



Nicolette Bautista

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SAFE & SOUND

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A community-based, crime-fighting initiative incorporating tough law enforcement, positive alternatives for youth and neighborhood organizing

What It Is...

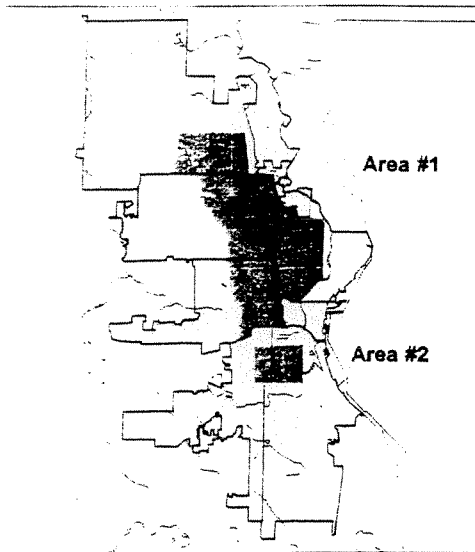
- Safe & Sound is an anti-crime initiative that attacks the problem of youth crime and violence on three fronts:
 - ***Tough Law Enforcement:** Federal, state and local authorities cooperate and communicate to target gangs, drug pushers and gun traffickers in the highest crime neighborhoods.
 - ***Positive Alternatives for Youth:** Safe & Sound Safe Places give children and teenagers safe places to go that offer positive, constructive activities during the critical after-school, evening, weekend and summer hours.
 - ***Neighborhood Organizing:** Safe & Sound Community Partners go door to door in specific neighborhoods to share information and help residents support law enforcement and neighborhood revitalization.
- Safe & Sound is a new initiative that will raise funds through public and private efforts, coordinate and financially support programming of community organizations, establish Community Partners to work in target areas, and evaluate the efforts' successes. Overall, Safe & Sound will affect approximately 290,000 Milwaukee residents.
- Safe & Sound is supported through a combination of federal and state public funds and private contributions. The goal of the program is to raise and disseminate approximately \$7 million per year, or \$21 million over three years. To date, more than \$15 million for the three-year period has been secured. Those funds include more than \$675,000 through the federal Weed & Seed program and \$9 million over three years through the federal High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program. Safe & Sound will solicit private donations to further fund the comprehensive effort.
- Immediate goals of Safe & Sound are to establish approximately 50 Safe Places, hire 24 Community Partners within the target areas and support joint federal-state-local task forces to target gangs and drug traffickers in the target areas.
- The three-year goal of Safe & Sound is to reduce violent crime in Milwaukee by 20 percent in the targeted areas.

How It Works...

- A pilot program like Safe & Sound was conducted in Milwaukee with amazing results. Through this successful pilot, three targeted Milwaukee neighborhoods -- Avenues West, Midtown and Metcalf Park -- underwent dramatic transformations. According to a Marquette University evaluation of the program, the pilot resulted in a 47-percent reduction in violent felonies and 21-percent reduction in overall crime in the targeted neighborhoods. The new Safe & Sound initiative will be approximately eight times the size and reach of the pilot program.
- A similar effort in Pittsburgh, the Allegheny County Youth Crime Prevention Strategy, accomplished a 13-percent overall drop in juvenile crime in one year.
- A similar effort in Boston achieved a remarkable reduction in gang-related violence -- homicides dropped from about 150 per year to 70 per year, and in the last three years only one juvenile murder by gunshot.

Safe & Sound Target Areas

Safe & Sound efforts will be focused in areas most victimized by crime, and particularly violent crime. While these target areas cover approximately 27 percent of the City and represent about 46 percent of the City's population, more than 80 percent of Milwaukee's homicides and a disproportionate percentage of robberies, gang disputes, drug trafficking and other violent felonies occur there.

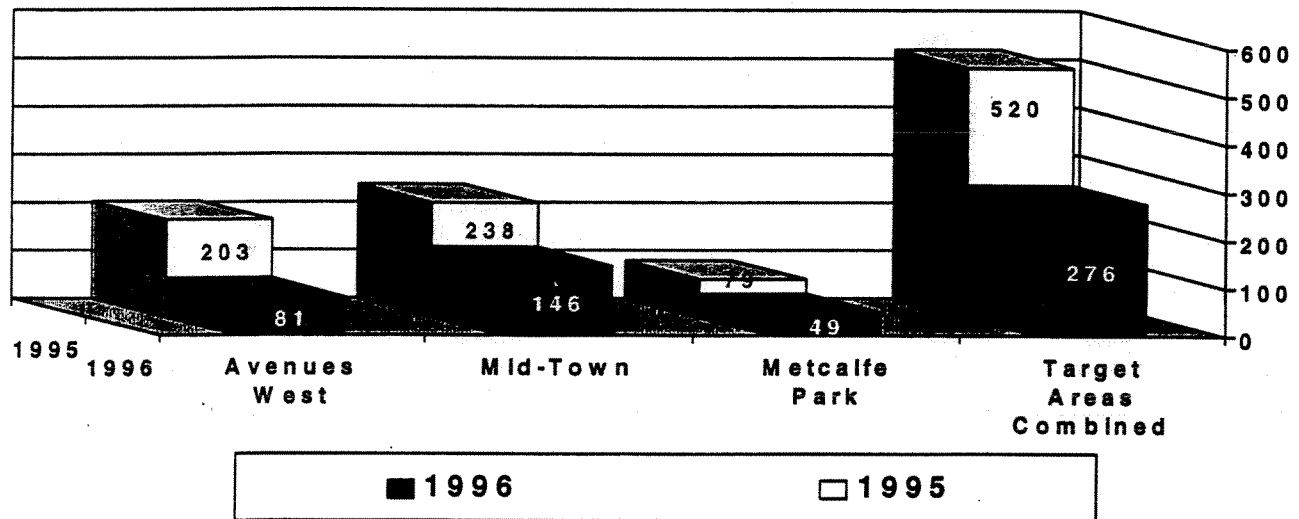


Area 1 reaches roughly from the Menomonee River north to Mill Road, and from N. Humboldt Blvd. on the east to N. Sherman Blvd., W. Fond du Lac Ave., and N. 76th on the west.

