

Resolution: Vote of No Confidence DCYF Secretary Ross Hunter

Whereas, the Department of Children Youth and Families was created in 2017 to restructure how at-risk children are served and to prevent harm and Mr. Hunter was appointed to be the Secretary of this agency.

Whereas, DCYF has been awarded 120 additional positions in 2021 by the Legislature that remain unfilled.

Whereas, DCYF has seen an increase in serious staff assaults, turnover, and harm to children due to negligence of management.

Whereas, DCYF has decreased communication with staff including failing to hold and delaying Union Management Communication Committees resulting in the failure to provide staff with the necessary resources to prevent and respond to harm to children and for staff to keep themselves safe.

Whereas, WFSE members have repeatedly attempted to communicate with state management regarding critical staff needs including retention, safety, transparent communication, requesting UMCC's, email, job actions, and petitions.

Whereas, DCYF management has consistently delayed or refused to respond to any requests by WFSE members that would address the significant issues throughout the agencies in DCYF resulting in further harm to staff and the families they serve.

Now therefore be it resolved that the DCYF Policy Committee is recommending to the WFSE Executive Board a vote of no confidence for the Secretary of DCYF Ross Hunter

Be it further resolved that WFSE does everything in its power to have DCYF have automatic mental health debriefings after critical incidents

Be it further resolved that WFSE does everything in its power to have DCYF have a written safety plan for youth out of placement and a process for appeals if workers disagree with level of supervision

Be it further resolved that WFSE does everything in its power to have DCYF implement joint overtime training with Appointing Authorities, Supervisors and Staff

Be it further resolved that WFSE does everything in its power to have DCYF management advocate for recruitment and retention of staff at the Governor and Legislature

Be it further resolved that WFSE does everything in its power to have DCYF management have state-wide all staffs and pathways for direct feedback from field staff.

Jeanette Obelcz /s/

Jeanette Obelcz

DCYF Policy Committee Chair

Interim

_____ Bethany Plunkett /s/ _____

Bethany Plunkett

DCYF Policy Committee Secretary-

Adopted by ____ DCYF Policy Committee _____ on __6/07/2023_____