

Child Welfare Strategic Transformation

Putting Wisconsin's families first



Family First Newsletter | October 2021 | Issue 3

QRTP Provider Update

Thank you for helping us prepare for the QRTP October 1st release date. DCF has already had multiple providers submit application materials and the application process is going well. We are open to feedback on application experiences at familyfirst@wisconsin.gov.

Training sessions were held on the 11th and 21st of October and provided training to just over 1,000 workers. A recorded version of the training is now [available](#).

A few key links to help with QRTP certification:

- [Application](#)
- [Continuation Application](#)
- [DHS IMD status form](#)
- [Supplemental eWiSACWIS notes](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

For additional information on QRTP please [check out our website](#).

Hello, New QRTP Digital Desk Guide!

Communication is key to helping support our child welfare professionals. DCF developed its very first digital desk guide to support professionals in understanding QRTP's, practice in the field, and changes related to the Ongoing Service Standards. The QRTP desk guide is [now available](#).

Wisconsin's Permanency Plan

The permanency plan is an essential tool used to help comprehensively assess child and family needs. The plan helps to identify goals, services, and supports needed when a child is an out-of-home care placement, such as a kinship or a foster care placement. The permanency plan spells out specific steps a family must take to move toward reunification with their children.



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In the last year, DCF consulted extensively with those who use the permanency plan through a Human Centered Design process that engaged county and tribal child welfare workers and supervisors, foster youth, relatives, and judicial and legal partners. This led to a broad range of recommendations that are now being implemented.

Expected changes include:

- streamlined permanency plan that is more user-friendly
- trauma-informed language
- emphasizes family progress.
- uses strengths-based language.

Many of these changes will be accomplished through a redesign of the state eWiSACWIS system.

More updates to the permanency plan process can be found on the [Permanency Plan page](#).

Wisconsin's Five-Year Prevention Plan has been submitted to the federal Children's Bureau for review!

As part of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), states are required to submit a [Five-Year Prevention Plan](#). The Five-Year Prevention Plan outlines how Wisconsin intends to implement evidence-based, Title IV-E Prevention Clearinghouse Services. You can check out the [Prevention Plan here](#) or see highlights of the plan in a [1-page Prevention Plan summary](#). You can also view the [prevention FAQ](#) for more information on implementation and next steps!

eWiSACWIS Updates

You may have noticed some updates to eWiSACWIS as part of the September 29th release. As a reminder, a video outlining the minor changes to case plans, permanency plans, and requirements related to expecting and parenting youth in out-of-home care can be found [here](#).



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Case Manager Info Sessions

Bregetta Wilson, DCF Lived Experience (LE) Coordinator, has created a space for child welfare professionals to come together and talk about the newly created Parent Leader sessions. The purpose of these sessions is to provide an overview of the Parent Leader Groups, and to recommend parents that might have an interest in taking part.

Informational sessions will be held on the following dates:

- Thursday, October 21 at 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 9 at 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, December 8 at 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

These meetings are a collaboration between the Department of Children and Families and the Wisconsin Office of Children's Mental Health. To attend a session, [please RSVP](#).

Fall Town Hall Meetings

Thank you for joining us for the Fall Town Hall meetings! Our spring topics are already in the works. The DCF Spring Town Hall is tentatively set for April 2022 and will cover a variety of topics related to the Strategic Transformation and Family First.

For those not able to attend the most recent Fall Town Halls, the videos have posted to the [Family First website](#).

Communications Update

We hope the new communication tools and updates to the Family First website have been helpful. Over the next few months, we'll take a closer look at what these tools are and how to best use them. This month, we'll zoom in on social media for Family First in WI.

Family First social fun facts:

- The Family First social media campaign started July 7.
- Family First posts every week.
- Social media has boosted DCF Family First website visits by 56%.
- The DCF Facebook and Twitter accounts share relevant information every day.



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- Follow DCF on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/wisdcf>
- Follow DCF on Twitter at <https://www.twitter.com/wisdcf>



Enjoy the fall weather in Wisconsin. For additional information or questions on topics included in this newsletter, please reach out to FamilyFirst@wisconsin.gov.

Thank you.