Area 2 is between S. 1st St., W. Lincoln Ave., S. 31st St. and W. National Ave.

Positive Results

Reduction in Violent Crimes During Pilot Program



\$1.1 million pledged for Safe Places for children

Donations will help build network of after-school sanctuaries for youths

By **JESSICA MCBRIDE**
of the Journal Sentinel staff

Five of the city's major charitable foundations and a prominent business leader together have pledged more than \$1.1 million toward funding a network of after-school Safe Places for children.

The donations were announced Monday by Safe & Sound board co-chairs Steven Smith, chairman and CEO of Journal Communications Inc., and Patti McKeithan, vice president for corporate affairs at Miller Brewing Co.

The Jane B. Pettit Foundation contributed the largest amount, with a \$450,000 grant, and Michael J. Cudahy contributed \$250,000. The Elizabeth A. Brinn Foundation gave \$150,000, and the Firststar Milwaukee Foundation, the Johnson Controls Foundation and the Faye

McBeath Foundation donated \$100,000 a piece.

The Safe & Sound campaign aims to raise \$4.5 million in private money to establish at least 47 Safe Places to serve about 7,500 children a day. Safe & Sound is a three-year, \$21 million program designed to reduce crime by at least 20% in focus areas.

Nicolette Bautista, director of Safe & Sound, said 37 Safe Place locations are operating and all 47 should be open by the end of the month.

"We are about half-way there," she said of the fund-raising campaign. "We deeply appreciate the support we have received so far. We think in the long term this will buy unlimited returns. Six-hundred dollars buys a Safe Place for a child for three years."

The city has already received

Please see SAFE page 3

*Eugene Kane's
column will return April 15*

Safe/Donors pledge funds for sanctuaries

From page 1

a \$2.5 million grant from the federal High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area effort for the crime-fighting elements. The program is based on models in Boston and Pittsburgh and on three Weed and Seed neighborhoods in Milwaukee, where criminal elements were "weeded out" and replaced with positive endeavors.

"I think the model that it is based on has proven very successful in other communities, as well as Weed and Seed," Sarah Dean, executive director of the Faye McBeath Foundation, said Monday. "We want to help reduce crime and improve the

quality of life for children in central city neighborhoods."

Safe Places will offer structured activities during after-school, evening and weekend hours and during school vacation periods. Many of the Safe Places, which also offer academic help for youths, will be open this week during spring break.

An example is the Silver Spring Neighborhood Center, 5460 N. 64th St., which Mayor John O. Norquist visited Monday during its spring break mini-camp. The center will be open for youths from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. this week.

"These Safe Places are so important to our youths," Norquist says in a statement. "Children will gather at schools and orga-

nizations during Easter break and play volleyball, soccer and kickball instead of getting involved in less positive activities."

Although the Safe & Sound program is supported by a variety of public and private funds, private donations will be the primary funding source for the Safe Places.

The Safe & Sound board is a non-profit organization set up to implement the recommendations of the Youth Crime and Violence Task Force established last year by Sen. Herb Kohl (D-Wis.), Norquist and U.S. Attorney Thomas Schneider.

Bautista said that people who want a list of Safe Places should call 276-6237.

THE BUSINESS JOURNAL

COMMENT

Businesses can help make Milwaukee safer and sounder

Milwaukee's business community has a unique opportunity to reap an unprecedented return on an investment in a new crime-reduction program called Safe & Sound. This return will come in the form of lower crime rates, higher property values, more stable neighborhoods and better student achievement — all things the business community wants.

These may sound like bold claims for a crime-reduction program, but we wouldn't make them without the evidence to back them up.

Safe & Sound, a new \$21 million anti-crime initiative, gives us the opportunity to make all of those things happen, and we encourage Milwaukee's business leaders to join us in supporting this unparalleled effort.

Safe & Sound is different because it brings together tough law enforcement, positive alternatives for youth and stronger neighborhoods in a common-sense, comprehensive approach to preventing crime and redirecting our youth to more positive paths.

First, local, state and federal law enforcement agencies are working together to aggressively target gangs, drugs and guns in the city's highest-crime areas. That means we will see more efforts like the recent increases in gang- and drug-related arrests on the city's south side.

Second, Community Partners are helping make 20 focus neighborhoods stronger. The Community Partners go door-to-door, letting residents know about resources and positive activities such as job fairs and neighborhood clean-ups and helping identify drug houses. When the Community Partners are hired, they are told that crime reduction in their assigned neighborhood is their top priority. It's very clear — Safe & Sound is about



ON
SAFE & SOUND

PATTI BRASH McKEITHAN
AND ED ZORE



measurable results.

The third component that makes Safe & Sound different is Safe Places — neighborhood sites that offer youth an organized place to participate in positive activities rather than choose or be victims of crime and violence.

**We will see lower crime,
higher property values,
better student achievement
and an improved quality of life
in our community.**

These Safe Places are open in the afternoons and evenings on school days and on weekends, holidays and vacation periods. Milwaukee's youth-serving agencies, such as the YMCA, Boys & Girls Clubs, Journey House, the Next Door Foundation and many others, will operate these Safe Places at their own sites and in dozens of schools, as Milwaukee Public Schools opens its school buildings as after-school sites in the focus neighborhoods.

While these components make Safe & Sound different, they have also been proven successful.

For three years, a pilot program using the Safe & Sound model, operated in three Mil-

waukee neighborhoods. Called Weed & Seed, the pilot used tough law enforcement, Safe Places and Community Partners and it made a significant difference.

The result was a 47 percent reduction in violent felonies and a 21 percent drop in crime overall.

Similar programs also have worked in Racine, Boston and Pittsburgh.

Those are astounding results, and that's why we're expanding this model almost seven-fold.

Significant public funds have already been secured to support the law enforcement initiatives, and now the business community and private donors need to come forward and commit their support to making Safe & Sound as successful as we know it can be.

