



# Child Welfare Licensing Need Determination Process



## What is a Need Determination?

The Department (DCF) has implemented a new process for determining the need for new group homes whereby DCF will issue a statement of need (SON) biennially. The SON is a public statement describing the current need for new group homes in Wisconsin and requests prospective providers complete a statement of interest (SOI) to be considered for licensure. The SON will be developed in collaboration with public purchasers, existing group home providers and other partners, using inputs available from eWiSACWIS, SYNC, state and federal policy landscape, and other relevant indicators of current need. Once the SOIs have been received, they will be reviewed by a panel through an anonymous scoring process, and DCF will issue a decision on the selected applicant(s) to move forward in the licensing process.

## Need Determination Timeline

### Months 1-3 Data Collection & Analysis

- Gathering data and input
- Compiling Evidence of Need (EON) report

### Months 4-5 Partner Engagement

- DSP reviews EON report
- Meeting with partners to gather input

### Months 5-6 Recommendation

- DSP leadership reviews EON report
- DSP issues decision on EON

### Months 6-7 Statement of Need (SON)

- DSP publicly posts Statement of Need (SON)
- Interested applicants will submit a Statement of Interest (SOI) application

### Months 7-8 SOI Response Window

- SOI Responses are collected

### Months 9-10 Review & Selection

- SOI is scored by a committee using pre-established criteria
- DSP issues a decision on the selected applicant(s) to continue towards licensure