



JANUARY 2023

The Bureau of Youth Services is a unit within Wisconsin's DCF that is dedicated to being more responsive to the needs of older youth in and at risk of being involved in the child welfare or youth justice system. If you have questions or ideas, please contact us!

Leadership

Shelby McCulley
Director

Ragen Shapiro
Section Manager

Becky Yang
Strategic Initiatives
Coordinator

Youth Justice Team

Youth Justice Policy
Coordinators

Alana Peck
Carlton Frost
Jenna Dunlap
Joy Breese-Holz
Liz Landerman

Youth Services Team

Asia Jackson
Anti-Human Trafficking
Coordinator

Faith Price
Youth Services
Policy Coordinator

Greta Munns
Youth Services
Policy Coordinator

Kelsey Hill
Independent Living
Coordinator

Happy New Year! As we look ahead to 2023, this newsletter includes information on some of the events of late 2022 – including the first Youth Services Grantee Meeting in four years! The meeting exemplifies so much of what we strive to do here in the Bureau of Youth Services: centering the voices of those with lived experience, collaborating across program areas and across regions, and continuing to grow and learn from each other as we strive to better serve young people across Wisconsin. Thank you for all you do, best wishes for a wonderful 2023, and stay warm!

Youth Services Grantee Meeting

On the Thursday, October 27, the Bureau of Youth Services held its first in-person grantee meeting since the COVID-19 public health crisis. This is an all-day event typically held on years opposite the Youth Services Conference. Agencies who are current recipients of a BYS grant were invited to attend, including Brighter Futures Initiative, Independent Living, PATHS, Runaway Homeless Youth, and—for the first time—Anti-Human Trafficking and Youth Justice Innovation Grants.

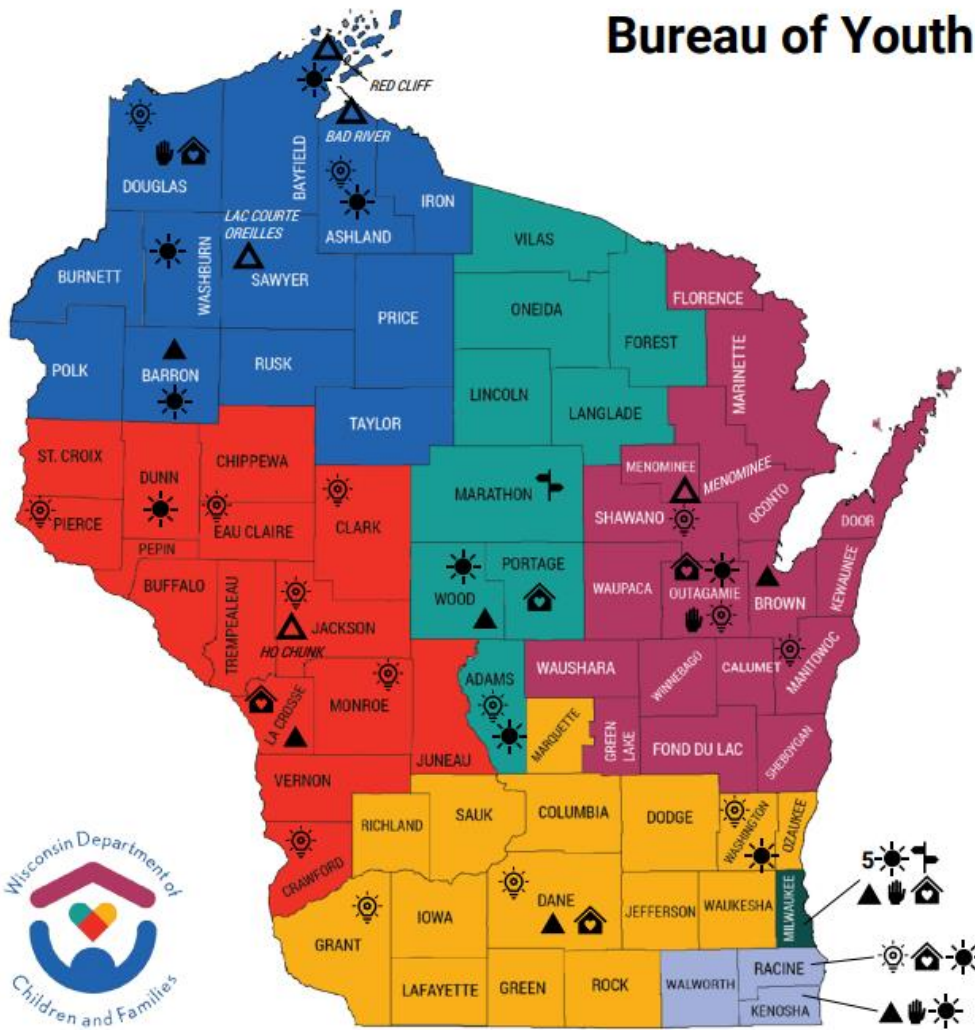
The morning keynote was delivered by [Jeremy Triblett](#), who developed the 10 Components of Youth Centered Programs training after more than 10 years of coaching youth work professionals and directing citywide afterschool initiatives. He has identified 10 facilitation components needed that create enthusiastic learning environments for youth. Collectively, these components increase youth engagement, class productivity, and staff competencies. This interactive, highly-engaging session focused on Leadership Development; one of the ten youth-centered program components.