We have a specific goal — to reduce violent crime by 20 percent in the focus areas — and a specific plan that's already worked in our community and others.

We intend to measure our results and demonstrate our success on a regular basis. We will see lower crime, higher property values, better student achievement and an improved quality of life in our community.

And, as crime drops, neighborhoods grow stronger and children choose the path of success over violence, we will see the return on investment we seek.

As your colleagues in the business community, we ask you to invest in Safe & Sound with your support and your commitment to help it succeed. The results will benefit all of us.

Patti Brash McKeithan, vice president-corporate affairs for Miller Brewing Co., is co-chair of the Safe & Sound board of directors, and Ed Zore, executive vice president of Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co., is the Safe & Sound fund development campaign chairman.

Director named for new anti-crime program

By GEORGIA PABST
of the Journal Sentinel staff

A former Peace Corps volunteer and executive director of a south side agency will become the executive director of Safe & Sound Inc., Milwaukee's new communitywide anti-crime initiative.

Nicolette Bautista, who has been executive director of Journey House for the last seven years, will take over as the director of Safe & Sound on Nov. 23, according to Patricia Brash McKeithan, the co-chair of Safe & Sound and vice president of corporate affairs for Miller Brewing Co.

The Safe & Sound program, with a \$21 million budget for its first three years, hopes to reduce youth crime and violence



Bautista

nizing.

Safe & Sound is based on similar programs in Boston and Pittsburgh and on Milwaukee's Weed and Seed programs, which reduced criminal activity in three Milwaukee neighborhoods.

Steven J. Smith, co-chair of the Safe & Sound board and president and CEO of Journal

through the coordination of tough law enforcement, positive alternatives for youth such as after-school programs, and stronger neighborhoods through door-to-door orga-

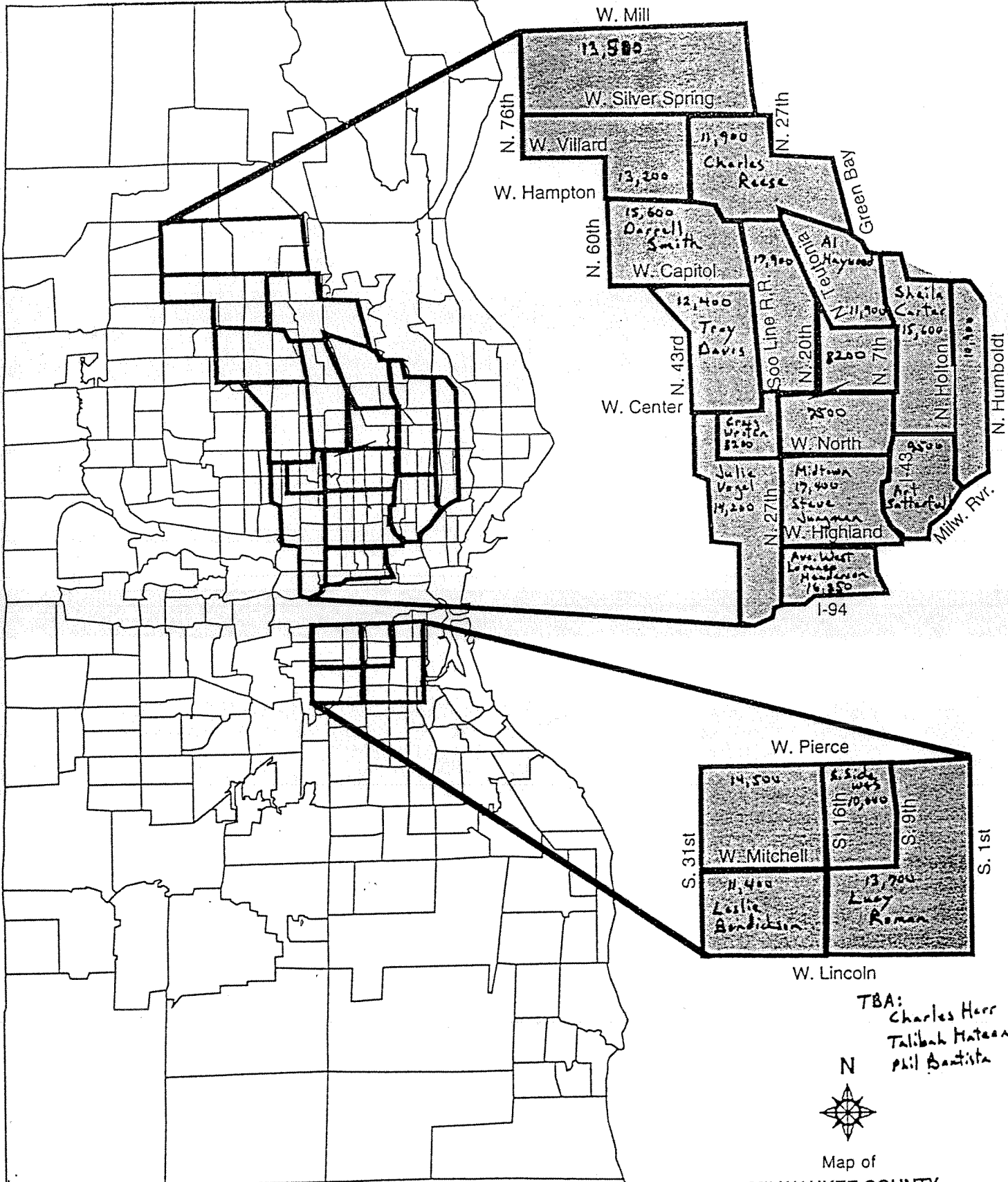
Communications Inc., said Bautista will help "keep us on the right track and help us achieve real, measurable results."

Born in Milwaukee, Bautista graduated from Hamilton High School and Marquette University. After college she served as a Peace Corps volunteer in west-central Africa.

Part of her job with Safe & Sound will be raising the \$4.5 million in private contributions needed to finance the network of after-school programs, or safe havens that are part of the program.

