



Putting Families First Playbook

Wisconsin is Transforming!

Wisconsin has three transformation priorities. The following outlines some key data under each of the priorities that highlights the amazing work from across the state. Additional resources and focus on in-home planning is having real-world impacts on kids and families. We know Wisconsin is making a difference because the data is clear.

Supporting families in-home



- **4.5** fewer children are removed in Wisconsin in 2021 compared to 2017.
- More than **3,500 children** were served with Targeted Safety Support Funds (TSSF) in 2021.
 - ◇ Of children who were served by TSSF in 2021, **77%** of children did not experience a removal into out-of-home care after receiving services in that same calendar year.
- Over **80%** of youth referred to YJ are not assessed as at high risk for re-offending.



Keeping children in family settings



- Foster Homes
- Relative Foster Homes
- Kinship Care

In Wisconsin, when children are placed in out-of-home care, 87% are placed in a family setting (a foster, relative or kinship home).

40% of children placed in family settings are placed with relatives!



- Relative Foster Homes
- Kinship Care



Supporting our workforce



- Over 700 YJ professionals have been trained in administration of the Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument, which measures risk, needs and strengths!
- All newly hired CPS professionals will complete a new intensive training program called WiLearn! DCF estimates approximately 300 new CPS professionals will complete WiLearn in 2023.

Additional Resources

[Transforming the Child Welfare System 1-pager](#) – an overview of the research supporting the Putting Families First transformation that can be printed and distributed to stakeholders.

[Family First Prevention Services Act](#) – a high level overview of the federal Family First Prevention Services Act. This federal legislation has helped Wisconsin launch further conversations about Putting Families First.

