



RESOLUTION # 49-9/08

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ITEM #

BOARD ACTION

Adopted: 9-8-08  
For: 32  
Against: 1  
Abs/Excd: 2  
Vote Req: 2/3's Board  
Other Action: \_\_\_\_\_

**RE: DEVELOPMENT OF AN ADOLESCENT CENTER IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE FACILITY OF LA CROSSE COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, the La Crosse County Human Services Department has legislative responsibilities under Wisconsin Statutes 48, 938 and 51 to respond to the needs of families and children who need support in addressing issues of disabilities, delinquency or child maltreatment; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Human Services closed its "licensed shelter" facility in its Juvenile Detention Center on 12/16/05 due to lower utilization by La Crosse and other counties; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Human Services piloted a "Reporting Center" for juveniles in 2007, primarily focused on youth within the juvenile justice system which lasted until February 2008; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Department has assessed the program and fiscal need for the development of a comprehensive Adolescent Center within the existing Juvenile Detention Center, licensed as a small group eight-bed shelter by the Department of Health Services; and,

**WHEREAS**, such a comprehensive center would divert the need to place children and youth in crisis in more restrictive and costly residential or hospital placements by providing assessment and assuring appropriate referral for services; and,

**WHEREAS**, six counties in the region have indicated their interest for purchasing a bed for youth and children in need of such a service as provided by the Adolescent Center so that of the eight beds four will be reserved for La Crosse County, three will be contracted to other counties, and one will be left on a first come first serve basis; and,

**WHEREAS**, the county will be able to access Medical Assistance revenue and client fees to contribute to the overall cost of this service; and,

**WHEREAS**, the staffing for this facility will include four full-time employees, three part-time employees, and four standby workers; supervision and administration will come from current Juvenile Detention staff; and,

**WHEREAS**, that the estimated annual cost of running the Adolescent Center is \$361,133 and less than the current 2008 budgeted amount of \$419,799 for running the Juvenile Reporting Center which closed in February 2008.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the La Crosse County Board authorizes the Human Services Department to pursue the development of the Adolescent Center, including completion of state licensing, contracts with other counties for utilization, update of the physical facility and the hiring and training of staff.

RE: DEVELOPMENT OF AN ADOLESCENT CENTER IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE FACILITY OF LA CROSSE COUNTY

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Board Chair and County Clerk are authorized to execute any contracts to effectuate this resolution, after approval by Corporation Counsel.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the estimated opening date for the Adolescent Center is October 1, 2008.

FISCAL NOTE: The total cost for the Juvenile Reporting Center for 2008 was originally budgeted at \$419,799. Of this amount, \$406,799 was funded through tax levy. In comparison, the total projected cost for the Adolescent Center for 2009 is \$361,133, of which only \$179,733 would be funded through tax levy. Therefore, the Adolescent Center is anticipated to require \$227,066 less in annual tax levy funding than the Juvenile Reporting Center.

The closing of the Juvenile Reporting Center in February of 2008 resulted in a cost savings for the Department. Total costs were only \$60,210 for 2008. This left approximately \$347,000 of tax levy available for reallocation within the Department. Although a portion of these funds have already been designated to other areas, enough remains to fund the opening of the Adolescent Center in October of 2008.

If the Adolescent Center opened on October 1, 2008, the total estimated cost of running the Center for October through December of 2008 is \$96,283, which includes one-time start up costs. This would be partially offset by projected revenue generated through fees charged for the use of the Center. Total out-of-county revenue is expected to be \$32,850 and in-county revenue is expected to be \$12,500 for total projected revenue of \$45,350. The remaining cost of \$50,933 would be funded through the use of county levy.

Date: September 8, 2008  
[Signature]  
COUNTY BOARD CHAIR

Date: 9-8-08  
[Signature]  
COUNTY CLERK

	Recommended	Not Recommended	Reviewed Only	Requested By: Gerald R. Huber
Co. Admin.	_____	_____	_____	Date Requested: August 6, 2008
Fin. Director	_____	_____	_____	Drafted By: County Administrator
Corp. Counsel	_____	_____	_____	

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 8 Day of September, 2008

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Marion I. Naegle, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of September 2008.

[Signature]  
Marion I. Naegle, La Crosse County Clerk