


March 25, 2026

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
Group Home Providers
Private Child Placing Agencies
Residential Care Center Providers
Shelter Care Providers
Tribal Chairpersons

From: John Elliott
Administrator

Re: **New One-Time Funding for County and Tribal Contracts**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this memo is to notify local county and tribal child protective agencies of the allocation of federal American Rescue Plan Act-State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (ARPA-SLFRF) to counties and tribes for allowable costs to support kids and families.

BACKGROUND

The Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) has provided the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families with \$8,250,000 of ARPA State Recovery Funds to support "Keeping Kids Safe and Putting Families First Initiative". This funding will be distributed to county and tribal social or human service agencies and the Milwaukee County Human Services Department Youth Justice program through a contract amendment.

INFORMATION SUMMARY

DCF will distribute approximately \$8.250 million to counties, Milwaukee County, and tribal agencies through a contract amendment to the state/county child welfare and a direct contract with all tribes. Funding will be distributed to agencies using a blended methodology: 2026 Youth Aids methodology and the methodology developed collaboratively between DCF and the Wisconsin County Human Services Association in August 2021. This methodology uses local child poverty and SNAP data as indices for child and family need and vulnerability. Additionally, \$50,000 will be offered to all 11 federally recognized tribes located in Wisconsin's borders. Please see Appendix 1 for the agency specific allocation amounts.

DCF will distribute these funds to serve families involved in or at risk of involvement in the child protective services and/or youth justice system in order to prevent deeper system involvement and maintain children in the home. The following allowable purposes will be allowed under this contract amendment:

These funds are intended to advance the purposes of keeping children safe, increasing parental protective capacities, decreasing out of home placements, helping families develop informal supports, reducing maltreatment of children, and keeping families intact. Funds may be used to serve families involved in or at risk of involvement in the child protective services and/or youth justice system in order to prevent deeper system involvement and maintain a child in the home. Allowable expenses include:

- Case management
- Mental health, AODA, in-home health, and crisis services
- Parenting education and assistance
- Peer Support
- Concrete supports including but not limited to:
 - Food/Clothing Services
 - Housing Assistance
 - Household support
 - Transportation
 - Recreational activities
- Respite
- Social supports
- Supervision/observation
- Basic home management
- Services needed to address issues related to a child-specific need or circumstance

The amendment to the state/county child welfare contract and tribal contract will be routed soon for local agency signature. All costs must be incurred and reported in SPARC by December 31, 2026, followed by a 60-day reporting period. Further details on SPARC lines and reporting deadlines will be outlined in the amendments to the state/county child welfare and tribal contract. There will be no carryover or reobligation of funding.

REGIONAL OFFICE CONTACT: DCF Area Administrator

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: Megan Learn, Child Welfare Budget and Policy Analyst
Fiscal and Support Services Section – BCRA - DSP
megan.learn@wisconsin.gov

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

Appendix 1

County	Award Amount
Adams	\$ 33,251.72
Ashland	\$ 27,775.82
Barron	\$ 63,086.72
Bayfield	\$ 26,216.76
Brown	\$ 355,559.92
Buffalo	\$ 11,973.35
Burnett	\$ 27,995.71
Calumet	\$ 39,797.96
Chippewa	\$ 79,471.87
Clark	\$ 69,671.09
Columbia	\$ 59,825.66
Crawford	\$ 22,978.88
Dane	\$ 699,724.36
Dodge	\$ 89,112.96
Door	\$ 28,255.54
Douglas	\$ 82,664.75
Dunn	\$ 46,138.27
Eau Claire	\$ 120,663.67
Florence	\$ 11,845.16
Fond du Lac	\$ 126,048.71
Forest	\$ 13,578.07
Grant	\$ 64,608.21
Green	\$ 34,448.93
Green Lake	\$ 24,151.49
Iowa	\$ 23,331.05
Iron	\$ 11,459.30
Jackson	\$ 33,378.25
Jefferson	\$ 83,815.67
Juneau	\$ 39,325.56
Kenosha	\$ 341,195.51
Kewaunee	\$ 17,140.94
La Crosse	\$ 131,017.84
Lafayette	\$ 25,475.47
Langlade	\$ 41,816.70
Lincoln	\$ 43,421.69

Manitowoc	\$ 91,653.65
Marathon	\$ 178,504.52
Marinette	\$ 60,750.62
Marquette	\$ 18,705.37
Menominee	\$ 43,685.99
Milwaukee	\$ 1,434,025.08
Monroe	\$ 84,435.50
Oconto	\$ 42,275.83
Oneida	\$ 56,658.80
Outagamie	\$ 202,338.32
Ozaukee	\$ 52,153.85
Pepin	\$ 12,456.00
Pierce	\$ 31,726.70
Polk	\$ 52,598.31
Portage	\$ 73,874.96
Price	\$ 21,422.67
Racine	\$ 402,683.03
Richland	\$ 26,105.24
Rock	\$ 314,640.88
Rusk	\$ 27,125.99
Saint Croix	\$ 66,217.36
Sauk	\$ 84,304.11
Sawyer	\$ 28,506.12
Shawano	\$ 65,881.28
Sheboygan	\$ 148,967.10
Taylor	\$ 31,518.62
Trempealeau	\$ 36,990.35
Vernon	\$ 48,021.76
Vilas	\$ 42,621.44
Walworth	\$ 109,565.14
Washburn	\$ 21,298.49
Washington	\$ 110,039.76
Waukesha	\$ 279,590.68
Waupaca	\$ 66,437.37
Waushara	\$ 34,612.04
Winnebago	\$ 212,292.46
Wood	\$ 135,091.05

Tribe	Award Amount
Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe	\$ 50,000.00
Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin	\$ 50,000.00
Lac Courte Oreilles Band	\$ 50,000.00
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians	\$ 50,000.00
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin	\$ 50,000.00
Oneida Nation	\$ 50,000.00
Forest County Potawatomi Community, Wisconsin	\$ 50,000.00
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin	\$ 50,000.00
Sokaogon Chippewa Community, Wisconsin	\$ 50,000.00
St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin	\$ 50,000.00
Stockbridge Munsee Community, Wisconsin	\$ 50,000.00