



Wisconsin Department of Children and Families
Division of Safety and Permanence

DSP Informational Memo Series 2024-12i

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
Tribal Chairpersons

From: John Elliott,
Administrator

Re: Family Treatment Court Program Funding Opportunity

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memo is to notify county and tribal social or human service agencies of the availability of Family Treatment Court (FTC) program funding for two (2) jurisdictions in Wisconsin to establish a new FTC program. This memo also explains the application process for eligible agencies to be considered for an award of funding to support program pre-implementation costs and to support operation of the proposed FTC program.

BACKGROUND

[2017 Wisconsin Act 202](#) authorized grants to be administered by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to counties or tribes to enable them to establish and operate FTC programs. [2017 Wisconsin Act 261](#) appropriated funding for this grant program.

INFORMATION SUMMARY

A total of \$250,000 is available to DCF to fund two (2) agencies in Wisconsin to establish a new treatment court. Eligible applicants are counties and tribes seeking to establish or expand and operate evidence-based FTC programs. Information about how to apply is included in the attached application packet.

The anticipated contract start date is January 1, 2025 and shall continue through December 31, 2027. \$125,000 annually is available for each program. Based on availability of funding, satisfactory performance, and by mutual agreement of DCF and the Contractor, the contract may be renewed for up to two (2) additional one-year periods.

County and tribal agencies that are awarded FTC program funding will be required to develop intake and court procedures that screen, assess, and provide dispositional alternatives for parents whose children have come under the jurisdiction of the court. The program objectives should result in improved child well-being and the welfare of participants' families by meeting the comprehensive needs of participants and promoting family reunification wherever possible, as stated in [48.546, Wis. Stats.](#)

Per [48.546, Wis. Stats.](#), any FTC program funded through this opportunity must be designed to serve parents whose children have come under the supervision of the court; teen parents may be included. FTC programs funded must include the following components:

- An oversight committee to advise the county or tribal agency in developing, implementing, administering, and evaluating its program.
- Provision of services to program participants that are consistent with evidence-based practices in treatment services needed by those participants, including substance abuse treatment services, mental health treatment services, and intensive case management services.
- Provision of a multidisciplinary screen as described in s. [48.547 \(3\)](#) for program participants.
- A holistic and trauma-informed approach to the treatment of program participants.
- Integration of all services provided to program participants by local government agencies and other programs and/or organizations.
- Submission of data requested to DCF.

All applications must be completed and submitted to the Bureau of Safety and Well-Being via DCFMBBSWBCWPP@wisconsin.gov no later than 5pm on November 22, 2024.

An optional conference call will be held on Thursday, October 17, 2024 at 12:30 PM to answer any questions about the grant opportunity or application process. The zoom meeting will be available using this link: <https://dcfwi.zoom.us/j/83678397948?pwd=M9rWkmweNgg9bq4QAueHGx9YzmgypZ.1> or with Meeting ID 836 7839 7948 and Passcode 923342.

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: Bureau of Safety and Well-Being Director
Bureau of Safety and Well-Being
608-422-6970
DCFMBBSWBCWPP@wisconsin.gov

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

Attachments: [Family Treatment Court Grant Program Application](#)