Bureau of Youth Services

2017 Brighter Futures Initiative Programs

Agency: Barron County
Program: Barron County Trauma Project
Area: Barron County

**Description:** Barron County seeks to build resiliency in youth by educating them about the impacts of developmental trauma and how to overcome difficult situations by building their own assets, provide trauma-informed parenting courses to help caregivers support their children and continue to build a trauma informed community.

**Contact:** Ashley Weinert, (715) 537-6166, ashley.weinert@co.barron.wi.us
**Website:** [https://www.facebook.com/brighterfuturesinitiative/](https://www.facebook.com/brighterfuturesinitiative/)

Agency: Dane County Human Services
Program: Dane County Restorative Justice Collaborative
Area: Dane County

**Description:** Dane County has one of the worst DMC issues in the state. In order to help address this Dane County created the Dane Restorative Justice Coalition to provide a coordinated approach to restorative justice programming. Training will be provided to law enforcement and community based programs. Community based restorative justice circles and peer courts will be available in order to provide alternatives to arrest for law enforcement. Additionally, we will be providing subsidized work opportunities for youth and adults within their own communities. The goal is to develop capacity in community based organizations, enhance interventions that law enforcement have, divert youth from formal Juvenile Court involvement and impact DMC.

**Contact:** Andre Johnson, (608) 242-6416, Johnson.andre@countyofdane.com
**Website:** [https://danecountyhumanservices.org/Family/Delinquency/default.aspx](https://danecountyhumanservices.org/Family/Delinquency/default.aspx)

Agency: Diverse & Resilient
Program: LGBTQ Youth Support Project
Area: Milwaukee County

Description: Diverse and Resilient provides supports to LGBTQ youth and gay straight alliances (GSAs) in high schools through evidence-based interventions, site visits and phone consultations with teacher/counselor advisors, statewide conferences, and adult advocate training. Further, community-based programs for teens are supported through health-related messaging to youth via social media, brief interventions at pride events, and semi-annual trainings for youth development specialists. The overall aim of the program is for the targeted teens to thrive, living healthy, satisfying lives in safe, supportive communities.

Contact: Dan Ruge, (414) 390-0444, druge@diverseandresilient.org
Website: http://www.diverseandresilient.org/

Agency: Kenosha County Human Services
Programs: Kenosha County Brighter Futures Initiative
Area: Kenosha County

Description: The Kenosha County Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS), in partnership with the Kenosha Unified School District (KUSD) and Community Impact Programs (CIP), are implementing evidence-based programming at Hillcrest School which houses two alternative educational programs – the Bridges and TIME Programs. Strategies include the Seven Challenges Program, Aggression Replacement training, Girls Circle and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support. An AODA prevention component includes Project ALERT for all 7th grade students at Mahone Middle School. The goals of Kenosha County’s Brighter Futures Initiative are to reduce delinquent and violent behavior, reduce drug and alcohol use, and increase adolescent self-sufficiency.

Contact: Donna Rhodes, (262) 605-6528, donna.rhodes@kenoshacounty.org
Website: http://co.kenosha.wi.us/242/Brighter-Futures-Initiative

Agency: La Causa Crisis Nursery and Respite Center
Program: La Causa Crisis Nursery and Respite Center
Area: Milwaukee County

Description: The mission of La Causa, Inc. is to provide children, youth and families with quality, comprehensive services to nurture healthy family life and stable communities while preventing and reducing the incidence of child abuse and neglect. The services offered through the Crisis Nursery and Respite Center (CNRC) are just one vital part of this mission and addresses the needs of families during times of emergency and crisis.
Agency: **Milwaukee County (Community Advocates)**
Programs: Comprehensive Child Abuse Prevention
Comprehensive Teen Pregnancy Prevention and AODA Prevention
Foundations for Adolescent Well-Being
Milwaukee Start Right
Neu-Life Student Advocate Program
One-to-One Mentoring Program
PEACE Program
Trauma-Informed Services for Transition-Age Youth
Young Professionals Academy

Area: Milwaukee County

Description: Community Advocates’ Milwaukee Brighter Future Initiative (MBFI) works with several different networks of organizations and individuals who are devoted to creating effective prevention strategies to reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect, youth violence, teen pregnancy, teen alcohol and drug abuse, and educational and vocational unpreparedness among Milwaukee’s youth.

Contact: Elysse Chay Wageman, (414) 270-6936, EChay@CommunityAdvocates.net
Website: [http://ppi.communityadvocates.net/prevention_services/milwaukee_brighter_futures_initiative/](http://ppi.communityadvocates.net/prevention_services/milwaukee_brighter_futures_initiative/)

Agency: **Outagamie County**
Programs: Functional Family Therapy

Area: Outagamie County

Description: Functional Family Therapy will provide evidence-based family therapy services to families with a youth who is at moderate or high risk of out of home placement. The program will also serve families with youth transitioning home from other placements. Services may be provided to families involved in the juvenile justice or child protections systems as well as the mental health crisis system.
Agency: Portage County
Programs: Parents and Teens Together, Together Facing the Challenge & Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program
Area: Portage County

Description: Portage County Health and Human Services (PCHHS) along with their community partners, Children’s Service Society of Wisconsin (CSSW) and Big Brothers/Big Sisters (BBBS) will implement three evidence-based programs: Parents and Teens Together, Together Facing the Challenge, and Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Parents and Teens Together is a family-centered, trauma-informed initiative designed to build nurturing parenting skills. Together Facing the Challenge is an evidence-based treatment foster care model. Big Brothers/Big Sisters involves one-to-one mentoring between an adult and a youth that takes place in a community setting.

Contact: Kim Vagueiro, (715) 345-5880, vagueirk@co.portage.wi.us
Website: http://www.co.portage.wi.us/department/health-and-human-services

Agency: Red Cliff Family and Human Service Division
Program: Red Cliff Brighter Futures Initiative
Area: Red Cliff Tribe

Description: The Red Cliff Brighter Futures Initiative will prevent and reduce youth violence and other delinquent behavior, alcohol and other drugs, and increase adolescent self-sufficiency. The initiative will implement four prevention/intervention programs: Stand Up & Speak Out; LifeSkills Training; Discovery Dating, and Money Management to Red Cliff youth ages 12-18 who reside in the Red Cliff Reservation.

Contact: Peter Newago, (715) 779-3706, peter.newago@redcliff-nsn.gov
Website: http://redcliff-nsn.gov/divisions/FamilyServices/bfi.htm

Agency: Washington County
Programs: Youth Intervention Program and Nurturing Parenting Program
Area: Washington County
Description: Through a collaborative partnership with two agencies, Elevate, Inc. and The Youth and Family Project, Inc., Washington County’s BFI program will provide youth assessments to better understand the root causes of a youths’ involvement in the Juvenile Justice System including alcohol and drug use, mental health and trauma. Elevate, Inc. will also provide Restorative Justice Programming, substance abuse brief intervention services, educational programming, and make referrals for intensive in-home supportive services for parents with adolescents. In-home services will be provided by The Youth and Family Project, Inc. using the Nurturing Parenting Program. Washington County’s BFI will work with other collaborating agencies to identify incentives and consequences for youth and collect and provide data on the youth and families.

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