The afternoon keynote featured Claudine O'Leary of Rethink Resources and Rebekah Dettmann of the Milwaukee Child Advocacy Center. It involved a lively and interactive conversation about "Unpopular Opinions" relating to ideas and practices around CSEC, DMST, exploitation, high risk, and any other way one refers to "sex trafficking."

The rest of the afternoon was a world café-style peer learning opportunity for organizational leaders across Wisconsin's youth-serving programs to collaborate and provide insight on areas of shared interest.

Over 50 people attended, and the energy in the room was amazing, with participants active and engaged throughout. Grantees clearly recognize that while each program is unique, there are many commonalities in the needs and characteristics of the young people they serve. We are grateful to once again have the opportunity to facilitate connections across these amazing service providers.

Bureau of Youth Services Grantees



Key

Youth Services Regions

- Region 1
- Region 2
- Region 3
- Region 4
- Region 5
- Region 6
- Region 7

- ▲ Independent Living Transition Resource Agency
- △ Tribal Independent Living Program
- ✋ Anti-Human Trafficking (AHT) Grant
- 💡 YJ Innovation Grant (2021-22)
- ☀️ Brighter Futures Initiative (BFI) Program
- 🏠 Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) Program
- 🚩 Positive Connections, Academic Support, Training and Employment, Housing and Social/Emotional Support (PATHS) Program



Youth Services Updates

Wisconsin Runaway and Homeless Youth Programs Recognized Nationally

Congratulations to DCF-funded Runaway and Homeless Youth Programs Homebase (Boys & Girls Club Fox Valley) and Briarpatch for being nominated as finalists by the National Runaway Safeline in the 2022 National Runaway Prevention Month Awards. Dane County Youth Action Board was also recognized for a Youth Engagement Award. We are proud to see Wisconsin’s incredible Runaway Homeless Youth work recognized by the National Runaway Safeline.

Region 2 YAC – Breaking the Stigma Video Series



The Region 2 Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is excited to share the following videos with the community to empower and embrace positive change in the child welfare system through youth voice. These videos were done in partnership with Bay Area Workforce Development Board, the Region 2 grantee for the Independent Living Program and Foundations Health & Wholeness, a statewide nonprofit treatment foster care agency.

Last Spring the Region 2 YAC began working closely with Foundations Health & Wholeness to break down the stigmas of teens in foster care and to encourage and recruit foster parents for teens through the use of videos. As quoted, "I'm excited to change the ways of stigmas of foster kids and possibly being a foster parent one day and proving to my siblings that one day they can do it on their own too".

