

## Judicare of Anoka County, Inc.

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Dear Anoka County Bar Association Members:

We are writing with sad news. After more than 46 years serving people in Anoka County, the Judicare of Anoka County, Inc. Board of Directors has, with great regret, decided to dissolve Judicare by December 31, 2022.

As you know, Judicare was created in 1975 by you, the Anoka County Bar Association and Anoka County. The intent was to keep legal aid in Anoka County local, with local participation of members of the Anoka bar and a local Board of Directors. This created the best of both worlds, an office located in Anoka County with staff that includes attorneys and a panel of Judicare private attorneys. We have provided a wide variety of high quality, full service legal representation to low income people in Anoka County.

We were originally located in Anoka, then moved to the Anoka County Human Services Center in Blaine. This unique building houses multiple County, non-profit and State services for low income people under one roof. The location of our office allowed easy access to low income people in Anoka County.

Due to a change in state funding, Judicare no longer has sufficient funds to continue operating. The organization that distributes state funding decided that a single county program should not continue to receive the funding for Anoka County that Judicare has historically received.

We are sorry that, when Judicare dissolves, Anoka County will lose a Board of Directors who is comprised of local attorneys and local non-attorney residents; a local office; and local control of legal aid.

Thank you for your many years of support and participation.

Terri A. Melcher President – Board of Directors Judicare of Anoka County, Inc. Shelley D. Jensen Executive Director Judicare of Anoka County, Inc.