MPS hopes to open 11 community learning centers by the end of the month, and an additional 16 Safe Havens next year.

Safe & Sound Target Neighborhoods: Area, Est. Population, and Community Partner



TBA:
Charles Herr
Talibah Mateen
Phil Bautista



Map of
MILWAUKEE COUNTY
by Census Tract



Thompson wants to use U.S. funds for welfare for at-risk kids

\$20 million would be split among communities that develop best programs

By STEVEN WALTERS
of the Journal Sentinel staff

Madison — Gov. Tommy G. Thompson this week will ask legislators to use federal welfare-reform funds to create a \$20 million "community youth" fund to be shared by communities who develop the best plans to help at-risk children.

In his State of the State mes-

sage scheduled for Wednesday night, Thompson also will ask that part of the \$20 million fund be reserved for grants for two Milwaukee non-profit programs, Safe & Sound and the Wisconsin Good Samaritan Project Inc., an aide said.

In addition to making Wisconsin children a theme of his annual speech, the Republican governor also will propose a one-time \$200,000 grant to help a private group develop a way for small, private businesses to go together to buy health insurance for employees.

Thompson aide Kevin Keane

said the governor will weave the need to help children through many subjects in his speech, including health care, education, welfare reform, communities and the environment.

As an example of that emphasis, Keane said, Thompson will ask the Legislature to create the new \$20 million fund, with communities competing for grants from the fund.

Only the best project applications would be funded, except that "several million" would be set aside for the two Milwaukee projects, Keane said. He said exactly how much would be set

aside would not be announced until the governor's Feb. 16 budget message.

In Wednesday's speech, Thompson is scheduled to say the \$20 million grant fund would "forge a partnership between state and neighborhood groups to help at-risk children get off to a strong and healthy start (and) build stronger families and communities."

"Today's children are the first generation of a new millennium, and we must make sure they area ready to tackle the chal-

Please see PROPOSAL page 6

Proposal/Governor seeks 'community youth' fund

From page 1

lenges ahead," says the preliminary draft of the speech.

To pay for the \$20 million in new grants, Keane said Thompson will ask the Legislature to use federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds the state built up as a result of W-2, the work-based alternative to welfare.

Guaranteed part of the \$20 million would be:

* **Safe & Sound:** In its materials, Safe & Sound leaders say it fights youth crime and violence by organizing neighborhoods against drug sales and gangs and by giving youth safe, constructive activity centers after school, on evenings and on weekends and in the summer.

Officials of the group say they would like to first target an area of Milwaukee bounded by the Menomonee River north to Mill Road, from N. Humboldt Blvd. on the east to N. Sherman Blvd., W. Fond du Lac Ave. and N. 76th St. on the west.

It would cost \$7 million a year to run Safe & Sound programs in about 20 Milwaukee neighborhoods, which would dramatically expand a pilot program, the group's leaders have estimated. In addition to the state, that money would come from other sources.

Safe & Sound now gets some tax funds, Keane said.

Good Samaritan: In materials given to state officials, leaders of the Wisconsin Good Samaritan project say it would work with individuals and families to fight drug and alcohol abuse, child abuse, homelessness and family violence.

Keane said the new fund would be administered by the state Department of Workforce Development and grants would be awarded based on which programs would best keep children in school and away from criminal activity.

"We want to encourage communities to find ways to help at-risk children," Keane said.

Thompson will also propose giving a private group or industry trade group, which will be picked by the state insurance commissioner, a one-time grant of \$200,000 to develop a way that small employers can go together to buy health insurance.

The experiment would try to help "small employers who just don't have the purchasing power to afford health insurance," Keane added. "The state's role would be to just get it started."

State insurance officials estimate that, if the experiment works, it might help make health insurance available to 35,000 workers at small businesses, Keane added.

Youth fund gets warm response

Community leaders like plan but say poor families need even more programs

BY MARGO HUSTON
of the Journal Sentinel staff

Community leaders Tuesday applauded Gov. Tommy G. Thompson's proposal to use welfare-reform funds to create a \$20 million "community youth" fund, but they cautioned that additional programs are needed to help poor Milwaukee families become self-sufficient.

The state has a \$200 million surplus in federal welfare dollars, unspent because thousands fewer families than expected are using child-care subsidies or participating in Wisconsin Works (W-2), the state's work-based welfare reform program.

Thompson is expected to unveil the youth initiative in his State of the State message tonight.

Bob Milbourne, executive director of the Greater Milwaukee Committee of business and civic leaders, praised Thompson's commitment to funding Safe & Sound — a neighborhood-based program to fight youth crime and violence — saying the group is a remarkable collaboration of community organiza-

tions.

Establishing a youth fund will spur creative approaches to helping youngsters, he said. Milwaukee also needs more resources to improve child care options and alcohol and drug programs, both essential if parents are to succeed in the workforce.

"The whole community is better off if individuals get the [alcohol and drug abuse] treatment they need," Milbourne said.

Dave Rohlfing, executive director of the Milwaukee Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, said "all of the services conceptualized for use of the \$200 million should focus on prevention of substance abuse, because substance abuse contributes heavily to poverty and unemployment and other human needs."

He and other community leaders, particularly members of the Milwaukee Innercity Churches Allied for Hope, are calling for state and federal dollars to restore funding of treatment programs in Milwaukee County to \$15 million, the level it had in 1993, before cuts began.

County officials spent \$3.4 million over budget in 1998 and recently announced cuts in services to poor and uninsured addicts to avoid overspending this

year.

The county has budgeted \$7.5 million for treatment programs for the past two years.

State Rep. John Gard (R-Peshigo), one of the architects of W-2, said that before the state allocates additional dollars to Milwaukee County for drug and alcohol treatment the current system must be scrutinized, especially the services provided under Medicaid.

Child care also must improve. "I am open to spending some additional money there, but I want to make sure we're using the existing dollars as effectively as possible."

Gard said that with the huge drop in welfare caseloads — 87% since 1993 — state taxpayers should reap the benefits.

