

# Child Welfare Strategic Transformation

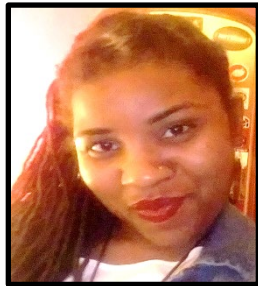
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## Family First Newsletter | August 20, 2021 | Issue 1

### New Team Members

The Strategic Transformation and Family First teams proudly welcome Bregetta Wilson and Dana Johnson.



**Lived Experience Coordinator - Bregetta Wilson, MS, LPC-IT**, has worked as an advocate, community leader, and change agent for the last 18 years. She was Wisconsin's first Foster Club All-Star in 2005 and is one of the founding members of the State of Wisconsin Youth Advisory Council, starting the Milwaukee Chapter in 2003.

Bregetta has worked with Pew Charitable Trusts and Foster Club on Capitol Hill to bring awareness and issue recommendations to how the federal government supports abused or neglected children. She is a recipient of the Black Excellence Award for her work around Child & Youth Advocacy. In addition, she has spent the last 11 years of her professional and personal life advocating and supporting families and children in the community through her work as a Community Health Worker and Mental Health Professional. Supporting and giving a voice to children and families is Bregetta's passion.

As the new lived experience coordinator, she will ensure the family voice is heard throughout the strategic transformation and family first implementation.



**Strategic Initiatives Coordinator - Dana Johnson, MS**, has experience in organizational leadership, direct supervision of staff, conducting agency and culture change, policy analysis, continuous quality improvement and organizational effectiveness; he has committed his life's work to improving the lives of children in the child welfare system. His areas of expertise include leadership development, innovation, child welfare services and reform, ethics and boundaries, trauma-informed care, and diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Dana holds a Master of Social Work degree and has over 10 years of direct practice and senior level management experience in county human services, educator at the undergraduate and graduate level, and in leadership and professional training.

Dana's strategic initiatives focus is on QRTP updates, implementation, and training.



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## QRTP Update

The QRTP team strategic initiatives coordinator, Dana Johnson, is focusing on QRTP implementation and training to ensure all members of the family first implementation are informed on the changes related to Family First and QRTP.

Throughout August, September and October, Dana will be developing short webinars, and training videos. Live webinar (via zoom) dates and recorded informational videos will be posted to the Family First web page and an email will be sent when they are ready. For more information, please visit [QRTP web page](#).

## Lived Experience Coordinator

A child welfare lived experience coordinator is someone who provides an authentic perspective that contributes to a deeper understanding of the systems needs and service gaps. They use their voice and perspective to transform systems to better serve children and families. Actively partnering with a lived experience leader is key to:

- Building equity and reducing barriers to care.
- Empowering individuals who demonstrate resiliency in their journey.
- Demonstrating that hope and recovery are possible for all families.
- Building compassion in professional stakeholders by really hearing the stories of lived experience.

Breggetta Wilson, the new child welfare lived experience coordinator, recently partnered with the office of Children's Mental Health, and is forming a parent leader group. This group will work together toward the child welfare strategic initiatives in keeping more children and families together and assist in transforming the overall child welfare system.

Informational sessions for parents interested in being part of the parent leader group will be held on various dates in August. For more information about the informational sessions she is hosting, visit [@wisdcf](#) Facebook page.

## Supporting In-Home Planning

DCF has launched new safety service provider training. And so far, the feedback has been very positive! A few comments shared include:



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- I think the trainer was very knowledgeable on the topic and she made it easy for everyone to participate.
- The training was very informative, and the presenter did an excellent job!
- I liked everything about the training, from the trainer to how they presented to how they explained things to their paper materials. Thank you!

To better support in-home safety planning, DCF, in partnership with the Professional Development System (PDS), has begun offering a new training for Safety Service Providers. This one-day training helps Safety Service Providers explore their unique role with Child Protective Services (CPS), and the families it serves. Providers will learn foundational terminology and concepts used to describe child safety using the Wisconsin Safety Model, including what to pay attention to and how to communicate strengths & concerns with CPS.

Further information can be found by [clicking here](#).

A new safety planning revision workgroup has also been created and will be kicking off this month. The objectives of this group include:

- Refining the safety assessment process and danger threat language to be culturally responsive as well as, equitable and just.
- Refining and improving the safety assessment and planning framework that facilitates upfront safety decisions that are informed by engagement with families to guide the case process and keeps more children and youth safely in their homes.

Stayed tuned for more information about this exciting work!

## 5-Year Prevention Plan Update

The 5-Year Prevention Plan is in final draft form and will be submitted to the Children's Bureau fall of 2021. The 5-Year Prevention Plan will also be posted to the DCF website for review. The Prevention Plan will include a selection of evidence-based services operating in Wisconsin. In addition, DCF is compiling a 1-pager highlighting the constellation of services (evidence and non-evidence based) that help keep children and families together. This will be available on the DCF website soon.



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## Child Welfare Transformation Change Management

The change management Learning Map experience is an important part of our child welfare system transformation. This experience builds off the phase 1 research and [leadership assessment tool](#) that DCF shared in April 2021.

The learning map experience is a 2-hour facilitator-led experience with up to 10 participants. It is completely customized for the Wisconsin child welfare system and includes a short film, two visuals, discussion questions, and card activities. The purpose of this session is to empower each of us to help all Wisconsin children and youth be safe and loved members of thriving families and communities. The discussion will explore questions like:

- What motivates you to make our child welfare system better?
- What changes are required for us to achieve our vision for the future?
- We each have a part to play in this transformation. What is one thing you'll do differently tomorrow to help make our future vision a reality?

This experience will position Wisconsin to build upon a culture of serving more families in home and supporting innovation and change in our child welfare system.

## Communications Update

Several new and downloadable communication pieces have been added to the Family First online communication toolbox including:

- Family first 1-pager
- Sample social media posts
- Events with PDF presentation information
- Updated QRTP information
- Transformation video

For more information about Family First and the Strategic Transformation of our child welfare system in Wisconsin, visit <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/family-first> or email Family First communications specialist, [Jamie Keehn](#).

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