By Supervisors Martin, Clancy, Coggs-Jones, and Alexander File No. 22-712

**A RESOLUTION**

Authorizing and directing the Department of Health and Human Services Division of Children, Youth, and Family Services to work in conjunction with the Department of Administrative Services - Information Management Services Division to develop a Youth in our Care data dashboard

WHEREAS, the Department of Health and Human Services Division of Children, Youth, and Family Services (CYFS) is tasked with providing community-based alternative programming services for youth involved in the justice system, youth justice reform, management of the juvenile detention center, and more; and

WHEREAS, the census at Vel R. Phillips Detention Center has gradually increased since September 2021 and recently peaked at 141 in February 2022, compared to an average census of 89 over the last ten years (File No. 22-423); and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the average length of stay in youth detention was 22.5 days; in 2020, it was 34.6 days; in 2021, it was 36.4 days and most recently, in 2022, the average length of stay increased to an unprecedented 60.3 days; and

WHEREAS, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported that in 2021 the Milwaukee Police Department arrested 926 juveniles compared to 732 in 2019, and 761 in 2018, and the majority of the arrests were for vehicle theft, reckless driving, fleeing officers, and other related crimes; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County has made diligent efforts to alleviate the increased detention center census through ongoing discussions with court partners and reviewing youth cases assigned to the Milwaukee County Accountability Program (MCAP) who are nearing completion; and

WHEREAS, the rising census of youth in detention warrants a need to dismantle silos and share transparent, de-identified information with policymakers, stakeholders, and the public relating to the youth in our care; and

WHEREAS, creating a “Youth in our Care” dashboard will provide information pertaining to the number of youths housed at Vel. R. Phillips Detention Center, the number of youths enrolled in the MCAP program, the number of youths waitlisted for the program, the number of youths housed outside of Milwaukee County, and the number of COVID positive youth; and

WHEREAS, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors adopted File No. 20-174 to create Chapter 108 of the Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances relating to achieving racial equity to improve the health of the entire community by being customer-focused, improving performance, and equitable practices; and

WHEREAS, providing de-identified youth data will show Milwaukee County’s commitment to providing policymakers, parents, guardians, and the community with qualitative and quantitative data to review and weigh in to improve services for youth in our care; and

WHEREAS, a Youth in our Care dashboard will hold Milwaukee County accountable for staying on track with achieving its vision to become the healthiest county in Wisconsin and create transparency surrounding the youth in our care; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Department of Health and Human Services Children, Youth, and Family Services Division shall work in conjunction with the Department of Administrative Services Information Management Services Division to develop a Youth in our Care dashboard; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the dashboard shall include the number of youths housed at Vel. R. Phillips Detention Center, the number of youths enrolled in the Milwaukee County Accountability Program, the number of youths waitlisted for the program, the number of youths housed outside of Milwaukee County, and the number of COVID positive youth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Information Management Services Division shall present to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors recommendations for implementation of a data dashboard including, but not limited to, cost to develop and, maintain, where it is sited, and the aggregate de-identified information that could be provided on the data dashboard no later than the September 2022 meeting cycle.