Anne Arnesen, executive director of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, a statewide advocacy group, praised Thompson's "community youth" fund, saying, "There's a crying need for help for children 10 to 16, latchkey children, who are too old for day care and too young to be unsupervised after school."

But she urged Thompson to consider initiatives to help younger children, for whom the quality of care can help determine a person's success in life.

SAFE AND SOUND CELEBRATES 'SAFE PLACES' GRAND OPENING

MILWAUKEE-- Safe & Sound Inc. Milwaukee. Along with offering facilities to house many of the after-school programs.

officially marked the grand opening of 25 Safe & Sound after school Safe Places in Milwaukee. Safe Places offer positive, constructive activities during the critical after school, weekend and summer hours. Safe & Sound officials along with community leaders marked the grand opening with fireworks and festivities at Douglas Community Academy, an MPS middle school with a "community learning center" after school program in place.

"Through these Safe Places, we hope to reach on a daily basis, as many as 5,000 youth who would not otherwise be served," said Nicolette Bautista, executive director of Safe & Sound Inc. "We plan to have more than 40 Safe Places open by January with at least two Safe Places in twenty focus neighborhoods."

The Safe Places are one part of a three-pronged approach to preventing and reducing crime in Milwaukee Public Schools is a major partner in Safe & Sound Safe Places because it is providing MPS

facilities to house many of the after-school programs.

"We're very pleased that MPS has pledged to open its facilities for this purpose," said Patti McKeithan, vice president of corporate affairs for Miller Brewing Company and co-chair of the Safe & Sound board of directors. "These programs do more than give kids a place to go after school. They are reaching out to the entire neighborhood with education, resources and new ideas."

Youth-serving agencies such as the YMCA, Boy's & Girls Clubs, as well as independent neighborhood centers such as members of the United Neighborhood Centers of Milwaukee, will team with MPS to operate these Safe Place and staff programs.

Safe & Sound's mission is to reduce crime in the focus area by at least 20% in its first three years. A campaign to raise \$4.5 million in private contributions is under way.

The program has a \$21 million total budget for its first three years.

The nonprofit Safe & Sound was created to implement the recommendations of the Youth Crime and Violence Task Force, which was established by U.S. Senator Herb Kohl, Mayor John O. Norquist and U.S. Attorney Thomas Schneider. The program is based on similar, successful models in Boston and Pittsburgh and three pilot "



Weed and Seed" neighborhoods in Milwaukee, where criminal elements were "weeded" out and positive alternatives were "seeded" to prevent the recurrence of criminal activity. Safe & Sound, which was launched in June, is supported by a variety of public and private funds.

City deserves to be Safe & Sound

The drastic drop in crime in Milwaukee's three Weed and Seed neighborhoods raises this question: Why not expand the Weed and Seed program to all the city's high-crime areas? The answer: Officials are doing precisely that.

They have dubbed the expanded effort Safe & Sound. The idea is to weed out crime while seeding hope in young people. The program comprises coalitions of law-enforcement agencies and youth-serving organizations and a network of neighborhood organizers.

Safe & Sound involves stepped-up policing and more recreational and academic activities for young people. The key, according to Mayor John Norquist, are the organizers, who identify trouble spots as they go from house to house and who can connect families to resources.

Weed and Seed has been federally financed. The new effort, costing \$21 million over three years, will come from public and private funds. A drive is under way to raise \$4.5 million in private money to finance so-called Safe Places, after-school sites for young people. So far, \$800,000 has come in — \$300,000 from the Fleck Foundation and \$250,000 each from Herb Kohl Charities and the Northwestern Mutual Life Foundation.

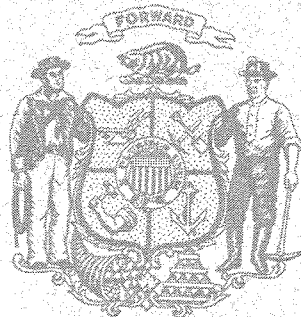
(Steven Smith, president and chief executive officer of Journal Communications Inc., is co-chair of the Safe & Sound board of directors.)

This fund drive is a worthy cause. As Norquist notes, lowering crime raises the value of city neighborhoods. And the combination of weeding out crime and seeding hope is a formula proven to work.

2001-03 GOVERNOR'S BUDGET REFORM BILL

*Joint Committee on Finance
Budget Papers*

Papers for February 27 Executive Session



CINDY MCGINNIS

To: Brian Burke
FR: Keith Realle

Talking Points in defense of Public Benefits funds — and against the Skibitski Amendment

--This would constitute a (roughly) 35% decrease in next year's public benefits funds—a huge hit.

3 year K -

--Most of this money is already under contract; the program administrators could sue DOA for breach of contract

--Fiscally this is idiotic, investments in energy efficiency typically have about a 3 to one return, that is very every dollar that is spent on these programs electric rate payers will save three dollars — penny wise and dollar foolish!

C+I programs
(2 to 1)

--Creating a precedent of using rate payer dollars to balance the budget is an extremely dangerous. For this very reason all of the state's utilities are opposed to this provision.

--There is a broad coalition of very diverse stakeholders, supporting Pub. Benefits from the Merchants Federation + all the utilities to us radical environmentalists.

- About 1/2 of this money is being used to make C+I (small businesses) more economic — save them energy dollars

- The results of this program have been immediate the residential program has already saved - 7 million kilowatt hours of electricity and - 100,000 therms of gas

amount saved →

DSM -
fossil fuel -

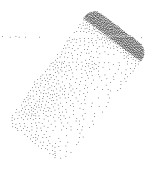
243-9353

McGinnis, Cindy

From: Ellyn McKenzie [Ellyn.McKenzie@SSCHC.ORG]
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2002 10:32 AM
To: 'Cindy.McGinnis@legis.state.wi.us'
Subject: rosenzweig

Mari Freiberg from our association is getting after her and we will too. 1) if we thought we could make up for state cuts with federal dollars we would sure as hell do it, we spend A LOT of time trying to get federal funds in the door 2) and guess what, the federal health center program is FEDERAL, if they cut a deal with Wisconsin to use federal funds to make up for state cuts, there are 49 other states in line right behind us. this is a stupid avenue for peggy to even suggest. cheers.

