



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 30, 2017

Community Services Commended for Sound Fiscal Performance

The State of Minnesota has commended Crow Wing County for perfect performance in meeting State Department of Human Services financial reporting requirements for the calendar year 2016.

In a letter from Emily Johnson Piper, Commissioner of the Department of Human Services, she stated that all key quarterly fiscal reports were submitted to the Financial Operations Division on or before the report deadlines and in perfect order. A total of 32 major reports covering the four calendar quarters of 2016 were submitted by Community Services.

“I know this accomplishment requires planning, an efficient operation and teamwork within your county Human Services Department,” Johnson said in a letter sent to County Board Chair, Doug Houge and Community Services Director, Kara Terry. “The result is timely revenue for your county and compliance with federal reporting for us at the State,” Johnson said.

Sheila Skogen, Operations Manager, was pleased that the unit was recognized. “We have an excellent accounting team; committed to providing timely, efficient and accurate fiscal management”.

Community Services expends more than \$163 million dollars annually, of which 4.66%, \$7.6 million is funded by the county levy. In 2015, total program costs were \$163,133,479 with Medical Assistance programs being the highest spending area at \$110 million, or 67.5% of the total program costs. Social Service programs represent the second largest portion of the total at \$41.4 million, or 25.4%. Cash assistance programs were 6.3% of the total at \$10.2 million. While this is a large portion of the county budget we have seen a significant decrease. For example, from 2009 to our proposed 2017 budget, we have reduced tax levy dollars by \$1,209,306, a decrease of 14.3%.

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Our Vision: Being Minnesota’s favorite place.
Our Mission: Serve well. Deliver value. Drive results.
Our Values: Be responsible. Treat people right. Build a better future.

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