

Aitkin County Board of Commissioners
Request for County Board Action/Agenda Item Cover Sheet



To: Chairperson, Aitkin County Board of Commissioners Date: 1-17-12

Via: Patrick Wussow, County Administrator

From: Patrick Wussow, County Administrator

Title of Item:

Remnica House

Requested Meeting Date: 1-24-12 Estimated Presentation Time: _____

Presenter: Lisa Hamilton

Type of Action Requested (check all that apply)

- For info only, no action requested Approve under Consent Agenda
- For discussion only with possible future action Adopt Ordinance Revision
- Let/Award Bid or Quote (attach copy of basic bid/quote specs or summary of complex specs, each bid/quote received & bid/quote comparison)
- Approve/adopt proposal by motion Approve/adopt proposal by resolution (attach draft resolution)
- Authorize filling vacant staff position
- Request to schedule public hearing or sale Other (please list) _____
- Request by member of the public to be heard
- Item should be addressed in closed session under MN Statute _____

Fiscal Impact (check all that apply)

- Is this item in the current approved budget? Yes _____ No _____ (attach explanation)
- What type of expenditure is this? Operating Capital Other (attach explanation)
- Revenue line account # that funds this item is: _____
- Expenditure line account # for this item is: _____

Staffing Impact (Any yes answer requires a review by Human Resources Manager before going to the board)

- Duties of a department employee(s) may be materially affected. Yes No
- Applicable job description(s) may require revision. Yes No
- Item may impact a bargaining unit agreement or county work policy. Yes No
- Item may change the department's authorized staffing level. Yes No



Supporting Attachment(s)

- Memorandum Summary of Item
- Copy of applicable county policy and/or ordinance (excerpts acceptable)
- Copy of applicable state/federal statute/regulation (excerpts acceptable)
- Copy of applicable contract and/or agreement
- Original bid spec or quote request (excluding complex construction projects)
- Bids/quotes received (excluding complex construction projects, provide comparison worksheet)
- Bid/quote comparison worksheet
- Draft County Board resolution
- Plat approval check-list and supporting documents
- Copy of previous minutes related to this issue
- Other supporting document(s) (please list) Program Update

Provide eleven (11) copies of supporting documentation NO LATER THAN Wednesday at Noon to make the Board's agenda for the following Tuesday. Items WILL NOT be placed on the Board agenda unless complete documentation is provided for mailing in the Board packets. (see reverse side for details)

AITKIN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

Aitkin County Courthouse
217 Second Street N.W. Room 130
Aitkin, MN 56431
218-927-7276
Fax: 218-927-7374

TO: Aitkin County Board of Commissioners

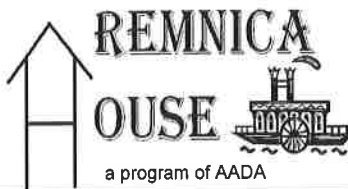
FROM: Patrick Wussow, Aitkin County Administrator

**RE: OVW Safe Haven Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant –
Lisa Hamilton**

DATE: January 18, 2012

Lisa Hamilton, Executive Director AADA, will be present at the County Board meeting to explain the details and progress that has been made with AADA and Remnica House. Lisa was able to obtain a second grant that will bring an additional \$344,822 dollars to Aitkin for a much needed program.

Please contact me with any questions.



Supervised Visitation

P.O. Box 153 • Aitkin, MN 56431
218.927.2238 • fax: 218.927.2048 • remnicahse@charterinternet.com
Located at 111 Second St NW

Safe Exchange

OVW Safe Haven Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program Update

- The US Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) refunded Aitkin County for the Safe Haven Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program in the amount of \$344,822. Services will be provided for 3 years through Remnica House which is a program of Advocates Against Domestic Abuse.
- Services at Remnica House are provided at no cost to families that are experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault or dating violence. Families that use Remnica House can be referred through the Court, Human Services, attorneys, or they can refer themselves. Two main services are offered through Remnica House:
 - **Supervised visitation** allows a parent continued access to his/her children in a setting designed to enhance safety for the children and the victimized parent.
 - **Safe exchanges** transfer children from one parent to the other without the parents having any contact with each other, eliminating the opportunity for the children to be exposed to further verbal abuse or violence toward the victimized parent.
 - Remnica House has also provided assistance for parents in negotiating parenting time or exchange locations.
- The mission of Remnica House is to provide a safe, peaceful environment for children and adults affected by family violence while utilizing community partnerships in an effort to foster healthy respectful parent/child relationships through supervised visit and safe exchange services.
- We define domestic violence as a pattern of behavior that one intimate partner or spouse exerts over another as a means of control. This may include physical or sexual violence, intimidation, threats, isolation, and emotional or verbal abuse. Our services have been designed with the objective of increasing safety for victims of domestic violence and decreasing further opportunity to abuse. We believe that all people deserve respect and to be treated as individuals. We believe that every child should be able to expect safe and enriching interactions with their parents.
- REMNICA HOUSE believes that children cannot be protected from the consequences of domestic violence unless the dynamics of power and control in their families are addressed. If we ignore the dynamics of power in their families, children are exposed to further harm.

Every child deserves a lifetime of peace and family harmony.