Wisconsin Child Welfare System Transformation

The Family First Prevention Services Act (Family First), signed into law in February 2018, provides an opportunity for positive change and supports ongoing efforts to transform Wisconsin’s child welfare system by keeping children and teens safely with their own family and to avoid the often traumatizing experience of unnecessary placement into the foster care system. Its name reflects the elements of the legislation: a family first for children and teens with preventive services to keep kids safe and growing up in their family.

All Wisconsin children are safe and loved members of thriving families and communities

Kids involved with the child welfare system should grow up in safe, stable and secure families that support their long-term well-being. Research makes clear that growing up in a family is essential for all kids, especially those who have experienced abuse or neglect.