Ellyn McKenzie
Sixteenth Street Community Health Center
1337 S. Cesar E. Chavez Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53204
Phone: (414) 672-1315 Ext. 355
Fax: (414)672-0191



We NEED THE FOLLOWING:

CHOOSING COMMUNITY: PROGRAMS FOCUSED ON PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES

1. Changes in W-2 and SSI

- Increase the Caretaker Supplement above the Governor's recommendation of \$150/month per dependent child to \$250/month for the first child and \$150/month for each additional child (cost = \$6.65 million of federal TANF dollars)
- Support the Governor's proposal to expand child care assistance program to include children age 12-18 with special needs or chronic health conditions who require supervision after school.

2. School funding

- Retain statutory language directing the state to reimburse local districts at 63% of the actual costs of special education.
- Provide additional funding to increase the Categorical Aids reimbursement rate to local school districts to 40%.

3. CIP 1A

- Increase rates to \$250/day in Yr. 1 for new placements from DD Centers to the community, which would enable up to 120 new placements/year.

4. CIP 1B

- Increase to \$70/day rate for all new community placements; add 200 new slots each year. (GPR cost in Yr. 1 = \$1.1 million; Yr. 2 = \$3.2 million)

5. Brain Injury Waiver

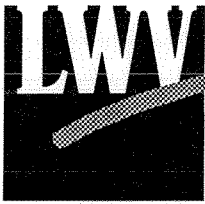
- We propose 75 new slots in Year 1 and 75 for Year 2, and restoration of the (recently-reduced) rate to its former \$180/day level.

6. Family Support Program

- Fully fund the program, i.e., provide services to 2220 children on waiting lists. Total Cost: \$6 million/year

7. Birth to 3 Program

- Fully fund the program.
- Provide \$2 million in Year 1 and \$2.5 million in Year 2 for a "Shortfall account" for counties.



The League of Women Voters of Dane County, Inc.

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E-Mail lwvdc@chorus.net • Web Page <http://danenet.wictp.org/lwvdc>

STATEMENT TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE REGARDING CARETAKER SUPPLEMENT FAMILIES

April 15, 1999

The League of Women Voters of Dane County strongly urges the Joint Committee on Finance to recommend in the 1999-2001 Budget a Caretaker Supplement for children of parents on SSI of \$250 for the first child and \$150 for each additional child, with an implementation date of July 1, 1999.

We appreciate the increase to \$150 for each child proposed in Governor Thompson's Budget, but know it will not adequately meet the basic needs of families headed by parents on SSI. An increase to \$250 for the first child will bring the families closer to the poverty level, and the additional income will help stabilize the families' living conditions. It will provide them, at least, with the opportunity to keep or find safe housing which meets the needs of the children and the parent's disabilities. Housing costs increase the most with the first child, which makes an additional supplement at this time critically important.

The Wisconsin Council on Developmental Disabilities 1998 Survey of parents on SSI documents that "the drop in income with the start of the Caretaker Supplement Program has placed families at risk for losing their housing, and for being unable to provide the basic necessities for their children." In Dane County alone, 32% (69) reported they were headed toward a housing transition due to inability to pay their rent.

Other indicators of the problems encountered by Caretaker Supplement families were demonstrated in a survey done by Joining Forces for Families of the Dane County Human Services Department in the summer of 1998. Of the 343 families receiving the Caretaker Supplement, 70% responded to the survey. The results:

- 36% are experiencing major problems of survival
- 94% are experiencing a reduced standard of living
- only 50% are receiving Section 8 housing, and there is a two year wait for subsidized housing
- 30% are having trouble paying utility bills
- 18% have had their phone disconnected (For many adults with disabilities, a phone is their major means of connecting with the outside world).

Parents feel that they are being punished for their disabilities, and the constant worry is affecting their health. The increase to \$100 per child per month did not relieve their financial worries because of the corresponding loss of food stamps. Nor does the League feel that an additional \$50 a month will be adequate.

The proposed increase of \$250 for the first child, and \$150 for each additional child will again provide the security lost for our most fragile Wisconsin families under the implementation of W-2, and the League urges the Committee to approve this increase.

April 15, 1999

Governor Thompson, Joint Finance Committee and all Members,

My name is Dianna M. Cole. I am from Iowa County, a small village called Avoca. I have brought with me, our newly elected Village President, Janet Perkins.

I have come here today to VOICE my opinion on an issue that I find very IMPORTANT, DAYCARE!" My concerns are Grant money for start-up of new daycares, and for the bettering of centers all ready in service. Such as Before and After school care.

We are in desparate need of QUALITY group daycare centers, especially in my area in Iowa County.

A quality center should provide FULL SERVICE CARE and have the childrens' best interest covered, as well as all the overhead costs, but yet be able to keep the rates down so parents can afford to use the service!!

I feel it is very important to set aside some monies to distribute grants. The start up costs are phenominal, mostly due to the regulations of the state, but all very much understood for the best quality care for our children.

If we are to get more centers up and running, and better the ones all ready in service, and yet keep it affordable for the parents, **YOU NEED TO HELP!!!!!!!!!!!!**

I would also like to make a couple of brief suggestions. May be it would be possible for you to make more information available on other monies that might be out there or something on the lines of the programs that you help fund like "Habitat for Humanity" and such, and instead of building homes, build daycare centers. Getting people to lend a hand is as easy as the asking.

Please consider my opinion on this matter, as I am in the process of opening a group daycare facility, and came here today with nowhere to turn. I have been furiously working on this issue since mid December and am getting nowhere.

I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to come here and voice my opinion. I hope it matters, and I surely hope I have been HEARD!!!!

I've had to leave before I was able to speak, but would really appreciate you reading this.

