


To: DCF/DMCPS Administrator  
DCF Area Administrators  
Child Placing Agency Directors  
Child Welfare Agency Directors  
County Departments of Community Programs Directors  
County Departments of Human Services Directors  
County Departments of Social Services Directors  
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors  
Private Child Placing Agencies  
Tribal Chairpersons

From: Fredi-Ellen Bove   
Administrator

Re: Foster Parent Survey

**PURPOSE:**

The Division of Safety and Permanence within the Department of Children and Families has partnered with the University of Wisconsin-Madison Survey Center (UWSC) to issue a survey to all licensed Wisconsin Foster parents. The purpose of this survey is to identify the training needs, strengths, and challenges faced by foster parents in Wisconsin.

**BACKGROUND**

The survey will help the Department of Children and Families, counties, and private Child Placing Agencies partner in their efforts to continually strengthen training, recruitment, retention and policies affecting foster parents in Wisconsin.

**INFORMATION SUMMARY**

Within the next week Wisconsin Licensed Foster Parents will receive a brief survey asking about their experiences in training, recruitment, retention and policies affecting foster parents in Wisconsin. The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. All responses will be strictly confidential and will be submitted directly to a centralized database managed by the UWSC, where the responses will be aggregated. No information specific to foster parents will be shared with anyone, including staff of DCF, county or tribal child welfare agencies, private Child Placing Agencies or the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System.

To ensure that the aggregated responses from these surveys are representative of all licensed foster parents in Wisconsin, foster parent participation is critical. You can help by encouraging foster parents with whom you interact to take the survey and provide assurances to them that their individual responses will be handled by a neutral third party, and kept confidential.

We will share on our website in the future the results of this survey and actions taken based on the survey results.

**CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT:**

Out-of-Home Care Specialist  
Bureau of Permanence and Out-of-Home Care  
(608) 422-6937

**MEMO WEB SITE:** <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy>