#### **COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**

INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

**DATE**: May 13, 2016

**TO**: Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

Kerry Mitchell, Director, Department of Human Resources

**FROM**: Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health & Human Services

Prepared by: Mark Mertens, Administrator, Delinquency and Court Services

Division

SUBJECT: From the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting

authorization to create one FTE position of Human Service Worker-Juvenile

Justice in the Delinquency and Court Services Division

### Issue

The Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), is requesting authorization to create one permanent FTE of Human Service Worker-Juvenile Justice in the Delinquency and Court Services Division (DCSD). This position is designed to be responsible for the dual status youth-related tasks and responsibilities.

## **Background**

DCSD is expanding oversight, advocacy, monitoring, and support of dual status involved youth, as well as improving collaboration with community partners. The creation of the Human Service Worker (HSW)-JJ position is requested to increase capacity within DCSD to accomplish this expanded role.

Historically, information sharing between DCSD and the child welfare system has been sporadic and inconsistent due to the utilization of different data base systems and operating under different umbrellas. Having the knowledge of a youth's child welfare history and current situation is vital in the goal setting, case planning and safety planning of the youth and community.

This position will be responsible for a caseload of youth who are involved in both the juvenile justice system and child protective services (CPS)/child welfare (CW) system, referred to as dual status youth. This position will also provide necessary child welfare information to DCSD staff regarding a youth's history and involvement with the child welfare system, utilizing the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) Wisconsin Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (eWiSACWIS). This information will be used to complete the Youth

Assessment & Screening Instrument (YASI), identify goals for a youth and family, development of a youth's case plan as well as collaborate with other entities involved in the youth's life.

This position will be responsible for being involved in all local and statewide eWiSACWIS-related committees and workgroups as appropriate, as well as act as a liaison for DCSD and the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services (DMCPS). This position will also collaborate with identified stakeholders to work on reducing the likelihood of youth crossing over from one system into both systems. The goal is to ensure that youth are receiving the appropriate interventions in alignment with their criminogenic risk level and that their mental health, trauma and well-being are being met, as well as ensuring the youth are placed in the least restrictive setting while not compromising community safety.

# **Recommendation**

To assist DCSD in improving the service delivery system through implementing better communication and information sharing, DCSD recommends the County Board authorize the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, or his designee, to create the one HSW-JJ position as follows:

Position Description	Pay Range	FTE	2016 Fiscal Impact	Annual Impact
Create				
			\$15,779 (salary & SS)	
Human Service Worker	16C	1.00	\$8,276 (health & pension)	\$56,856
Total		1.00	\$24,055	\$56,856

#### Fiscal Impact

The cost of the position assumes placement at the first step and an estimated hire date of Aug. 1, 2016. There is no tax levy impact associated with approval of this request in 2016 as funds sufficient to cover this expenditure will be absorbed by the current vacancies in the division.

Héctor Colón, Director

Department of Health & Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
Raisa Koltun, County Executive's Office
Kelly Bablitch, County Board
Teig Whaley-Smith, Director, DAS

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Steve Kreklow, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy & Budget Steve Cady, Research Director, Comptroller's Office Lisa Wozny, Budget Analyst - DAS Erica Hayden, Research & Policy Analyst - Comptroller's Office