

Jim Doyle
Governor

Roberta Gassman
Secretary



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Secretary Gassman Announces \$19,000 Grant to Brown County to Fund Respite Care for Children at Risk of Abuse, Neglect

GREEN BAY – Department of Workforce Development Secretary (DWD) Roberta Gassman today presented the Brown County Department of Human Services a Community Child Care Initiatives Grant for \$19,061 to help fund respite care to children at risk of abuse or neglect.

With state and local funding, the county provides respite care to 19 families with 31 children a year. Children receive temporary care from licensed providers in the community while their parents participate in court ordered services, according to Nan Pahl, employment and economic support manager for Brown County Human Services.

Joined by Senator Dave Hansen of Green Bay, Secretary Gassman awarded the grant on behalf of Governor Jim Doyle. With the grant and matching county funds, more than \$45,000 will continue this important service, Secretary Gassman said.

“We are pleased to award this grant to Brown County to help provide for these children who are at risk of either abuse or neglect,” Secretary Gassman said. “Through the Governor’s *KidsFirst* initiative, we will continue to work to improve the lives of our children and ensure that they receive quality child care at an early age.”

Gassman said studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison show \$7 to \$8 in long-term savings on every child care dollar. A dollar spent on quality childcare today helps reduce the high cost of fighting crime and addressing other problems borne of failure and poverty, she said. Research has shown that children receiving quality care and early education are better prepared for school and more likely as adults to become successful, contributing members of society.

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