

Implementation & Budget Details

2022 ECAC Recommendation to Governor Evers

Recommendation Name:

Expand Access to Family Support Services through Family Resource Centers

Recommendation:

Family Resource Centers (FRCs) are critical to the health and well-being of Wisconsin’s children and families. They serve as community hubs for family support, offer programs and services that reduce risk factors for child abuse and neglect, improve outcomes such as school readiness and child well-being, and provide referrals to families for more targeted services and supports. To ensure families have access to supports and resources, we recommend the governor recognize and advocate for the essential role of FRCs. We further recommend investing to stabilize family support services in local communities, as well as increasing those investments to make the services of FRCs available to more families throughout Wisconsin.

Further, there may be a partnership that could be strengthened and better aligned between FRCs and the Department of Public Instruction’s Out-of-School Time (OST) programs to ensure families are connected to services through FRCs as a “no wrong door” approach.

Implementation Details:

We recommend an investment of \$5,000,000 to the Prevention Board to expand access to family support services by funding local FRCs and community-based agencies offering FRC-type services. This investment would provide operational stability to ensure current needs of FRCs could be met and enable communities to expand FRC services to additional regions and counties to serve more families.

Financial Commitment:

To provide stability to existing FRCs and expand access to family support services through FRCs, the ECAC recommends an investment of \$5,000,000. Currently, American Rescue Plan Act funding will cover FRC support services through June 30, 2024.

Initiative	Amount
Funding to maintain and expand access to Family Support Services through FRCs	\$5,000,000 for SFY 24-25 *ARPA funded through June 2024
Total Recommendation for biennial budget	\$5,000,000