



## Boards, Committees, Councils, and Commissions

2026

\* statutory board/council

### Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board (s. 15.205(4))\*

<https://preventionboard.wi.gov/Pages/Homepage.aspx>

#### Description

The Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board (CANPB) was created by the Legislature in 1983 as the lead state agency on child abuse and neglect prevention efforts in Wisconsin. The agency's work is grounded in the strengths-based Protective Factors Framework utilizing a public health approach which incorporates a continuum of prevention strategies to strengthen families. CANPB promotes and supports community-based, family-centered strategies to prevent child abuse and neglect while strengthening family protective factors.

The CANPB strategic plan provides a roadmap for its work to prevent first time occurrences of child maltreatment. The strategic plan is comprised of four strategies with key initiatives to advance the board's purpose and vision. Annually, CANPB creates a Community Investment Plan reflecting its policy, program, professional development and public awareness priorities.

#### Membership

CANPB is comprised of representatives from the Legislature; Governor's Office; state Departments of Children and Families, Health Services, Public Instruction, Justice and Corrections; and 10 public members.

- Senator Jesse James, Wisconsin State Senate
- Representative Jill Billings, CANPB Legislative Committee Chair, Wisconsin State Assembly
- Senator LaTonya Johnson, Wisconsin State Senate
- Representative Patrick Snyder, Wisconsin State Assembly
- Jonette Arms, Assistant Administrator, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services *Designee*
- Julie Incitti, School Social Work Consultant, Department of Public Instruction *Designee*
- Mary Anne Snyder, Governor's *Designee*
- Lance Horozewski, CANPB Secretary, Administrator, Division of Juvenile Corrections, Department of Correction *Designee*
- Stephanie Lozano, Tribal Liaison, Department of Children and Families *Designee*
- Lynn Cook, Office of Crime Victim Services, Department of Justice *Designee*
- Paula Breese, Executive Director, Family & Childcare Resources of N.E.W.^
- Allison Budzinski, Senior Analyst - Social and Behavioral Health, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
- Max Ellithorpe, Psychiatry Resident – UW Health
- Dr. Jennifer Kleven, CANPB Chair, Pediatrician, Gundersen Health Systems
- Erin Arango-Escalante, All Children Thrive
- William Olivier, CANPB Performance Improvement Committee Chair^

- Vicki Tylka, Director, Managing Director of Community Programs, North Central Health Care<sup>^</sup>
- Sara Christensen, CANPB Vice Chair, Assistant District Attorney, Sheboygan County District Attorney's Office
- Alice Egan, Clinical Associate Professor; Child Welfare Training Coordinator, UW-Madison Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work
- Erika Traver, Indian Child Welfare Supervisor, Ho-Chunk Nation

*Note: There will be three vacant (^) Prevention Board Director positions starting May 1, 2026. The Governor's office is accepting [applications](#). Directors are appointed by the Governor.*

### **Governor's Council on Domestic Abuse (s. 15.207(16))\***

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/domesticabuse/council>

#### **Description**

The Governor's Council on Domestic Abuse advises the Department of Children and Families and the legislature on domestic abuse funding and policy issues. The council also serves as an official resource for citizens of the State of Wisconsin on domestic abuse issues.

#### **Membership**

The Governor's Council on Domestic Abuse consists of thirteen members appointed for three-year terms. Of those 13 members, nine are nominated by the governor, with advice and consent of the Senate. The other members are designated for appointment by the Speaker of the Assembly, Senate Majority Leader, and the Minority Leader in each house of the legislature. Persons appointed have a recognized interest in and knowledge of domestic abuse issues.

- Susan Sippel, co-chair
- Senator Sarah Keyeski
- Representative Sequanna Taylor
- Rosalind McClain, Healing Starts Today
- Virginia Gittens Escudero, UNIDOS
- Shannon Barry, co-chair, Domestic Abuse Intervention Services
- Dr. Abdul Shour, Marshfield Clinic Research Institute
- Representative Pat Snyder
- Shannon Barry, Domestic Abuse Intervention Services
- Elizabeth Lucas, Wisconsin Department of Corrections
- Cyrena Martin, C.A.R.E.S.
- Janan Najeeb, Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition
- Brenda Frasser
- Shannon Jarecki, Women's Community

### **Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council (Head Start Act of 2007)\***

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/ecac>

#### **Description**

The Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) was formed as a result of the Head Start Reauthorization Act of 2007. Executive Order #269 officially created the council on October 30, 2008. The mission of the council is to help ensure that all children and families in

Wisconsin have access to quality early childhood programs and services. Members of the ECAC are appointed by the Governor.

