

**Milwaukee Brighter Futures RFP for 2016 Projects**

<b>Agency Name</b>	<b>West Allis West Milwaukee Family Resource Center</b>
<b>Street Address</b>	<b>1509 South 76<sup>th</sup> Street</b>
<b>City State Zip</b>	<b>West Allis, WI 53214</b>
<b>Brighter Futures Project Name</b>	<b>Fighting for Tomorrow</b>
<b>Contact Person Name, Phone, Email</b>	<b>Joanie Luedke 414-430-2207</b> <b>jluedke@earthlink.net</b>
<b>Amount of Brighter Futures Request</b>	<b>\$125,000.00</b>
<b>Date of Most Recent Agency Audit</b>	<b>June, 2015</b>
<b>Authorizing Official's Name and Title</b>	
<b>Authorizing Official's Signature</b>	

**Project Abstract (250 word limit):**

Fighting for Tomorrow is a community initiative spearheaded by the WAWM Family Resource Center (FRC), West Allis Police Department (WAPD), West Allis Fire Department (WAFD), and other Community Stakeholders that are part of the WAWM Opiate/Heroin Task Force. Our community, like the rest of the United States, is battling a terrible epidemic and it is taking our children from us on a daily basis. The main goal of Fighting for Tomorrow will be to prevent youth from using Opiates and Heroin and reduce the number of overdoses and deaths from these drugs. We will use a Four Pillar Strategy (originated/developed by the Winnebago County Heroin Task Force), which focuses on a coordinated, comprehensive approach utilizing multiple community stakeholders. This approach works because the stakeholders are our friends, neighbors, community leaders, and law enforcement. We have created the WAWM Opiate/Heroin Task Force to provide guidance of this model.

We are dedicated to raise community awareness of this public health epidemic, serve as a resource, and develop action plans that will create healthy and safe environments for our youth and families. Prevention is the only Hope we have of ending the continuing rise of this epidemic.

Being outside the City of Milwaukee, we are often overlooked when it comes to the needs of those in our community. Many do not realize our increased poverty and significant drug use/overdoses, as well as the significant number of at risk youth. Until we bring this epidemic to light and take responsibility as a community and increase our work in prevention, the number of heroin/opiate related deaths and overdoses will increase. Parents will continue to suffer in silence. And we will increasingly face the possibility that our own children will become heroin addicts, and that we ourselves will endure a living death.