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Governor Scott Walker
Secretary Eloise Anderson

Division of Safety and Permanence

June 27, 2018

Betsy Byker, Chairperson
Polk County Citizen Review Panel
Polk County Human Services Department
100 Polk County Plaza, Suite 180
Balsam Lake, WI 54810

Dear Ms. Byker:

Thank you for your timely submission of the 2017 Polk County Citizen Review Panel (CRP) report. This letter responds to the citizen review panel annual report requirement in the Federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA).

The Citizen Review Panel submitted one recommendations to improve child protection services at the state level. A brief summarized statement of each recommendation and the Department of Children and Families Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) response follows:

1. The Polk County CRP recommends that the state consider revising the follow-up letter sent to mandated reporters following a report that is subsequently screened-out. The panel asks that wording be added that encourages reporters to continue reporting and that indicates that "information will be kept on-file should subsequent information arise."

The current mandated reporter letter states: "Thank you again for your concern. If you have additional concerns, now or in the future, regarding maltreatment of this child/these children, please contact Child Protective Services at LOCAL NUMBER." The DCF supports revision of this to state "Thank you again for your concern. The report has been documented in an electronic record. If you have additional concerns, now or in the future, regarding maltreatment of this child/these children, please contact Child Protective Services at LOCAL NUMBER." The DCF will update the eWiSACWIS information system to incorporate this revision.

Thank you for your panel's continued dedication and efforts on behalf of Wisconsin children and their families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fredi-Ellen Bove".

Fredi-Ellen Bove
Division Administrator