Dianna Cole

Dianna Cole
P.O. Box 213
Avoca, WI. 53506
608-532-6854

*of what about
reinvestment
money. It's there
let's find a use for
it.*

Joint Finance Committee Mtg.
Testimony 4/15/99

213 S Midvale # B
Madison, WI
53711
(608) 271-4287

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before your committee today. I would like to urge your committee to reconsider the governor's proposed funding cuts to Community Aids. Community Aids funds support the important and cost-effective work of many service programs which assist children, people with disabilities and older adults. As a Madison employee of an agency serving adults with disabilities, I am very concerned about these proposed cuts. If funding is not restored, Dane County will experience a 4% cut in community service funding. 4% does not sound like small potatoes to anyone doing this work. We know that we can't afford even a cut at this level. Such a funding cut fails to permit agencies to stay on top of inflation, and restricts the scope and quality of what they are able to accomplish. **The success of these programs rests in being able to assure the families and the community of the high quality of services people receive.** These programs provide jobs, as well, and in order to continue to be good employers, agencies receiving funding from Community Aids need to be funded at least at the rate of inflation.

But I would like to urge you today, not only to fund these programs at the level of inflation, but indeed to fund increases for Community Aids, and the highly successful CIP and COP programs. This is why.

My brother graduated two years ago from high school in Milwaukee. He has a disability and benefitted from Special Education programs while in school. He received support to help him get a job in the community. Some day he would like to move into his own apartment and get support services there. I believe that Milwaukee and other counties across the state need to have more funding to **expand and improve upon** their services to people with disabilities. In Milwaukee and elsewhere in the state, there are long waiting lists for people who would need support on the job or in their own homes. I know from working and living in Madison that there are some great model programs in the state doing good work to support people with disabilities. I believe we should be proud of these programs and make increased Community Aids funds available to do even more for all of our citizens with disabilities in the state. Thank you.

which are well administered
+ hold workers accountable

in
Madison:
1e Options in Community Living
Family Support + Resource Center
Community Work Services

My name is Christa Decker.

201 S Park
MADISON, WI

I learned that
the governor wants
to cut money for
COMMUNITY AIDS
programs.

I don't know WHY.

I ~~am~~ am a member of People First.
I have cerebral palsy.

I get help from Options to:

- open my mail
- take me to the doctor
- help me write down what the doctor has to say

Options helps me hire people to be my attendants. They

- feed me
- take me to the bathroom
- help me get dressed.

PLEASE DON'T CUT THE
FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY
AIDS!

**JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE TESTIMONY
APRIL 15 1999
RICHARD SICCHIO
NORTHERN AREA AGENCY ON AGING**

My name is Richard Sicchio. I am the Director of the Northern Area Agency on Aging. The Northern AAA region includes twenty-three counties and seven tribes in northern Wisconsin.

I would like to thank the members of the committee for providing this and other opportunities for myself and others to testify on issues that are of importance to those we are entrusted to serve.

I will make these comments as brief and to the point as I can.

There are three areas of the budget that I would like to comment about.

The first is the Family Care Proposal.

I have had considerable involvement with the development of the proposal over the past three years. I attended several of the regional meetings held by the department to gather input for the original draft.

I attended a "stakeholder" meeting with Secretary Leann to discuss the problems with the first draft and make suggestions for the revised proposal,

and I served on the Advocacy workgroup that submitted recommendations to the redesign executive committee that resulted in the advocacy appropriation that is part of the budget proposal.

I believe that the redesign of the long-term care system is the single most important issue that has been debated in my 25 years in the Wisconsin aging network.

The terms "home care entitlement" "consumer choice" and "eliminating institutional bias" are truly music to my ears.

In the past months the Family Care proposal seems to be coming under attack from many sides. While most people seem to agree on many of the basic principles, like pooling all long term care resources, allowing consumer choice, and developing resource centers,

everyone also has found one or more aspects of the proposal that they don't like. Collectively these negative positions are threatening to derail a plan that almost everyone agrees is **sorely needed and downright essential to the entire future of long term care in this state.**

I urge you today not allow this initiative to wither on the vine. All the reasons that were the initial impetus to embark on this venture are still here. They have not gone away.

We **have** a documentable institutional bias in this state.

Our Medicaid expenditures **are** going through the roof and that **will** bankrupt our system if we do not address this issue now.

It's **only** going to get worse if we stand by and do nothing.

We **should** level the playing field and let those wanting long-term care in their home have the same entitlement that those who get it in an institution have.

We **need** a home care entitlement. People **need** choice. **Every** county and tribe needs resource centers. These basic principle should become part of a system in Wisconsin to prepare us for the onslaught that will be brought upon us by the aging of the population.

Fund the pilots as the department proposes.

Let the department do **all** it can to help the pilots succeed.

Then study the results.

Fine tune the program.

And go on from there.

We **can** figure out how to do this. We have to.

Quickly, the other issues are:

Home delivered meals.

A nutritious home delivered meal is really the front line defense in the battle to control long-term care expenditures. All other things being equal, people who are not eating right will need long term care services sooner than those who are eating regular balanced meals.

The number of home delivered meals provided by the aging network went from 1,285,000 in 1986 to 2,562,000 in 1997.

The funding has been almost stagnant during that time.

There is no program anywhere where you get more bang for your buck.

This program desperately needs more funding to keep pace with the growth in the very old and frail population.

And lastly, Transportation

The budget includes only a 3% increase in the Elderly and Disabled Transportation Program.

That is not enough.

The needs are much greater.

Roads and bridges are important.

So are people with transportation needs.

We could use a little more balance.

Thank you

SENATE JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE
TESTIMONY
April 15, 1999
Robert Kellerman
AgeAdvantAge, Area Agency on Aging
Madison, WI

My name is Robert Kellerman. I am the director of the Area Agency on Aging for twenty-five Counties in Southern and Western Wisconsin.

Thank you for taking the time to hold these hearings and giving folks an opportunity to speak **on behalf of long term care and aging programs** in the proposed State budget. I have worked in the field of aging for over twenty years and never before have I felt it more important to personally testify on their behalf.

