

# Helping Families Rebound from the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

The department is well-positioned to support the state's economic recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

## Supporting the Economic Recovery of Individuals and Families

Supporting families to thrive economically starts with ensuring they are connected to both the internet and stable housing no matter where they live in Wisconsin. Investing **\$20 million** annually to create and fund an Internet assistance program will aid low-income households in paying for monthly internet subscriptions. Increased funding and eligibility to expand the Emergency Assistance program allows more low-income parents and caretakers to pay an emergency housing or utility-related expense. Providing additional funding for Civil Legal Services, and the expansion of eligible legal services related to eviction matters, helps families remain in their homes.



## Providing Job Training and Skills for Our Future Success

DCF is dedicated to helping everyone who wants to work find meaningful employment. The agency's budget supports this effort in several ways. Increased funding for the Transform Jobs program, and statewide expansion, connects more unemployed, low-income adults across the state with employment opportunities. Providing additional dollars for Skills Enhancement Grants helps working, low-income individuals obtain the skills they need to compete for living wage jobs. Investing **\$1 million** over the biennium to fund Jobs for America's Graduates-Wisconsin provides educational support and job or postsecondary readiness for young people around the state setting them up to succeed.



## Growing and Sustaining Local Solutions

Fostering economic security while promoting equity and inclusion are essential functions of local government and community agencies around the state. DCF's budget proposes a significant increase in funding for Child Support Agencies to improve services to child support participants so they are in a better position to support their families both financially and emotionally. In addition, **\$10 million** will be invested over the biennium to support equity grants for public, private, or nonprofit entities to promote diversity and advance equity and inclusion efforts across Wisconsin.

