized to make any necessary and appropriate account transfers related to accepting this additional funding.

**FISCAL NOTE:** Total funding allocation award is \$98,900 currently ending December 31, 2020, with the understanding that this funding may continue on a yearly basis going forward. There is a local match requirement of \$251,100. Wisconsin Department of Justice has indicated available funding to support these pretrial needs over the next four years. A new division will be created within the County financial system under both La Crosse County Human Services Family and Children's Section along with La Crosse County Clerk of Circuit Courts to account for the operating costs of the program.

Date: March 10, 2020

[Signature]  
COMMITTEE CHAIR

[Signature]  
RECORDING CLERK

	Reviewed Only	Recommended	Not Recommended	
Co. Admin.	<u>[Signature]</u>	_____	_____	Requested By: Pam Radtke Date Requested: February 24, 2020 Drafted By: Corporation Counsel
Fin. Director	<u>[Signature]</u>	_____	_____	
Corp. Counsel	<u>[Signature]</u>	_____	_____	
Board Chair	<u>[Signature]</u>	_____	_____	

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 19 Day of March, 2020

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE  
I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.

[Signature]  
Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk