

Child Welfare Strategic Transformation

Putting Wisconsin's families first



Family First Newsletter | September 2021 | Issue 2

QRTP Update

With October quickly approaching, the QRTP Emergency Rule has been approved and will be effective September 29, 2021.

On October 1, 2021, residential care centers, group homes, and shelter care facilities will have the option to apply to become certified as qualified residential treatment programs. There are 4 major elements to certification:

1. Facilities must have a Trauma Informed Treatment Model
2. Nursing services available 24/7 as per their trauma informed treatment model
3. Involve families in decisions of treatment services
4. Be accredited.

Child welfare professionals across the state will engage in professional training regarding the new revisions to the Ongoing Standards and the impact this has on working with families and the youth who are receiving services from a certified QRTP facility.

The Bureau of Permanence and Out-of-Home Care has developed a robust training schedule to assist all facilities and providers, DCF licensors and contracted partners, Tribes and child welfare agencies, and the child welfare workforce, in receiving the information needed to be successful and follow best-practice methods of service delivery. For more information and to stay up-to-date on all things related to QRTP, [check out our website](#).

New Video Released!

The video "Technical Updates in Advance of eWiSACWIS Release" is now [available here](#). This video is a brief overview of some of the technical changes impacting eWiSACIWS on September 29, 2021. It outlines minor changes to case plans, permanency plans and requirements related to expecting and parenting youth in OHC.



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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 full 5-Year Prevention Plan will also be posted to the DCF website once submitted; a 1-Page Summary of the 5-Year Prevention Plan can be found [here](#).

Wisconsin Selects 3 Title IV-E Prevention Services for Prevention Plan

As part of the implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act, states are required to identify which evidence-based prevention programs they intend to implement from a federally approved list. These are called Title IV-E Prevention Clearinghouse Services.

Wisconsin currently has three Title IV-E Prevention Clearinghouse Services that are used by some child welfare agencies that will be included in the 5-Year Prevention Plan.

These include:

- Healthy Families America
- Nurse-Family Partnership
- Parents as Teachers

Further training and information about Title IV-E Prevention Clearinghouse Services, including how to refer and access these services, will be shared in the future as continued FFPSA rollout occurs. If your agency utilizes any of the above programs, you may continue to refer eligible families.

Constellation of Services

For reference, DCF has compiled a 1-Pager highlighting the many services (evidence and non-evidence based) that help keep children and families together. This highlights key services that are found throughout the state, as well as local level innovations and other key supports that help keep children in home. [Take a look](#) at this 1-pager for ideas of how to support in-home planning and service infrastructure locally!



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Child Welfare Workforce Development Month

September is child welfare workforce development month and from all of us at DCF, we'd like to say a very big thank you to our child welfare workers and staff. The week of September 13th to the 17th is child welfare worker appreciation.

Child welfare workers and staff are often our unsung heroes. From finding permanency, foster homes, and reunification efforts, and everything in between, this work is crucial to the well-being of Wisconsin children and families. Child welfare workers using alerts in eWiSACWIS for appreciation week for a special thank you message and link to view a thank you video from Secretary Amundson. Be sure to check out our animated Facebook posts for an additional, heartfelt thank you!

Fall Town Hall Meetings

Bring your pumpkin spice latte to the next Fall Town Hall! These meetings will highlight Family First and Strategic Transformation updates in a webinar Town Hall format on the following dates. Please hold your calendar:

- Directors and legal partners | October 1 | Zoom link from John Elliott
- CW workers and supervisors | October 5 | Zoom link from John Elliott

For those not able to attend one of the meetings, this series will be recorded and posted to the [Family First website](#).

New FFPSA Training!

Training sessions hosted by your DCF QRTP Team: Dana, Moe, Angi, and Sam will be on the following dates:

FFPSA for all child welfare professionals | October 11 | Zoom link from Dana Johnson
FFPSA for all child welfare professionals | October 21 | Zoom link from Dana Johnson

Those not able to make the meetings can watch a recorded version available on the Family First website.



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Communications Update

Communicating effectively about the upcoming Family First changes has been our priority and we hope the additional communication tools have added value to your teams.

- Check out the video content; it's a fast way to receive information and a great way to start a meeting!
- Follow us on social media @WisDCF for up-to-date information
- Attend a Town Hall or training
- Don't have an invite? Reach out at FamilyFirst@wisconsin.gov
- Any other question, comment, or concern? We're here FamilyFirst@wisconsin.gov
- Be sure to check out our monthly newsletters, like this one!
- And our website is evolving! www.dcf.wisconsin.gov/family-first

For more information about Family First and the Strategic Transformation of our child welfare system in Wisconsin, visit <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/family-first>.

Follow us @wisdcf  