The YAC members came together to brainstorm, developing the theme and framework for the videos focusing on Education, Compassion, Empowerment, and Activate. All YAC members took part in a strategic sharing training, understanding, and learning how to safely share their experiences and story in a way that is impactful for their audience. As shared, "Don't just look on the outside, get to

know them for who they are and get to know their story...". The YAC President facilitated the training with her peers and all members began preparing for the interview questions.



In August 2022, six local YAC members stepped foot in a recording studio and shared their journey in the foster care system. "Being a foster kid, even though it sounds bad, knowing all that I went through it just showed me I can fight to get where I am because... I'm still here today".

At an event on December 7, the videos were live screened in a wonderful event celebrating and sharing the stories of several young people involved in the local YAC. Youth did a fantastic job leading the audience, answering questions from the community, and participating in interviews with press.

We encourage you to see the full video at <https://www.youtube.com/@AFCSGreenBay> . Please share widely across your networks and encourage others to get involved. For more information about Foundations, visit www.WeAreFoundations.org and for more information about youth programming visit www.BayAreaWDB.org/programs/youth-and-young-adults/.

January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month

This month we acknowledge Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Training opportunities and resources can be found below:



“It Happens Here” Sex Trafficking Documentary Viewing Opportunity


Join us as we acknowledge Human Trafficking Awareness month (January) as a community by viewing the documentary created and released by the Department of Children & Families in Wisconsin. This documentary will be hosted by the Anti Human Trafficking Regional Specialist located in Appleton, WI- Lauren Hollie. There are 4 different opportunities to attend!

Join us on one of the following dates:


Date	Time	Zoom Information
Friday January 6 th , 2023	12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.	Meeting ID: 821 2454 3994 Passcode: 202956
Tuesday January 10 th , 2023	4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.	Meeting ID: 821 2454 3994 Passcode: 202956
Wednesday January 18 th , 2023	11 a.m.-12 p.m.	Meeting ID: 821 2454 3994 Passcode: 202956
Thursday January 26 th , 2023	8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.	Meeting ID: 821 2454 3994 Passcode: 202956

The film is divided into 5 segments (35 minutes):

- Part 1- It Happens Everywhere
- Part 2- Four Stories of Sex Trafficking
- Part 3- How It Happens
- Part 4- Stuck
- Part 5- Finding Help



Log into the Zoom room here



The Department of Children and Families has created a documentary that tells the true stories of sex trafficking in Wisconsin and conveys how easy it is to be drawn into the life. This project is part of a statewide effort to inform youth and adults about the risk factors and warning signs of trafficking and what they can do to assist individuals who may be at risk of, or affected by, trafficking.

Questions? Contact Lauren Hollie- lauren.hollie@outagamie.org

[Human Trafficking 101: Understanding Child Sex Trafficking in Wisconsin](#) is an online course (6 modules) developed for professionals who may come into contact with children and youth who have experienced sex trafficking. This training addresses sex trafficking of children and youth in urban and rural counties and tribes throughout Wisconsin.

[DHS Blue Campaign: Human Trafficking Youth Forum](#): Tuesday, January 31, 2023 9:00am-3:15pm

[2023 NYC Child Trafficking Prevention Conference](#): Survivor Voices, Technological Revelations and Trauma Informed Guidance – January 11, 2023 through January 31, 2023

[Social Media App Fact Sheets](#) – This resource features online safety resources for many major social media apps and websites.

Youth Voice Updates



Youth Advisory Council

The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) includes young people, ages 15-26, with lived experience in the Child Welfare system. The most recent statewide YAC meeting was on November 11th and 12th in the Wisconsin Dells. New officers were elected for 2023, and the group participated in training on how to strategically share their stories in advancing system change. If a youth you know would like to get involved in the YAC at the local and/or state level, please contact your local YAC advisor for more information: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/youthservices/pdf/yac-advisors.pdf>.

