

**Partnership Council of Milwaukee Child Welfare
Ad Hoc Budget Committee**

Final Approved Budget Recommendations
May 27, 2016 Partnership Council Meeting

Ad Hoc Budget Committee Members: Supervisor Deanna Alexander, Linda Davis; Senator Nikiya Harris Dodd, Tony Shields; Susan Gadacz, Chairperson

The following areas are the 2017-2019 Biennial Budget final recommendations from the Ad Hoc Budget Committee:

1. Dedicated funding to serve Sex trafficking victims in Milwaukee County
 - a. Focus on ways to address safety in foster care services
 - b. Prevention and how to protect vulnerable children especially girls
 - c. Creation of an awareness of sex trafficking for foster caregivers
 - d. Establish a clearinghouse for needed community based services
 - e. Ensure that money follows the child
 - f. Create an enhanced rate level system of care to work with the child for their needed service provision even when they have a change in placement
2. Permanent funding for the Healthy Infant Court
 - a. Staff Coordinator to support the court full-time
 - b. Programming and ancillary services
3. Transitional services and infrastructure development for children aging out of foster care
 - a. Housing
 - b. Job readiness preparation
 - c. Employment services and opportunities
 - d. Primary health care
4. Higher level behavioral health services through partnerships with behavioral health providers in the Milwaukee community
 - a. Specific funding for children's mental health and substance use disorder services to strengthen the array and offer a continuum of care
 - b. Development of mental health services when the child does not have an SED
 - c. Creation of an Adolescent substance use disorder treatment system
5. Backlog remains an issue (currently 500)
 - a. Conduct an in-depth analysis to determine why the backlog persists
 - b. Fill the 4.0 FTE vacancies already approved in the 2015-2017 budget
 - c. Recommend the addition of Initial Assessment permanent positions if supported by the in-depth analysis
6. Prepare for changes in CAPTA and Family First Prevention and Safety Act
 - a. How to address the demonstration for Plans of Safe Care
 - b. Modernization of IV-E to in-home service for intact families
7. Review the existing rates for Foster Care payment for caregiver parents and consider a revised methodology