### Membership

- Secretary Jeff Pertl, council co-chair, Department of Children and Families (DCF)
- State Superintendent Dr. Jill Underly, council co-chair, Department of Public Instruction (DPI)
- Barbara Bales, Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee – School of Education
- Jillian Clemens, Head Start State Collaboration Office Director, DCF
- Tara Ebben, President, Wisconsin Family Child Care Association
- Eric Fulcomer, President, Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
- Jamie Goodlet, Red Cliff Early Childhood
- Andrea Gugel, Policy Initiatives Advisor, DPI
- Peng Her, The Hmong Institute
- Bianca Hill, Executive Director, TenderCare Christian Child Care Center
- Kia Kjensrud, Executive Director, Wisconsin Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and WIAAP Foundation
- Angi Krueger, Policy Advisor, Division of Safety and Permanence, DCF
- Heidi Luft, Executive Director, Thriving Wisconsin (formerly known as Supporting Families Together Association)
- Kendra Norris, President, Wisconsin Child Care Administrators Association
- Lupe Martinez, President Emeritus, UMOS
- Jose Martinez, President and CEO, UMOS
- Ivy Meierotto, Principal, Washburn Elementary School
- Kelly Matthews, Consultant, Wisconsin Early Childhood Association
- Jennie Mauer, Executive Director, Wisconsin Head Start Association
- Suzette Mayotte, Program Director, Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council
- Charlene Mouille, President and CEO, United Way of Wisconsin
- Rebecca Murray, Executive Director, Wisconsin CANPB
- Kathy Mullally, Co-Director, Northwest Connection Family Resources
- Lana Nenide, Executive Director, Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health
- Cailin O'Connor, Consultant
- Stephany Pruitt, Consultant
- Deborah Rathermel, Part C Coordinator, Department of Health Services (DHS)
- Katie Roberts, Education Director – Hospitality, Human Services & Education, Wisconsin Technical College System
- Dan Rossmiller, Executive Director, Wisconsin Association of School Boards
- Ruth Schmidt, Executive Director, Wisconsin Early Childhood Association
- Dea Wright, Director, City of Milwaukee Office of Early Childhood Initiatives

### Staff:

- Kristina Trastek, Administrator, Division of Early Care and Education (DECE), DCF

- Sara Knueve, Assistant Deputy State Superintendent, DPI
- Jane Penner-Hoppe, Senior Policy Advisor, DCF
- Tessa Freedberg, Council Coordinator, Strategic Initiatives Advisor, DCF
- Elizabeth Valitchka, Council Coordinator, Secretary's Office, DCF
- Daria Hall, DECE Policy Initiatives Advisor, DCF
- Donna Wong, Policy Analyst, DHS
- Laura Adams, Policy Initiatives Advisor, DPI
- Yesenia Saavedra, Policy Initiatives Advisor, DPI

### **Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership Council (s.15.207(24))\***

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/mcps/partnership-council>

#### **Description**

The Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership Council was created by statute and charged with holding public hearings to encourage participation in, and solicit input regarding, the child welfare system in Milwaukee County. The council is also charged with making recommendations for evaluating, funding, improving, and innovating the system. Additionally, the council serves as a Wisconsin Citizen Review Panel for Milwaukee County.

#### **Membership**

- Elisabeth (Libby) Mueller, Milwaukee County District Attorney, Designee
- Judge Jane Carroll, Children's Court Presiding Judge
- Dr. Juan Baez, Milwaukee County resident
- Justice Grau, Milwaukee County resident
- Sally Yeldell, Milwaukee County resident
- Dr. Mallory O'Brien, Milwaukee County resident
- Santana Lee, Milwaukee County resident
- Mary Thomas, Milwaukee County resident
- Sup. Sky Capriolo Milwaukee County Supervisor
- Sup. Willie Johnson, Jr., Milwaukee County Supervisor
- Sup. Jack Eckblad Milwaukee County Supervisor
- Kelly Pethke, State of Wisconsin resident (Chair)
- Bria Grant, State of Wisconsin resident
- Rochelle Johnson-Bent, Wisconsin resident
- Carmen Pitre, State of Wisconsin resident
- Rep. Darrin Madison, State Representative
- Sen. LaTonya Johnson, State Senator

### **Rate Regulation Advisory Committee (s. 49.343(5))\***

#### **Description**

The Rate Regulation Advisory Committee is charged with advising the department on the development of administrative rules, the implementation of rate regulation for providers and the identification of the measurements in performance-based outcomes.

## Membership

- Kathy Markeland, Wisconsin Association of Family and Children Agencies (WAFCA), Director
- Katie Davis, DCF, Child Welfare Licensing Section Manager
- Teresa Kovach, Portage County, Supervisor
- Rachel Karow, Family Works, Executive Director
- Crystal McClain, Revive Youth and Family Services, Executive Director
- Tongenell Campbell, VIC Living Center, Executive Director
- Kelli Kamholz, Positive Alternatives, President/CEO
- Jeff Pease, Lad Lake, Director
- Rachel Rolaff, Tomorrow's Children, Executive Director
- Heather Yaeger, Lutheran Social Services, Regional Director
- Roger Phillips, Division of Milwaukee Child Protection Services (DMCPS), Senior Auditor
- Bruce Flinn, DCF, Accountant
- Maria McDermott, Children's Wisconsin, Director of Out-of-Home Care

## Non-Statutory Committees and Meetings

Below is a list of additional program or service area specific meetings that DCF, or our contractors, convene with representatives from each of the Tribal Nations. The DCF Tribal Liaison and appropriate division tribal affairs staff are invited to participate in each of these meetings.

