



STATE OF WISCONSIN

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC ABUSE

P.O. BOX 1185 • MADISON, WISCONSIN 53701 • TELEPHONE (608) 266-0700

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC ABUSE Budget Committee

MEETING MINUTES July 7, 2026

Meeting was held virtually

Committee Members Present

Shannon Barry – Co-Chair	Abdul Shour
Suzi Schoenhof – Co-Chair	Tegan Swanson
Jane Graham Jennings	Liz Marquardt
Ann Kappauf	Katie Bement
Jaime Sathasivam	Alexandra Stanley
Sue Sippel	
Courtney Olson	
Cia Siab	
Deb Lee	

DCF Staff

Dana Johnson
Kristen Olson

Website: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/domesticabuse/council/access>

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions – Shannon Barry**
 1. DCF new PEI Section Manager – Dana Johnson, MSW.
 2. All members introduced.
- II. Approval of April 2026 Meeting Minutes – Shannon Barry**
 - a. Deb Lee motioned for approval, Ann Kappauf second. Motion carried unanimously.
- III. Statewide Compensation and Benefit Survey Update – Courtney Olson**
 - a. Presentation by Courtney Olson on findings from the benefit survey.
 - i. Compensation of staff and executive directors were compared, including hourly wage, paid time off, and health insurance and other benefits. The minimum wage recommended by MIT in the state of Wisconsin is \$28 for a single parent with two children. Most of the wages of staff surveyed fell short of \$28.

- ii. Observations included front-line wage gap, wide variance of compensation, part-time benefits cliff, and on-call norms are inconsistent.
- iii. Will there be additional follow-up to seek additional responses? Response rate was close to 50%, a reminder was sent, and copies of results were sent to those who participated. A report will be forwarded to all agencies in the future.
- iv. Appreciation shared for the survey and research conducted.
- v. We could consider an annual survey to continue to update the council and field.
- vi. Part-time benefits was discussed as an abnormality and would be helpful to explain to more agencies as a way to improve retention.
- vii. Many agencies use additional forms of benefits to assist with recruitment and retention, but there appear to be gaps and inconsistency of the types and benefit amounts.
- viii. Exit interviews were discussed as a means to learn more about retention.

IV. Funding Formula Review Workgroup

a. Subcommittee Report

- i. Deadline for the work is end of July, 2026
- ii. Recommendation to DCF to increase the funding and request more funds from the legislature.
- iii. The Budget Committee's previous policy brief was mentioned to be shared and reviewed with DCF as part of the efforts to make recommendations and more progress in this area.
- iv. Governor's Council had approved the Policy Brief in 2024 highlighting additional funds.
- v. Should advance multiple options for funding distribution to ensure DCF has options to choose from so that the time and work of the Subcommittee was fruitful.

V. Other Action Items

- a. Follow-up to determine if the October meeting will be in-person or virtual.
- b. Motion to adjourn made by Sue Sippel, second by Jamie Sathasivam.

Next meeting: October 13, 2026 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm (virtual for now)

Adjourn

Adjourned at 1:41pm CST.

Respectfully submitted by Dana Johnson and approved by Chair Barry.