First and foremost I would like to comment on the Family Care Proposal

I am sure all of you have heard a lot about Family Care already. I am going trust that you have or will be seeing the many statistics that have been generated out of this issue before you cast your very important vote on this bill. I will not be repeating them here today. **For me Family Care boils down to three things: entitlement for home care services, consumer choice, and resource centers.**

Henry Ford said that people could buy his cars in any color they want as long as its black. Sometimes that reminds me of the long term care system. The over 10,000 persons on the COP waiting list can receive assistance with any service they want, as long as its provided in a nursing home. If Ford continued to offer cars painted only black he would be out of business today, but if we continue to offer only one choice for older persons they, like Ford's customers, ~~they~~ will continue to have no real choice. **The COP waiting list is proof that when people are given even a possibility of choice, they will take it.** Family Care's entitlement and opportunity to choose services will get at the COP waiting list problem and will, once and for all, give people what they want.

Long Term Care Resource Centers are a good idea. During my many years working with a County Aging Office, older persons and their families consistently rated information about services as their number one or number two need. The one-stop-shop makes perfect sense. I am now having the opportunity to see the five pilots develop and talk with the persons who run them. They are taking their agencies to new levels, doing the things that they could not do before. The data from them might be new but they do have a sense of their success.

My whole point is to ask that you give the nine pilots an opportunity to succeed by funding them as the Department requests. I understand that you have not heard too much from older persons about Family Care and have been receiving somewhat negative feedback at hearings. I urge you to take a few minutes and talk to some of your elderly constituents about these ideas. They may be surprised to find out that they don't already have choices. Also, feel free to call your local aging offices in your counties and

talk with them. Your recommendation this year are too important to make without their opinions.

Personal Care

I have talked with counties that are very worried about the workforce shortages and this is influencing their opinions about Family Care. Regardless of the decisions about the redesign of long term care, this problem will be there and I believe it has everything to do with wages. I also urge you to approve the wage pass through legislation. Home Care workers are very special workers. They deserve to receive this increase.

Transportation

Having operated a specialized transportation program I can tell you that it isn't easy. It is especially difficult with budgets as they are. These programs tend to be frugal and the people who run them know how to make a dollar go the mile. I am appalled to think that the DOT can receive a \$388m increase and that the specialized transportation services receives less than 1% of that.

April 15, 1999

Testimony to the Joint Finance Committee
Regarding the Governor's Proposed Biennial Budget

Good afternoon, Senators and Representatives. Thank you for allowing me the time to express thoughts and concerns about the Governor's proposed biennial budget.

My name is Shelley Rashke, and I am a Regional Director for REM-Wisconsin, Inc. My organization provides assisted living and day services for people with developmental disabilities. I am here today as the Co-Chair and representative of the Dane County Purchase of Service Providers Advisory Committee. Membership consists of representatives from coalitions and consortia in a cross-section of human service fields. We provide services for our most vulnerable citizens, including frail elderly, people with developmental, physical, and mental health disabilities, individuals with substance abuse issues, and families and children in need.

I am here to let you know the impact the governor's proposed budget will have on real people in Dane County. Human Services will face a total reduction of 2.6 million dollars, due to cuts in federal and state revenue combined with modest cost of living increases. How does this effect people?

12 people with developmental disabilities would lose their home and services in the community. 4000 meals for frail elderly people will not be served. 23 people with serious and persistent mental illness will lose their homes or assistance. 10 at risk families will not receive services, and their children will be abused or neglected. 15 people with physical disabilities will lose their homes. 54 people with disabilities will lose transportation (possibly resulting in losing their jobs). 67 families will lose services that enable them to take care of their children with disabilities at home. 410 people will not receive alcohol and drug treatment and early intervention services. 158 people with disabilities and at-risk youth will lose job training, education, and day services which help them to become contributing citizens. 87 elderly people will not receive needed assistance to remain in their homes or to help with progressing dementia. These are only some of the realities people in Dane County will face if the governor's proposed budget stands as it is. These probabilities only reflect what would happen to people in Dane County. You must multiply this tragedy across every County in the State to get a true picture. This doesn't even consider the hundreds of people who are currently waiting for necessary services. We don't have choices. There won't be decisions about which needy group is "most needy". We can't pit one disability group against another, to see who's got a stronger advocacy contingent. As an Advisory Committee representing all needy populations, we come with common concerns. All these reductions would happen, and more. Do you know anyone who is elderly, has a disability, struggles with addictions, or has children with problems? Please, put a face to these numbers.

You may think, so what, a couple people don't get some services. Well, what will happen to these real people? Will they become homeless? Will children be taken away from their families? Will frail elderly and other vulnerable people be exploited?

We are talking about basics of food, shelter, health and safety. We have an obligation to our most vulnerable brothers and sisters. The alternative to assisted living in the community is

institutional care. This is certainly less human and dignified. But, it is also much more expensive. The money it takes to help someone live in the community is significantly less than any type of institutional setting. These funds also come from taxpayers. We are all taxpayers. I for one, as well as many people with whom I have spoken, would gladly forego \$30 and change in a tax cut to preserve these essential human services. We can not lay the cost for necessary services on the backs of property tax payers.

In summary, I urge you as our elected voice, to adequately support local human service departments to carry out State mandated services. We need you to ensure adequate revenues from Community Aids, Medical Assistance Waiver Programs (CIP), Income Maintenance Administrative Allocation, Intergovernmental Transfer Program Revenues, and Medical Assistance Rates. Dane County Executive, Kathleen Falk, has outlined a number of ways the State can meet vital human service needs, through funding and policy changes. Our State has a strong economy. Our State needs to have an equally strong conscience.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Shelley K. Rashke, Co-Chair
Dane County Purchase of Service Providers Advisory Committee
Mailing Address: Shelley K. Rashke, Regional Director

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With Representation from Dane County:

Developmental Disabilities Coalition
Children-Youth and Family Consortium
Elderly Services Network
Children's Mental Health Consortium
Adult Mental Health Consortium
Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Consortium
Homeless Services Network