### Intertribal Child Welfare Committee

#### Description

The Intertribal Child Welfare (ICW) Committee discusses child welfare-related issues, and policy and program changes and development.

#### Membership

Membership of the ICW Committee is comprised of Indian Child Welfare (ICW) Directors from each of the 11 federally recognized tribes headquartered in Wisconsin and others they designate, such as tribal attorneys and family/social services directors. Leadership from DCF's Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP), Division of Milwaukee Child Welfare, Tribal Liaison, and Bureau of Area Administration regularly attend the ICW Committee meetings.

### Partnership Calls

#### Description

Each division and the Secretary's Office continue to hold calls to provide updates or solicit feedback from Tribal Nations and partners on specific initiatives. During the legislative season, calls regarding bill packages or specific bills have been helpful to ensure Tribal Nations and partners are aware of the position or concerns one another may have with particular pieces of legislation prior to the committee hearings.

#### Membership

At times, Tribal Nations are included in the larger calls with other partner groups/representatives; however, both DCF and representatives from Tribal Nations have also found it has been helpful to engage in separate conversations with Tribal Nations specifically.

This type of specific outreach continues to be done with an invitation to each of the Tribal Nations or one-on-one conversations between DCF and an individual Tribal Nation as requested or necessary.

## **State-Tribal Head Start Collaboration**

### **Description**

As a result of the 2025 Tribal Consultation meeting, DECE's Head Start Collaboration Office began meeting with Tribal Head Start program leaders to explore creating an ongoing meeting. In collaboration with the representatives from the Tribal Nations we have discussed meeting at least three times each year, and our hope is that this structure will provide a safe space for collaboration, updates, questions, idea sharing, and future proofing.

### **Membership**

Tribal Head Start leaders are invited to participate in these meetings along with DCF staff from the DECE.

## **State-Tribal IV-D Meeting**

### **Description**

The Division of Family and Economic Security (DFES), the Bureau of Child Support Director and DCF staff meet with tribal child support programs on a quarterly basis to share information on child support initiatives impacting tribal IV-D programs. This group also discusses legal issues, policies and legislation.

### **Membership**

The Tribal IV-D (Child Support) Directors, tribal attorneys and DFES leadership, Bureau of Child Support, and Bureau of Area Administration participate in these meetings. Staff from the Region V Office of Child Support Enforcement are also invited to attend and provide updates.

## **Tribal Domestic Abuse Program Meeting**

### **Description**

The quarterly Tribal Domestic Abuse Program meetings provide DSP Domestic Abuse program staff, and partner agencies with the ability to provide regular programmatic updates, technical assistance, and support to Tribal domestic abuse programs. This meeting also serves as a space for the Tribal domestic abuse programs to connect with one another to share resources, ideas, and information with one another.

### **Membership**

Leaders from each of the Tribal Domestic Abuse programs are invited to participate in this meeting along with staff from the DSP domestic abuse program. Partners from the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, the statewide technical assistance contractor, End Abuse, and the tribal training and technical assistance contractor, Waking Women Healing Institute are also invited to attend.

## **Tribal Kinship Care Coordinators**

### **Description**

As a result of the 2022 Tribal Kinship Care Consultation meeting, DCF began meeting with the Tribal kinship care coordinators from each of the Tribal Nations. These quarterly meetings provide DCF and Tribal kinship care coordinators with a space for updates, technical assistance, and support to Tribal kinship care coordinators. This meeting also serves as a space for the Tribal kinship care coordinators to connect with one another to share resources, ideas, and

information with one another and to provide feedback to the department regarding the state kinship care program.

### **Membership**

All Tribal kinship care coordinators and managers are invited to participate in the meetings. The DSP kinship care program staff facilitate the meetings.

## **Wisconsin Inter Tribal Child Care Association**

### **Description**

The purpose of the Wisconsin Inter Tribal Child Care Association (WITCCA) is to promote inter-tribal networking, communication, information sharing, support and encouragement of Tribal Child Care Directors/Departments across the state. WITCCA respects and fosters effective relationships with other governmental and state agencies, organizations, and entities. We work cooperatively, and collectively, to promote and address Tribal child care issues and topics.

### **Membership**

Invitations are sent to tribal child care managers and program directors as well as tribal Head Start directors. These tribal representatives comprise the WITCCA and representatives from DCF and child care partner groups are also invited to provide updates, information, technical assistance, and support.