Youth Leadership Team



The Youth Leadership Team (YLT) includes young people, ages 14-21, with lived experience in the Youth Justice system. The most recent YLT meeting was on October 18th, 2022, hybrid meeting. During that meeting, Alana Peck, BYS YJ Policy Coordinator, and Maria Onandia, BCRA Data Analyst, presented preliminary data from the 2021 Referral and Intake Report and gained valuable insights and perspectives from the young people. The next Hybrid Meeting will be January 10th, 2023, with an in-person option at Running Rebels in Milwaukee. If a youth you know would like to get involved in the YLT, please contact Faiih.Price1@wisconsin.gov.

To learn more about the YAC and/or YLT, visit <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/ys/leadership>.

Youth Justice Updates

Youth Justice Standards Update

[DSP Policy Memo 2022-29](#) (sent Nov 7) announced the first update to formal YJ standards in several years. These Case Process & Documentation standards focus on timely entry/maintenance of data for collaboration & reporting, as well as language to clarify documentation for multi-county cases.

The format of standards was updated to complement CPS standards, while being tailored for YJ practice. Standards are organized by topic (e.g. documentation, YASI, other practice areas) rather than sequence. They focus on priority areas and do not cover entire YJ case process (and are not a substitute for reliance on statutes). Additional resources (e.g. FAQs, desk guides, etc.) may be made available as needed to support the workforce in advancing standards as well as best practice.

The next updates to standards will be incorporation of the YASI policy, which has been in draft form through the YASI implementation process of the past several years, into YJ Standards. Additional stakeholder discussions during the course of 2023 will assist in prioritizing next steps for standards development.

New Resource on Collateral Consequences of Delinquency Proceedings

The Wisconsin Office of the State Public Defender recently released a new resource on the collateral consequences of delinquency proceedings. This publication is available at <https://www.wisspd.gov/juvenile-collateral-consequences> and was developed under the Juvenile Rural Access to Training and Expertise Project (J-RATE) project. It provides a thorough explanation of the many consequences of delinquency proceedings other than those specifically imposed as a disposition, which span such diverse areas as employment, education, licensing, immigration, voting, and future family life.

Putting Families First Updates

Wisconsin is shifting the child welfare system to keep more children and families connected. This transformation will impact all child welfare system partners and stakeholders, as well as the general public. This effort impacts our youth justice and youth services work in many ways, from preventing out-of-home care, to improving service quality and availability, to strengthening family and community connections. You can help us effectively communicate about this positive change by using and sharing the resources available in the [Putting Families First Communication Toolbox](#) – one-pagers, graphics, case flows, and even a short video! Content will be evolving, so check back often!





Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

201 W. Washington Ave.
P.O. Box 8916
Madison, WI 53708-8916

Fax: 608-422-7157
E-mail: dcfoys@wisconsin.gov

***May every youth in, at risk of, or aged out of
the child welfare/youth justice system
transition to a successful adulthood.***

The goal of the Bureau of Youth Services is to improve outcomes for youth in the child welfare and youth justice systems and other vulnerable youth. Specifically, the Bureau supports service delivery systems that move youth towards academic success, safe and stable housing, employment, permanent connections with supportive adults, and healthy lifestyle behaviors. Youth aged 12-21 in or at risk of entering the child welfare and a youth justice system present unique and complex challenges. The Bureau brings a more coordinated program and policy focus to youth in the child welfare system and other vulnerable youth.

Sign up for our newsletter [here!](#)

Please note, due to staff working remotely, email is the best mode of contact. Hover over a staff member's name to e-mail them directly.

Leadership

Shelby McCulley
Director

Ragen Shapiro
Section Manager

Becky Yang
Strategic Initiatives
Coordinator

Youth Justice Team

Youth Justice Policy
Coordinators

Alana Peck
Carlton Frost
Jenna Dunlap
Joy Breese-Holz
Liz Landerman

Youth Services Team

Asia Jackson
Anti-Human Trafficking
Coordinator

Faith Price
Youth Services
Policy Coordinator

Greta Munns
Youth Services
Policy Coordinator

Kelsey Hill
Independent Living
Coordinator