DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P.O. Box 29 • Baraboo WI 53913 (608) 355-4200 • FAX (608) 355-4299 DANIEL A. BRATTSET, Director

August 4, 2020

Sauk County Personnel Committee:

Sauk County Department of Human Services has evaluated its use of social workers within the Child Protective Services Unit. This evaluation process has determined the need for maintaining current staffing of social work staff to maximize State safety requirements. The number of cases in Sauk County requiring child protective services continues to require adequate staffing to ensure the safety of vulnerable children. As schools resume in-person classes, there are concerns that there could be an increase in child protection referrals.

Sauk County Department of Human Services has evaluated the need for mental health and alcohol and other drug abuse (AODA) needs in the community. There are considerable increases in mental health and AODA needs in the community. This need risks individuals accessing the crisis system and costly placements as well as increased relapse and overdose among the AODA population.

The Department has budgeted for both positions within the 2020 budget.

Sauk County Department of Human Services requests authorization to immediately hire one full-time (1.0 FTE) Child Protective Services Social Worker and one full time (1.0 FTE) AODA credentialed Psychotherapist to serve the residents of Sauk County.

JENNIFER WATTS

Absent DE

Sincerely,

SAUK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Daniel Brattset, Director

I agree with the content of this letter:

RIE MCAULIFFE

CRISLER